



**SPREP
PROE**

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



Photos: © Diane McFadzien

A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is the lead regional organisation for the protection and sustainable development of Pacific Island environments. SPREP was established by its Member governments in 1992 to support cooperation and coordination on environmental matters in the region. The agreement establishing SPREP came into force in 1993, officially making the organisation an autonomous body.

With its main headquarters in Apia, Samoa, SPREP works closely with its 26 Member countries and territories – along with partners, donors and local communities – to deliver on environmental management and sustainable development in the region in four priority areas:

Climate Change Resilience

Waste Management and Pollution Control

Ecosystem and Biodiversity Protection

Environmental Monitoring and Governance

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In our efforts to fulfil our vision of 'a resilient Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures', as highlighted in this 2024 Annual Report, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment (SPREP) is extremely grateful to our valued Members, development partners, donors, our CROP family, and stakeholders.

Without your meaningful, long lasting, and productive partnership and collaboration, we would not have been able to accomplish our key results and outcomes in 2024.

We would also like to thank the Government of Australia, Government of New Zealand and the Government of the United Kingdom for their significant contribution to SPREP core and programme funding. We sincerely appreciate your contribution in supporting our work towards a resilient Pacific environment.

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OUR VISION: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.



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CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR	2
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL	4
HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY OF KEY RESULTS 2023–2024	6
CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE	12
ISLAND AND OCEAN ECOSYSTEMS	22
WASTE MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION CONTROL	34
ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND GOVERNANCE	42
SECRETARIAT HIGHLIGHTS	50
CROSS CUTTING ISSUES AND LESSONS LEARNT	60
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	64
PUBLICATIONS	78
STAFF LIST	82
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	84
OUR REGION	85

Message from the Chair

Talofa lava, bula vinaka, malo e lei lei, halo, and greetings from the Government and the people of the United Kingdom.

At the outset, I want to say it was a pleasure to represent the United Kingdom as Chair of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme's (SPREP) Fourth Executive Board Meeting to steer our vaka during the past twelve months. I'd like to recognise and thank my friends in the Government of Tuvalu for their support as Vice-Chair.



The strategic significance and relevance of SPREP, as the regional organisation established by the Governments and Administrations of the Pacific, charged with protecting and managing the environment and natural resources of the region, has never been more important. We live in uncertain times, marked by economic, political, environmental, and social challenges. For Pacific Island communities who are amongst the most vulnerable in the world, these challenges are exacerbated by the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. The climate and nature emergencies are the most profound and universal source of global disorder, and these crises define our times.

The science, as synthesised by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, is irrefutable that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, heated our ocean, and changed our land. It highlights that each of the last three decades have been hotter than the previous one, and projects the next decade to be warmer still. This scientific evidence also points to the interconnectedness of the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and increasing pollution. Impacts of these crises, such as rising temperatures, a warming ocean, melting polar ice and glaciers, rising sea levels, and extreme weather events continue to remind us why the work SPREP and its Member countries and territories do matters for our communities, the region, and for people far across the planet.

Pacific countries and their institutions, such as SPREP, have a strong moral voice in global efforts to address the environmental challenges of our time. Whether it be in the arena of international climate change negotiations, addressing biodiversity loss, or the ongoing work to draft a legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, the voice of Pacific countries is and should continue to be that moral compass. It is in these important international arenas that SPREP's strategic importance must be acknowledged, commended, and strengthened.

During our tenure as Chair of the SPREP Fourth Executive Board Meeting, the United Kingdom is pleased to have been able to contribute towards the ongoing efforts led by SPREP to build a resilient Pacific environment, sustaining livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with Pacific Island cultures.

The work, achievements, and accomplishments highlighted on the pages of this SPREP Annual Report speak to the value of regional and global collaboration, and the strategic importance of SPREP's role to coordinate this effort, for the protection and management of the Pacific environment. This Annual Report reflects achievements from just one of SPREP's 32 years fostering cooperation, facilitating meaningful partnerships and amplifying the empowered voices of Pacific island nations on the global stage.

Looking ahead, developing and implementing the next Strategic Plan 2027-2036 will be key to ensure SPREP is well placed for the decade to come and continues to effectively address the triple planetary crisis. This will only be possible with the on-going support and engagement of Members, development partners, and the dedicated staff of the Secretariat to deliver for the Pacific.

As we finish our term as Chair, through our continued Membership, the United Kingdom looks forward to supporting SPREP, the Secretariat, the 26 Member countries and territories, local communities and development partners to work towards a more resilient Pacific environment.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the Director General of SPREP, Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, Deputy Director General, Ms Easter Chu Shing and the staff of SPREP for their tireless work. Your warmth, dedication, and friendship throughout this term has been a personal highlight. I would also like to thank SPREP's Executive Board, which includes the Troika of past, present, and future chairpersons of the SPREP Meeting, and representatives of Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia, Metropolitan, and French speaking Member countries for your contributions.

Fa'afetai tele lava!

Billie Selby

Chair of SPREP's Fourth Executive Board Meeting
and the United Kingdom's Pacific Climate and Energy Counsellor at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.



Message from the Director General

Beqa Island, Fiji © Stuart Chape

Ni sa Bula Vinaka!

In the ever-evolving world we live in today, the increasing demand from our Members is for their Secretariat to be dynamic, proactive, innovative and adaptive, to meet the magnitude of the environmental challenges we face.

We view our service to our Members and the Pacific communities as a God-given calling, this duty is not just a call for action, it is a necessity to ensure improved wellbeing and growth. What a year 2024 was! While the 12 months under review in this Annual Report was a period marked by challenges, uncertainties and many disruptions, much of it in my humble opinion, was necessary for the Secretariat to grow so we can serve our Members better.

Indeed, the content of the Annual Report you are reading speak to the Secretariat's response to its calling in implementing the work throughout our Blue Pacific and beyond. We do this in partnership with our Members and partners in a manner true to our Vision, to "build a resilient Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures."

As Pacific people, we are custodians of our Pacific environment. It's a role that is becoming increasingly difficult to manage due to countless circumstances many far beyond our control. The environmental threats and challenges impacting our communities are greater than ever before. We do not need a reminder about the grim reality of the impacts of the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution on Pacific Islands. It is evident in the many challenging situations and calamities that our Pacific communities have been unfairly forced to face, this is our lived reality.

This adds to the volatility of political, economical, social challenges, war and strife in places near and far. The focus of geopolitics on the Pacific region is something we cannot ignore and need to contend with, our communities must be sheltered from its negative impacts. Environmental security is a new area of work we are increasingly being called to define and address.

SPREP has strategically built its capacity to advise, offer technical assistance, support and have nurtured partners with resources to make a difference. We are at the vanguard of those disproportionately affected, but in spite of the many challenges of financial and technical resourcing, we strive forward to support our Pacific Members' needs and aspirations.

We have more than a 160 staff spread across the Pacific Islands region, the services SPREP provides to our Pacific Island Members have expanded in correlation to the increased demand to address environmental challenges and the support required to meet these. My goal has always been to consolidate and adapt SPREP's work to allow us to continue to deliver more effective, efficient, and high-quality services to our Members, Partners and Communities. This is done to keep pace with our collective work as an evolving Blue Pacific Continent, that is able to adapt, build resilience and capacity, to not only survive but indeed to thrive. Let me highlight some key examples.

The Biodiversity Conservation (BC) Programme is the new title for the Island and Ocean Ecosystems Programme with the Director now referred to as the Director, Biodiversity Conservation and Fiji Office. We have moved the bulk of our programme to Suva to be close to our main partners and to facilitate the relationship with our Country Members of whom all but two have diplomatic missions in Suva.

Environmental Governance (EG) Programme is the new title for the former Environmental Monitoring and Governance Programme. The Noumea Convention Secretariat functions and the environmental legal and policy functions and staff are transferred to the new Legal Services and Governing Bodies Department allowing EG to concentrate on sustainable development, planning and development control, environmental safeguards, data management and monitoring including re-building our capacity in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

The establishment of the Climate Science and Information (CSI) programme separating but continuing to partner the Climate Change Resilience (CCR) programme recognises the importance of servicing the Pacific Meteorological Council and its programmatic regional approach in building climate science and information, integrating traditional knowledge, strengthening the relationship with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the nexus with disaster management, in particular, through strengthened Early Warning Systems.

What was previously the Legal Unit has been restructured as the Legal Department to be headed by a Director, to consolidate our legal safeguards, services and secretariat functions for our governing bodies.

We have also created the new Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation Department that is now fully functional to continue to strengthen and consolidate strategic planning across the organisation that fully incorporates gender and disability, improves our relationship with partners and strengthens our role as an accredited entity for the Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other financial mechanisms such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The changes made is our response to ensure we remain relevant, agile and efficient in serving the needs of our Members and region. It is also in line with the review of the regional architecture which our Leaders are making key decisions on to facilitate Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies being fit for purpose to support effective implementation of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. It is important we remain true to the mandate our members have given us to be the regions independent environment organisation to address the vision and mission they have set for us.

2024 was another pivotal year for amplifying our Pacific voyage across the international multilateral environmental agreement meetings. Your Secretariat provided guidance and technical support for our hard-working member delegations in the CBD COP-16, UNFCCC COP29 and INC-5. This work is supported by our engine rooms, such as Communications and Outreach, Finance and Admin, HR, IT, Internal Audit, Knowledge Management, Legal, PCU, Strategic Planning, Sub-regional offices and Executive Support. This collective effort ensures our work is implemented on the ground and across the regional and international fora so that it is strategically planned, coordinated, actioned and reported in a transparent and accountable manner.

Overall, the lack of urgent direction from the MEAs due to the divergence on necessary actions needed to protect our environment for present and future generations, highlights a divided world, where unfortunately international rules and norms favour the few nations who want no action, over the vast majority of nations who want to address the crises.

We have grown in the past 12 months in response to the demand placed on our us by our Members. I am proud to say that SPREP has continued to be the partner and indeed the leader of choice in our regional and where necessary, global environment space.

In 2024, we received for the first time additional core funding support from the United Kingdom that we hope will become multiyear support like we enjoy with Australia and New Zealand. New Zealand committed NZD 15.2 million to strengthen its support to Pacific island Members in the face of threats posed by climate change. This complements the Grant Funding Arrangement of NZD 20 million in 2023 towards the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service, a coordinating mechanism designed to facilitate the scaling up of operational management of invasive species in the Pacific. The United Kingdom committed core budget support of

GBP 3 million across a one-year period. China has continued their annual voluntary donation of USD 200,000 for our efforts in coordinating regional activities to protect and manage the environment sustainably and address the climate crisis.

Our Fourth SPREP Executive Board Meeting convened in September chaired by the United Kingdom with the theme of 'A Resilient Blue Pacific Continent Free of Plastic Pollution'. Amongst a number of key decisions made was the confirmation that SPREP as an independent intergovernmental organisation established under the SPREP Agreement and the SPREP Meeting is the plenary body responsible for its governance, as well as SPREP convening an annual Pacific Climate Change Ministers Meeting subject to Pacific Island Forum Leaders approval and finalisation of the Review of Regional Architecture. Our Members also made key decisions on our governance that will guide the future of the Secretariat such as the involvement and engagement of the Troika in providing strategic guidance and support to the formulation of the next SPREP Strategic Plan so we can continue to serve the environmental needs of our region.

The successful conclusion of the Fourth SPREP Executive Board Meeting reassures all of us that the Executive Board works well for SPREP. It allows us to free resources for implementation of our work and I thank the SPREP membership for giving us that dispensation.

SPREP has significantly grown and evolved since its establishment. This growth is evident in its expanding staff, broader geographical presence, and increased capacity in various environmental areas. In our efforts to fulfil our vision, I want to acknowledge our valued Members, development partners, donors, our CROP family, stakeholders, the Government of Australia, the Government of New Zealand and the Government of the United Kingdom for their significant contribution to SPREP core and programme funding.

I also want to thank my staff for their tireless work. I want to especially acknowledge with gratitude Stuart Chape, who served the Secretariat for 19 years and completed his term as the Director of Island and Ocean Ecosystems on 30 September 2024. We also bid farewell to Monica Tupai who was one of the four remaining original staff of SPREP and has seen the organisation and staff change over 32 years. Tautai a'e, malo le tautua!

To the rest of the team, we get our reward by knowing that the job is well done and that we have served and glorified our Creator by fully utilising the talent and skills we have been given! At the end of the day our success is due to our collective efforts as SPREP Members, SPREP Staff, SPREP Community and SPREP Family.

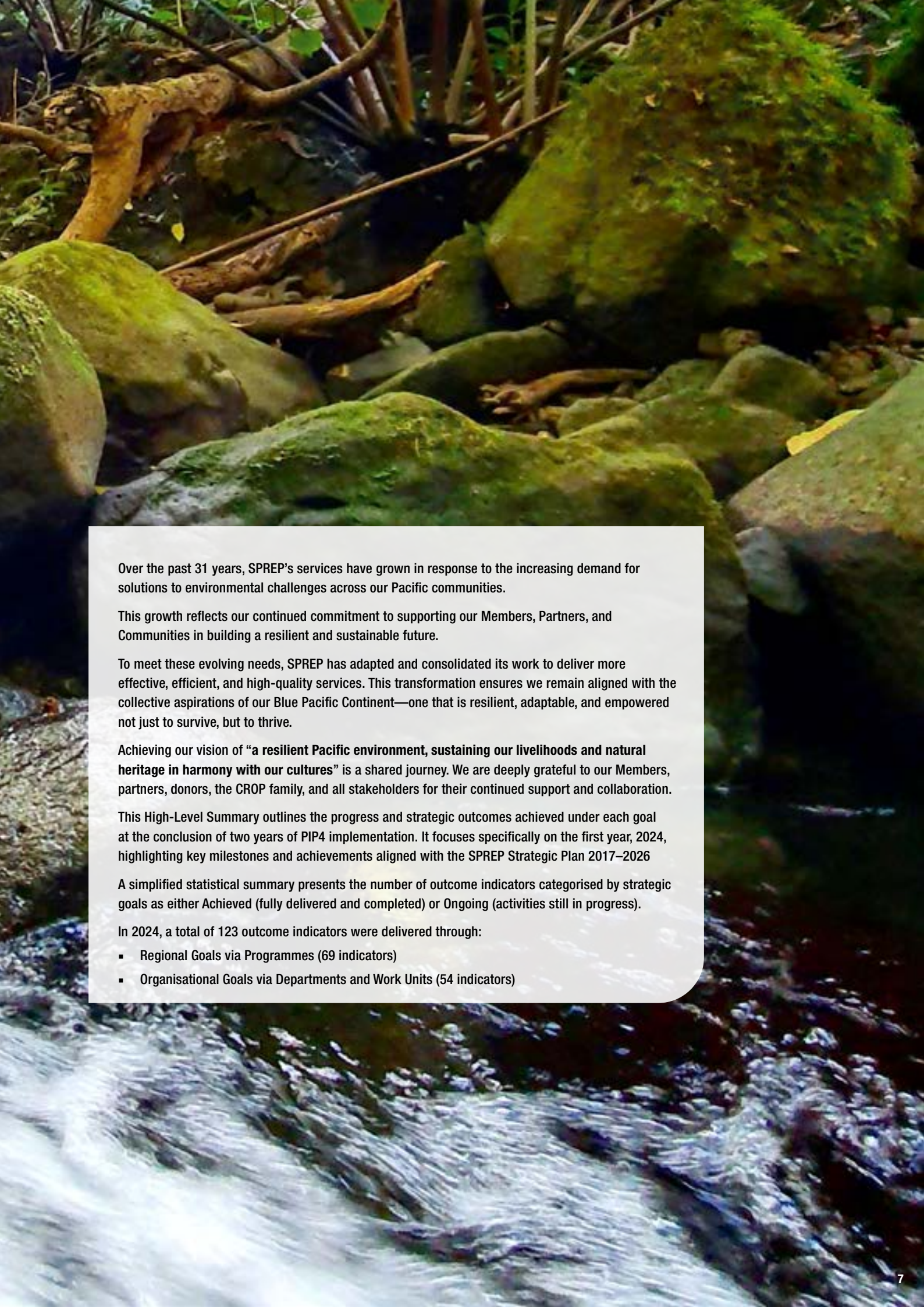
Our workload will continue to get busier and heavier, as the world, continues to increasingly experience the impacts of the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution. But together, we shall move forward, one step at a time!

Sa vinaka saka!

Sefanaia Nawadra
SPREP Director General



High Level Summary of Key Results 2023–2024



Over the past 31 years, SPREP's services have grown in response to the increasing demand for solutions to environmental challenges across our Pacific communities.

This growth reflects our continued commitment to supporting our Members, Partners, and Communities in building a resilient and sustainable future.

To meet these evolving needs, SPREP has adapted and consolidated its work to deliver more effective, efficient, and high-quality services. This transformation ensures we remain aligned with the collective aspirations of our Blue Pacific Continent—one that is resilient, adaptable, and empowered not just to survive, but to thrive.

Achieving our vision of **“a resilient Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures”** is a shared journey. We are deeply grateful to our Members, partners, donors, the CROP family, and all stakeholders for their continued support and collaboration.

This High-Level Summary outlines the progress and strategic outcomes achieved under each goal at the conclusion of two years of PIP4 implementation. It focuses specifically on the first year, 2024, highlighting key milestones and achievements aligned with the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026

A simplified statistical summary presents the number of outcome indicators categorised by strategic goals as either Achieved (fully delivered and completed) or Ongoing (activities still in progress).

In 2024, a total of 123 outcome indicators were delivered through:

- Regional Goals via Programmes (69 indicators)
- Organisational Goals via Departments and Work Units (54 indicators)

Overall performance for 2024

2024 is the seventh year of implementation of the Strategic Plan 2017-2026 and it is the first year implementation of the 2-year implementation of PIP4 (2024-2025). The overall SPREP PIP4 results against the 123 outcome indicators, comprising of 69 indicators for the Regional Goals and 54 indicators for the Organisational Goals are reported as follow:

- 37% (46/123) of the targets for PIP4 ACHIEVED
- 63% (77/123) are ONGOING

Regional Goals

The approved SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026 has four regional goals. Each goal postulates several key strategic objectives along with corresponding regional outcomes. While each goal has a specific thematic focus, all four are interconnected which together contribute towards achieving SPREP's vision of a resilient and sustainable Pacific communities.

For **Regional Goal 1**: Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change, enhancing the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) capacity in weather forecasting, early warning systems, long-term projections, and improved climate services to support Members' decision-making and coordination through the Pacific Meteorological Council is one of the key achievements.

Ongoing work includes the review and development of policies, legislations, strategic plans which would strengthen climate change resilience in Nauru, Samoa, Tuvalu and other Pacific countries, Climate Change Resilience-related capacity building

Progress is classified as either Achieved or Ongoing. The "Ongoing" status reflects indicators associated with activities that are either continuing, completed or were not completed in 2024. Reasons for incomplete activities include delays in implementation, lack of funding, and other operational challenges.

The ongoing activities are expected to be completed in 2025.

activities in 21 Pacific countries and territories including the activities related to the Development of Sustainability Plan for Capacity Building through the PCCC, as well as the work to implement the Local Early Action Planning tool (LEAP) for community-based conservation solutions to reduce human vulnerability to climate change and land-based pollution in Micronesia continues.

For **Regional Goal 2**: Pacific people benefit from healthy and resilient island and ocean ecosystems, the socio-economic and ecological impact of invasive species on land and water ecosystems has been significantly reduced by controlling and eradicating priority species across the region. The Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) assisted seventeen Pacific countries and territories. This includes improving biosecurity and Early Detection, Rapid Response, completely removing invasive rats and other pests from and progressed the development of natural enemies for six regionally significant widespread weeds, amongst others.

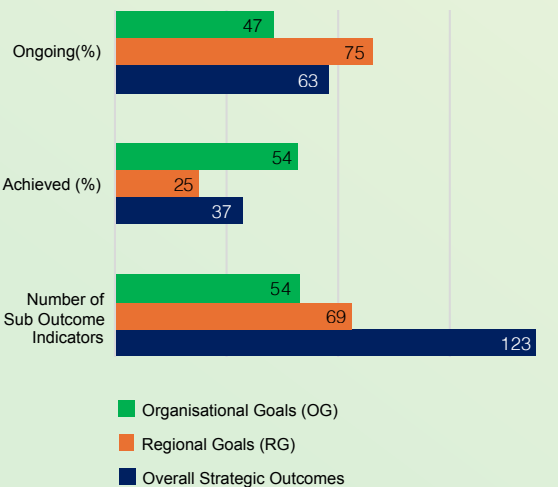


FIGURE 1
PIP4 (2024-2025) Achievement by Strategic Goals: Overall

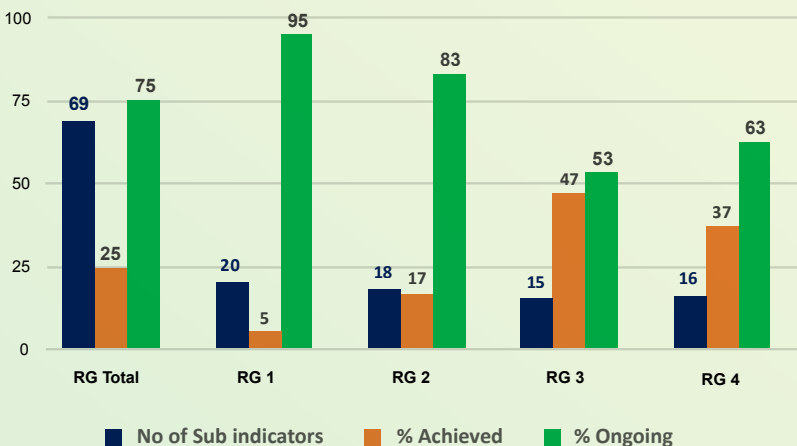


FIGURE 2 PIP4 (2024-2025)
Progress Towards Achieving PIP4 Strategic Outcomes by Regional Goals in 2024

For **Regional Goal 3**: Pacific people benefit from improved waste management and pollution control, supporting 14 Pacific SIDS to effectively engage in the global negotiations to end plastic pollution including in the marine environment, the enforcement and compliance measures to implement the single use plastic ban regulation in the Solomon Islands, and the development of standards to phase out single use plastics in collaboration with the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO), tourism sector stakeholders, private sector, government, civil society and development partners are amongst the key achievements. The convening of the Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable (4CPRT) in Tuvalu strengthened regional cooperation, collaboration, coordination and partnerships amongst Pacific countries, donors and development partners and to share best practices to enhance waste management and pollution control in the Pacific region. In efforts to ensure Pacific people and their environment benefit from commitment to and best practice of environmental

governance, **Regional Goal 4**, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) application gained momentum in several Pacific countries. Cook Islands and Kiribati benefitted from SEA training workshops facilitated using SPREP's Regional SEA guidelines marking a significant step toward mainstreaming SEA in national planning frameworks. SPREP also strengthened its work programme on Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for all member countries.

SPREP supported the development of Samoa's fourth national State of Environment (SoE) Report as well as Vanuatu's first SoE. Recognising the role played by environmental law professionals in implementing and enforcing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to ensure compliance, and address legal disputes related to environmental degradation, SPREP, UNEP, and the IUCN jointly coordinated a workshop for lawyers from Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Organisational Goals

SPREP has continued to strengthen its institutional capacity to better support Members through enhanced IT systems and services, increased visibility and outreach, and improved digital access to information and knowledge products for staff. These efforts also support the effective sharing and dissemination of environmental messages that promote positive behaviour change across the region.

The One Pacific voice remained strong and amplified on the global stage at the 29th COP in Baku, Azerbaijan. The Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion strengthened Pacific unity in Azerbaijan, hosting nearly 80 side events and offering an oasis for more than 300 Pacific delegates at the meeting. The Pacific Delegation Office, managed by SPREP in partnership with the Governments

of New Zealand and Australia, enabled our Pacific Islands to strategise, coordinate, and prepare for the negotiations. SPREP Communication team shared more than 105 pieces of content globally as part of its work at COP.

Ongoing efforts continued to ensure SPREP has effective and efficient multi-disciplinary processes to support and inform programme delivery, regional policies, and strategies, as well as access to climate finance for our Pacific Members which remains critical. The number of projects approved has increased from 4 to 14 projects including those projects that are at the planning stages as well as those under implementation with a total funding estimated at USD 273.5 million.

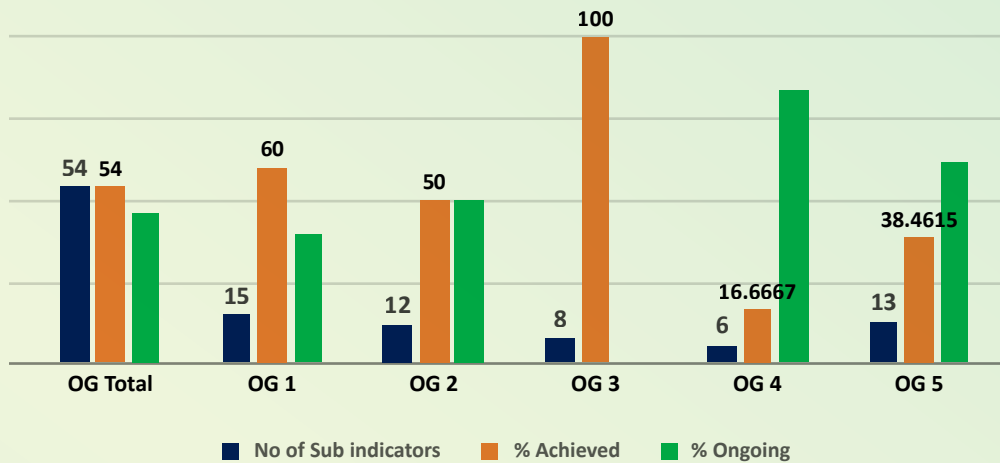


FIGURE 3 PIP4 (2024-2025)
Progress Towards Achieving PIP4 Strategic Outcomes by Organisational Goals in 2024

SPREP as an Accredited Entity to the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund continued to assist Member countries improve access to climate finance to implement their respective climate priorities. The support provided to Pacific countries through the SPREP Project Coordination Unit and the SPREP CCR included two full-size projects under implementation (VanKIRAP & the FSM AF), two NAPs project under implementation (Nauru and Tuvalu), three Readiness (RMI, Niue Readiness 2 and SI readiness I) and two NAP projects under development in FSM and Niue.

SPREP has strengthened its engagement and strategic partnerships with the Governments of American Samoa, Nauru and Vanuatu through the co-development and joint signing of Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks (CTSPFs).

SPREP continued to ensure it has a reliable and sustainable funding base to achieve environmental outcomes for the benefit of the Pacific islands region. This is done by ensuring its programmes and operations are within the approved budget, proactive financial oversight, facilitating strategic implementation, and effective and efficient operational support. In doing so, SPREP continued to achieve a balanced and sustainable budget, resulting in overall financial surplus results at year end of USD 660,824. Total actual expenditure exceeded budget expectations, reaching USD 44 million compared to the budgeted USD 41 million, largely driven by strong delivery across Programmes, which achieved USD 37 million in actuals versus a budget of USD 33 million.

A key milestone in 2024 was the continued strong momentum in Programme delivery, with overall Programme delivery average of 112% against targets, with two programmes significantly exceeding their implementation goals.

SPREP continued to lead and engage in productive partnerships and collaborations. Partnerships continued to grow with partnerships established with Environmental Investigation Agency, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO), Griffith University, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Systematic Observations Financing Facility, The Nature Conservancy and the Forum Fisheries Agency.

At SPREP, our staff is our most valuable resource. We believe that access to a pool of people with the right attitude, knowledge, and skills holds the key our ability to deliver.



In 2024, SPREP achieved 87% retention rate, well above the 70% target.

As the Secretariat continues to evolve, it is essential that we embrace change to realign with our strategic goals and reaffirm our commitment to continuous improvement across the organisation. This includes fostering a dynamic and responsive workplace culture that anticipates the shifting demands of both the global and regional environment—on our work, our people, and our purpose.

The institutional strengthening of the Secretariat continued with restructuring and strategic realignment to ensure that we remain relevant, agile and resilient.

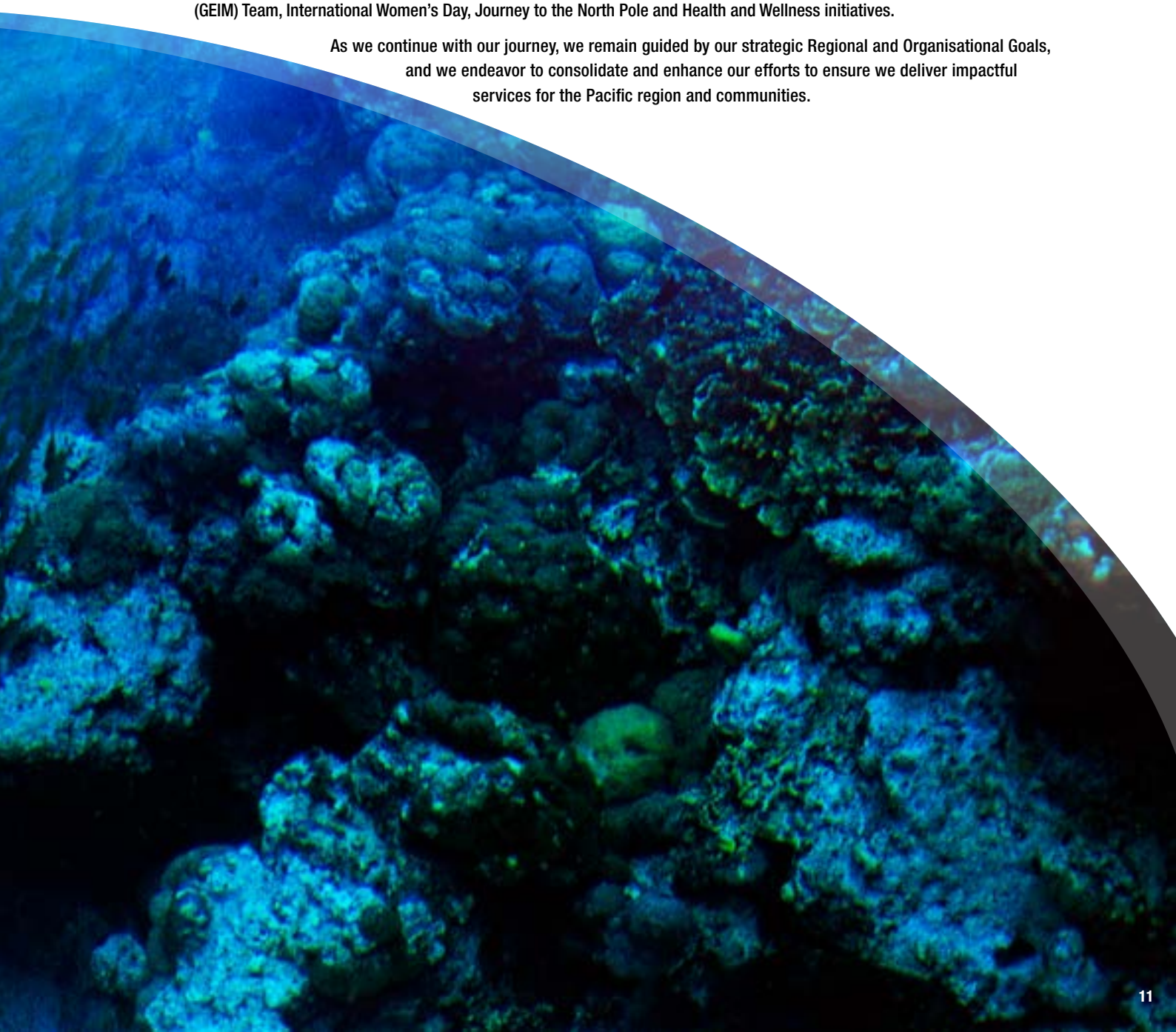
The first Grievance Policy for the Secretariat was approved after comprehensive consultations with staff and engagement of independent external consultant as well as leadership and guidance of Internal Staff Working Groups.

We continued to promote workplace improvements and support our staff through the People Strategy initiatives, the following are some key improvements to staff terms and conditions, while awaiting the outcome of the Remuneration Review:

- A 3% performance bonus paid out to all staff.
- Granting of a Gratuity Allowance for all national EPAI employees.
- Granting of a Location Allowance for Fiji-based EPAI staff.
- Renewal of Medical Insurance with additional and improved terms and conditions and Increased Overseas Medical Evacuation cover.

In line with SPREP's commitment to creating an empowering and enabling working environment, a range of activities were implemented to promote diversity, inclusiveness, and workplace wellbeing. These included Welcome Back at beginning of the year, Easter Devotion across the different campuses, Gift of Time for Mother's Day, Pinktober in collaboration with the Gender Equity, Inclusion and Mainstreaming (GEIM) Team, International Women's Day, Journey to the North Pole and Health and Wellness initiatives.

As we continue with our journey, we remain guided by our strategic Regional and Organisational Goals, and we endeavor to consolidate and enhance our efforts to ensure we deliver impactful services for the Pacific region and communities.



Climate Change Resilience



REGIONAL GOAL 1

Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change.

2024 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) was reconvened for the first time in seven years to provide Members with a platform to advance their national climate change priorities. The PCCR will now be held biennially to ensure enhanced regional collaboration towards Pacific climate change priorities and improved access to the effective financing necessary to deliver them. It was attended by 19 SPREP Members and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), the Pacific Community (SPC). In addition 16 partners and donors joined the Partners dialogue component of the PCCR. This meeting was made possible with the support of the Government of New Zealand through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

OBJECTIVE 1.1

Strengthen the capacity of Pacific Island members to lead, prioritise, and manage national climate change adaptation (CCA), mitigation (NDCs) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) in fulfilment of their national environment and development goals and their voluntary and legal obligations under regional and international agreements.



Samoa works towards achieving NDC goals

Samoa implemented a range of Agroforestry activities in line with their Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) commitments. The NDC targets include plans to expand agroforestry areas by an additional 5% of agricultural land by 2030 relative to 2018, aiming to enhance climate resilience and sustainable agricultural practices. SPREP through the NDC Hub has made it possible for Samoa to implement one of their NDC priorities in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses (AFOLU) sector which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 26% in 2030 compared to 2007 levels. This work was made possible through a partnership between the Government of Samoa and the SPREP NDC Hub.

Preparation for COP29

A high-level ministerial meeting was facilitated by SPREP in the lead up to the Twenty-Ninth Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP29). This support for Pacific Small Islands Developing States (PSIDS) Ministers is crucial for enhancing the Pacific strategic position and regional coordination at COP29. This meeting included the Pacific Islands Countries Climate Change Ministerial Talanoa with the Governments of Australia and New Zealand.

Support was further enhanced through the Pacific Small Islands Developing States COP29 Preparatory Meeting for Officials. This engagement helps the One Pacific focus on Pacific priority themes for climate change negotiations and forming strategic direction and agreed regional positioning ahead of COP29.

Both preparatory events were attended by Pacific Small Islands Developing States with fellow agencies from the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific that support the One-CROP Mechanism for Climate Change negotiations, led by SPREP.

The meetings were coordinated by SPREP with support from the Government of Australia.





Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion at COP29

Pacific Islands voices were amplified at COP29 at the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion in Baku, Azerbaijan with 77 events taking place to highlight Pacific climate change challenges, action and leadership. The Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion is a Pacific Partnership with the Governments of Australia and New Zealand managed by SPREP.

Approximately 40,000 delegates attending the UNFCCC COP29 visited the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion that brought a taste of the Pacific Small Islands Developing States to the global platform, helping to amplify the one Pacific voice on the edges of the climate change negotiations.

Of the 77 events held in the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion, 28 were high-level featuring Pacific Leaders, Ministers and Heads of Organisations. There were 406 panelists or persons involved in events held in the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion.

Helping to echo the One Pacific Voice at COP29 was over 110 pieces of content developed by SPREP consisting of news stories, opinion-editorials, and social media posts. The content amplifying the One Pacific voice on our fight for survival against the climate crisis featured the voices of Presidents, Prime Ministers, Ministers, Government leaders, faith leaders, members of the community and the youth. It also featured prominent global figures in the COP29 process.



Pacific Delegation Office at COP29

Providing a private space at COP29 to help facilitate high-level coordination internal coordination, bilateral discussions, press conferences, interviews, roundtable meetings, and high-level signing events was the Pacific Delegation Office funded by the Government of New Zealand and managed by SPREP.

The Pacific Delegation Office was integral to strategic, closed-door high-level discussions, particularly those involving Australia and New Zealand. These meetings allowed the Pacific Islands to address key issues with full confidentiality, underlining the trust placed in the office as a secure and reliable space for sensitive bilateral talks. Located next to the New Zealand Office, the Pacific Delegation Office's role as a venue for these confidential discussions further solidified its importance within COP29.

Pacific Island delegates expressed significant appreciation for the office, which provided a quiet, safe, and private environment for coordination meetings. It became an essential space for PSIDS to strategically prepare for COP29 sessions and map out their negotiation plans.



Feasibility Study and Design of Twin-Chamber Household Sanitation System for Nauru

The twin-chamber household sanitation system approved by Nauru, as a result of the feasibility study report, is the catalyst required for the protection of Nauru's freshwater supply from household sanitation leakages. To address groundwater contamination, sanitation infrastructure must be addressed as the contamination of groundwater by sewage can lead to a number of health problems including the increased risk of chronic illnesses, waterborne diseases such as cholera and hepatitis as well as gastrointestinal problems such as diarrhoea.

Through the enforcement of the environmentally friendly twin-chamber sanitation system, this avoids a multitude of social and health issues for the people and government of Nauru. The feasibility study and design of the twin-chamber sanitation system for Nauru was funded through the SPREP NDC Hub and undertaken in partnership with the government of Nauru.

Greenhouse Gas Data Repository developed for Tuvalu

Supported through the NDC Hub, Tuvalu overcame the challenge of data storage and management through the development of a Greenhouse Gas Data Repository. This ensures the data remains updated and accessible by all stakeholders for smooth development of national reports to the various MEAs that Tuvalu is a signatory to.

This activity was undertaken with the Government of Tuvalu and the SPREP NDC Hub that provided the financial support.

New look for the Pacific Climate Change Portal

The Pacific Climate Change Portal (PCCP) was revamped and recharged in 2024 and presented at the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable. Delivered through the Pacific Climate Change Centre, the PCCP continues to serve as a cutting-edge knowledge brokerage platform designed to provide user-friendly information, decision-support tools, and resources. It empowers Pacific Islands to make informed, climate-smart decisions.

Energy Efficiency Programme for Samoa's Tourism Sector

Upon the opening of Samoa's borders after COVID19, the opportunity presented itself to ensure ways for the tourism sector to identify avenues to reduce energy usage and save funds on high electricity costs. Through the SPREP NDC Hub, support was provided to the government of Samoa to undertake the necessary consultation, training and development of the Energy Efficiency Programme for the Tourism Sector in Samoa. Small Energy

Audit exercises were also held to equip accommodation providers with basic knowledge when purchasing electrical appliances for their businesses.



OBJECTIVE 1.2

Minimise multiple pressures on vulnerable Pacific island ecosystems by implementing ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation, including responses to ocean acidification and sea level rise, to sustain biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services that support livelihoods and sustainable development.



Federated States of Micronesia takes climate action through a National Adaptation Planning Project

SPREP as the delivery partners for the FSM National Adaptation Planning Project facilitated an inception and implementation planning workshop. The three-year project of USD 3M is funded by the Green Climate Fund. More than 30 representatives attended the workshop on the project that will support FSM in developing its first National Adaptation Plan and update the Joint Action Plans for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management for each of its four states through national and state-based adaptation planning processes. The development of FSM NAP will help meet its obligations under the Paris Agreement and will be the main strategic plan to help raise the needed financial resources and technical assistance to support implementation.

This activity was made possible through a partnership with the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the four State Governments that will host the state-based climate change coordinators, the GCF and SPREP.

Pacific Action to enhance the Visibility of Evidence on Health and Climate Impacts (PAVE – Health)

The Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Samoa and Solomon Islands started an AUD 4.8M for the PAVE – Health Pacific Action to enhance the Visibility of Evidence on Health and Climate Impacts Project in 2024, funded by the Wellcome Trust. The Wellcome is a global charitable foundation based in the United Kingdom. The grant is the first time the Pacific have accessed funding from the Wellcome Trust. The “PAVE – Health Pacific Action to enhance the Visibility of Evidence on Health and Climate Impacts” is a joint proposal by PCCC and University of Melbourne. It is a testament to the collaboration between SPREP PCCC and Research Institutions like the University of Melbourne and the dedication to co-design a collaborative proposal

The project's core ambition is to build local capacity to assess the health impacts of climate change on the Pacific communities through research and local knowledge to inform policy-relevant interventions to enable Pacific communities to access greater climate financing. Funding for the PCCC ongoing activities is currently being supported by the Governments of Australia, and New Zealand.



The Fourth Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference hosted in Samoa



The 4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference, “Our Ocean, Our Home: Climate Resilience for a Blue Pacific,” brought together more than 300 academics, researchers, scientists, students, civil society actors, decisions-makers and representatives from the arts, faith and local communities, from all over the region and beyond, to discuss contemporary issues and challenges facing the Pacific as a result of global warming and climate events. A partnership between NUS, the Victoria University of Wellington and SPREP through the PCCC that saw 105 published abstracts across the themes of the POPCCC4.

The POPCCC4 was supported by PCCC SPREP, NUS, VUW and the Asian Development Bank and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand. The next POPCCC will be hosted by the Solomon Islands National University in Honiara, Solomon Islands in 2026.

The Seventh Pacific Meteorological Council held in Vanuatu

The Government of Vanuatu, in partnership with SPREP and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) hosted the Seventh Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-7) in Port Vila, Vanuatu.

The PMC-7 reinforced the Pacific's collective voice on climate and disaster resilience, aligning efforts with the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and updated the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services (2024–2033) to guide regional actions for the next decade.

PMC-7 has continued to directly advance stronger technical capacity and more effective delivery of climate and weather services to decision-makers as well as a unified Pacific on climate resilience and disaster preparedness. The meeting deepened Pacific regional cooperation, unlocking funding and partnerships, boosting capacity and inclusion, giving the region a stronger collective voice heading into major global climate and disaster negotiations such as COP29.

Overall, PMC-7 has continued to empower National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to deliver reliable forecasts, long-term planning insights, improved climate services and reliable, actionable information for decision making.

The PMC-7 was also the opportune time to host a range of meetings prior to the event:

- Women in Leadership Workshop WMO
- Media Mana Class Training WMO and SPREP
- Pacific Meteorological Council Panel Meetings WMO and SPREP
- 3D-Printed Automatic Weather Station Training National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and SPREP
- First Weather Ready Pacific Steering Committee Meeting SPREP

The PMC-7 made possible with the support of the National Meteorological Hydrology Services throughout the

OBJECTIVE 1.3

Enhance National Meteorological and Hydrological Services capacity in weather forecasting, early warning systems, long-term projections, and improved climate services to support Members' decision making and coordination through the Pacific Meteorological Council

Pacific and the collaborative and generous support, coordination and financial assistance of the Government of Vanuatu, Government of Australia, Government of New Zealand, GCF-funded VanKIRAP Project, European Union funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application (ClimSA) Project, Climate Risk Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Pacific SIDS 2.0 Project, UNEP, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), SPC, WMO, Government of Ireland, ADB, Varysian Network, United States Aid for International Development and NOAA and the Climate and Oceans Support Program for the Pacific (COSPPac). Additionally, support was provided by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Pacific Community (SPC), the Pacific Regional Climate Center-Network, and other partnering organisations.



Vanuatu launches the Climate Atlas and maps

The Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department with support from the Climate Information Services for Resilient Development Planning in Vanuatu (VanKIRAP) project launched the Climate Atlas and maps. This significantly advances the Pacific Meteorological Council's goal of enhancing national meteorological services through enhancing climate literacy, early warning systems, and sector-specific decision support.

The Climate Atlas transforms the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards from a data provider to a decision-support hub, embedding climate intelligence into national planning. Its success underscores the critical role of localised climate information services and multi-sectoral integration in building regional resilience.

The Climate Atlas was made possible through a partnership between SPREP, the Government of Vanuatu, GCF and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA).





Inaugural Steering Committee Meeting for Weather Ready Pacific

Breaking new ground, the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment (WRP) held its first steering committee meeting in Vanuatu bringing together members of the PMC, development partners and stakeholders to finalise its terms of reference, and objectives for effective implementation. It also reviewed activities implemented during the inception phase such as the establishment of the Program Management Unit (PMU), weather radar pilot established in Tonga and the training of Samoan Meteorologists.

The key function of the WRP is to strengthen the Pacific National Meteorological Services to deliver forecasts and warning system for weather, hydrological and oceanic events enabling increased accuracy, geographic specificity and lead time of forecasts for the benefit of our Pacific communities.

The Key Result Areas of Weather Ready Pacific include:

- KRA1 – Management and Coordination
- KRA2 – Production of Forecasts and Warnings
- KRA3 – Communication and Delivery of Forecasts and Warnings
- KRA4 – Infrastructure
- KRA5 – Capacity and Training

At the Inaugural WRP Steering Committee it was confirmed that the main initial funding commitment to the WRP Program was AUD 30M by the Government of Australia, NZD 20M by the Government of New Zealand with some coordination support by the Government of the United Kingdom. The funding ambition of WRP of USD 191M was also confirmed.



PICOF15 focusses its lens on Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion

The Fifteenth Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forum (PICOF15) enabled the region's NMHS to present and discuss the seasonal climate for end-2024 to mid-2025, as well as present the ocean and tropical cyclone outlooks. PICOF15 was particularly special in that it partnered with the Pacific Disability Forum to strengthen the Forum through delivering workshop-style sessions so critical information reaches the most vulnerable in Pacific communities.

The PICOF-15 is a platform used by the Met community to discuss the accuracy and the impacts of the previous year's forecasts and also analyse the various scenarios for the upcoming season. Of the two PICOFs that are held each year, one in April and one in October, the October PICOF is of particular interest because of the Tropical Cyclone Outlook which is issued for the cyclone season from November to April. It presented the opportunity for the meteorological

community to discuss the accuracy and impacts of the past seasonal outlook which was issued in April 2024. The review is from April to October 2024.

PICOF-15 was a joint event supported by the EU-funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications Programme (Intra-ACP ClimSA) SPREP and the Australian and New Zealand Aid funded Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac).



OBJECTIVE 1.4

Support Pacific island Members to access and manage climate change finances and their national accreditation processes.

Strengthening Nauru's capacity to access climate finance

SPREP worked with the Nauru National Designated Authority and the Government of Nauru to finalise a financial management capacity assessment to strengthen its financial management system, policies and capacities, to meet the Direct Accredited Entity standards required by the GCF.

Further work with Nauru saw the development of two project concepts for submission to the GCF with one of the projects identified by Nauru as priority being the Higher Ground Initiative (HGI). This is a generational undertaking by Nauru to respond to projected climate change impacts with the HGI concept note submitted to the GCF in 2024. This activity was a partnership between the Government of Nauru and SPREP with support from KPMG Fiji and Monash University.

Nauru is also implementing its NAP and have completed a comprehensive vulnerability assessment of all key sectors in Nauru to inform the NAP and key climate adaption priorities for climate finance access.



Empowering Niue to access climate finance

Climate Finance Introductory training for Niue delivered by the PCCC through the GCF Readiness support was a platform for the development of a GCF Simplified Access Proposal on food security being developed for Niue. The training formulated a proposal that takes a transformative approach to invest and build a resilient food security to secure the socio-economic wellbeing of Niue communities.

The training was a partnership between SPREP through the PCCC, the Government of Niue, the Niue Chamber of Commerce and private sector. The PCCC support is funded through the support from the governments of Australia and New Zealand.





PCCC delivers regional training on climate finance

SPREP through the PCCC delivered six regional training courses in 2024 with approximately 460 participants from Member countries to enhance Pacific Islands to access climate finance. The targeted training was an essential intervention and platform to provide participants from the region with the necessary knowledge and

skills to navigate GCF funding effectively. By enhancing understanding, fostering collaboration, and providing practical tools for project development, the training seeks to catalyse transformative change in the climate resilience initiatives of Pacific countries.

Partners that supported the delivery of the training included the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Project for Innovative Solutions for Pacific Climate Change Resilience (IS-PCCR), Rocky Mountain Institute Climate Finance Access Network, Asian Development Bank, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT RRC), Australian National University, VUW, Ministry of Primary Industry New Zealand, United Nations Institute of Technology and Research (UNITAR) and SPC.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands pursues GCF Accreditation

As the delivery partner to the Green Climate Fund, SPREP is implementing the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) GCF Readiness II project, focused on strengthening the capacity of the National Designated Authority (NDA) and potential Direct Access Entities.

A key output of the project is a comprehensive capacity and gap assessment to initiate the GCF accreditation process, an important step toward enhancing Marshall

Islands' direct access to climate finance to implement its national climate priorities and build a resilient future. The assessment, which focused on fiduciary systems and environmental and social safeguards, was conducted in partnership with the Government of the Marshall Islands, the GCF, and KPMG Fiji.

The project has also strengthened institutional coordination and climate

finance governance, particularly through capacity-building support to the NDA and the Tile Til Eo Committee (TTEC) on GCF proposal appraisal processes.

It has enabled TTEC to meet quarterly with climate finance now a standing agenda item. The Readiness team has actively supported the NDA in presenting project proposals for appraisal, review, or No Objection Letter (NOL)

issuance, and has provided secretariat support to TTEC.

Additional achievements include a national climate change training with the College of the Marshall Islands, development of the Climate Change Directorate page with climate finance tracking in the Marshall Islands Environment Data Portal, and completion of a Readiness Needs Assessment to inform future programming.

Driving innovative solutions for a Resilient Pacific with the PCCC



SPREP through the PCCC in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Project for Innovative Solutions for Pacific Climate Change Resilience (IS-PCCR) was launched in March 2024 the project has successfully conducted a comprehensive stock take of innovative climate change solutions tailored to the unique context of the Pacific region. A total of 150 potential solutions were identified and analysed. Following an evaluation process, 30 solutions were selected

In September 2024, the first training under the PCCC-IS-PCCR project was successfully conducted, bringing together 44 participants from 13 Pacific Islands. The training focused on the fundamentals of climate change and its impacts, as well as innovative climate change solutions tailored to the Pacific context.

A pioneering innovation exhibition by PCCC showcased technologies and solutions aimed at tackling climate change across the Pacific Islands region. The hybrid event, with local hubs based in Samoa and Kiribati, brought together over 300 delegates – climate change practitioners, researchers and innovators to present new approaches for climate resilience and sustainability

OBJECTIVE 1.5

Support Pacific Island Members to develop policy responses to issues of loss and damage, and climate change and disaster induced population mobility.

Loss and Damage Capability and Capacity Project Approved

The Loss and Damage Capability and Capacity Project was approved by the Government of New Zealand. This project is funded by the NZD 20M announced by the Government of New Zealand at COP27 in Sharm-el-Sheik for which SPREP has been awarded NZD 6.3M to implement the project.

Over a two-year period the project will be implemented by SPREP in the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tokelau.

This is the first regional project on Loss and Damage that is implemented by SPREP and aims to enhance countries readiness to address loss and damage and access to climate finance. The activities identified in collaboration with the countries under this project respond to gaps in capacity and capability and it will support both region-wide and specific activities for participating by:

1. Enhancing understanding of economic loss and damage and Non-Economic Loss and Damage through improved access to data and information.
2. Improving information on, and awareness of, the disproportionate impacts of loss and damage on vulnerable groups.
3. Improving regional information and knowledge sharing on Loss and Damage.
4. Communicating Pacific experiences of loss and damage within and beyond the region; and
5. Improving opportunities to access Loss and Damage relevant climate finance including the global Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage.

Island and Ocean Ecosystems

REGIONAL GOAL 2
Pacific people benefit
from healthy and
resilient island and
ocean ecosystems

SPREP and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation partnership unlocks promise for resilient reefs

A new partnership to protect Pacific coral reefs was signed at the Fifty-third Pacific Islands Leaders Forum Meeting in Tonga between SPREP and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

Working together, this partnership will implement the 2030 Coral Reef Action Plan through the GBRF program Resilient Reefs Initiative and supports the Unlocking Blue Pacific Prosperity Initiative. The AUD 15 million Resilient Reefs Initiative is funded by BHP Foundation and will accelerate and scale local action to protect coral reefs.

The milestone signing of the partnership between GBRF and SPREP heralds a resilient future in the face of the triple planetary crises. It also signifies the potential achieved with funding support from philanthropic foundations.

This partnership will channel support to three demonstration sites as Pacific Resilience Hubs for best-practice reef resilience building. It will also support four Pacific Resilience Accelerators as an avenue to confirm funding for coral reef projects from Pacific countries. The Accelerators will be the platform that connects pipeline projects to implement the 2030 Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan with donors.



Blue Carbon Assessment to Boost Conservation in Fiji

A blue carbon assessment to measure the carbon stock and emission levels for seagrass and mangroves has started in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu under the Management and Conservation of Blue Carbon Ecosystems (MACBLUE) project. The project, which also includes a rapid biodiversity and threat assessment, is the first large scale blue carbon assessment the Pacific to apply a standardised approach across multiple countries.

The data collected supports countries in their greenhouse gas inventories, reporting to international agreements, in particular the Paris Agreement through the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and inform national policies for the conservation and management of blue carbon ecosystems. The MACBLUE project is jointly implemented by SPREP, the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) in close cooperation with their four partner governments, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) through its International Climate Initiative (IKI).

OBJECTIVE 2.1

Effectively manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems; mitigation of the impacts of fisheries activities to ensure healthy populations of threatened species and reduce the release of marine pollutants that increase human health risks to achieve healthy and productive oceans that support food security and sustainable development.

Turtle conservation underway in Vanuatu

Malekula community consultations were also conducted in Bamboo Bay and Wiawi by the BIEM Initiative and Wan Smolbag to review draft turtle nesting community management plans and launch turtle conservation signage. Both communities have led the development of the draft management plans to support conservation activities by community turtle monitors and co-design of the community signage with vital information in Bislama and local languages about turtle nesting cycles.



Edgar Hinge (Matasangvulu) creating a Bwatu Uliuli (Vanuatu sand drawing) of an Avua (sea turtle). This Bwatu Uliuli describes that Vanuatu people are born with a totem of the sea and land. If your totem is a sea turtle, it is your traditional obligation to “lukoutem gud” (protect) these sea animals from extinction. Bwatu Uliuli is made up of stories, songs, and knowledge with sacred meanings, and is an endangered form of cultural communication protected by UNESCO. Edgar is from Pentecost Island and is a well-known advocate for traditional knowledge and practices, and environmental conservation in Vanuatu. © SPREP/Kuautonga N./Hinge E.

Provinces unite in Fiji to improve management of Beqa-Navua Catchment

The provinces of Namosi, Serua and Rewa in Fiji agreed upon an inter-province approach to manage natural resources in the Navua Catchment and Beqa Lagoon during a meeting of close to 50 representatives from across the three provinces. It was here that the findings of a series of surveys and assessment reports documenting the condition and values of natural resources, livelihoods of communities, and options for adapting to the impacts of climate change sustainably, were shared.

The Beqa-Navua Catchment area encompasses the three provinces of Namosi, Serua and Rewa. The natural ecosystems provide important services such as fresh water, clean air, fertile soils, medicinal plants and food to the 15,000 people who live in the area and to others who rely on activities such as tourism, agriculture and fisheries for their livelihoods. The Beqa Lagoon has long been a world-renowned shark dive site, while the Upper Navua River is a designated Ramsar wetlands site and tourist attraction.

The development of an integrated ecosystem management plan for the Beqa-Navua Catchment area is part of the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative led by the government of Fiji and SPREP.

Vanuatu coastal communities and government ridge to reef ecosystems and fisheries by-catch projects supported by BIEM Initiative

Eighteen By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Initiative (BIEM) activities in Vanuatu were reviewed during the multi-partner Steering Committee for the BIEM Initiative Project.

BIEM Initiative activities in Vanuatu include marine biodiversity assessments, ecosystem and socio-economic resilience mapping, strengthening inshore community-based fisheries enforcement capacity, and the

development of community turtle nesting management plans and launch of signage.

The BIEM Initiative Steering Committee comprises Vanuatu government agencies, non-governmental organisations and SPREP. These include the

Department of Climate Change, Department of Environment Protection and Conservation (DEPC), Department of Forestry, Vanuatu Cultural Centre, Vanuatu Fisheries Department (VFD), and Vanuatu Ocean Affairs Office.

About the BIEM Initiative

The BIEM Initiative, under the PEUMP Programme is working to ensure project activities and outcomes contribute to national objectives and meeting the needs of coastal communities around the Pacific. This seven-year programme is funded by the European Union (EUR 35 million) and the government of Sweden (EUR 10 million). The programme provides direct assistance to regional organisations to support regional and national level activities in the Pacific.

SPREP workshop deepens understanding on nature's potential for achieving sustainable development

Building understanding on the convergence of nature-based solutions (NbS) and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) projects and how they can be best applied to support sustainable development was at the heart of a workshop in Fiji.

An outcome of the workshop was the indication of interest by the i-Taukei Lands Trust Board (TLTB) to integrate NbS into its new environment policy. Participants provided inputs to this proposal and discussed the need to address siloed approaches to policy development and implementation of existing legislation. The need to work with and understand sectors outside the traditional conservation sectors was highlighted as essential to attracting investment interest and large-scale financing for NbS.

The workshop was a collaboration between SPREP's BIEM Initiative, which is a component of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme funded by the European Union and the Government of Sweden; the multi-partner PPIN project (SPREP, IUCN Pacific Community, GGGI), funded by NZMFAT, and the Kiwa Pacific Ecosystem Based Adaptation to Climate Change Phase 2 (PEBACC+) project.



Promoting Pacific Island Nature-based Solutions begins

The Promoting Pacific Island Nature-based Solutions (PPIN) project, funded by the Government of New Zealand began implementation. PPIN will support the development of policy and legislation for NbS and embed NbS into

regional and national policy and regulatory frameworks for key sectors in Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu. It will also strengthen regional and national awareness and capacity on NbS through targeted capacity building programmes for those

who will be designing and implementing NbS.

It is jointly implemented by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), The Pacific Community, Global Green Growth Institute and SPREP.

Harnessing natural solutions to achieve sustainable development in Vanuatu

More than 40 participants in Vanuatu strengthened their knowledge on the convergence of nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation approaches to enable lasting positive environmental and socio-economic benefits for local communities during a workshop.

Representatives from Vanuatu government ministries, non-

government organisations, national project managers, and academic institutions together with regional and international agencies collaborated to examine the NbS and EbA tools in Vanuatu's context.

The workshop participants applied the tools to a range of existing national and provincial projects to strengthen sustainable development

and biodiversity protection outcomes and enhance resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and natural disasters.

The workshop was a collaboration between SPREP's BIEM Initiative, which is a component of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme funded by the

European Union and the Government of Sweden; the multi-partner PPIN (SPREP, IUCN Pacific Community, GGGI) project, funded by NZ MFAT, and PEBACC+ project implemented by SPREP with funding from Kiwa Initiative and the French Facility for Global Environment.

About PEBACC+

The Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Plus (PEBACC+) Project seeks to strengthen the resilience of ecosystems, economies, and communities to the impacts of climate change in Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Wallis-and-Futuna. The project is developing, sustaining, and institutionalising ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) to climate change in these five countries and territories. The PEBACC+ is a €5.8 million regional project implemented by SPREP and funded by the Kiwa Initiative through its donors the European Union, Agence Française de Développement, Global Affairs Canada, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs, and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, with co-financing from the French Facility for Global Environment.



Samoa steps up coral reef monitoring

Samoa is designing an integrated national coral reef monitoring programme to better inform management of Samoa's coral reefs and associated fisheries. This follows on from three workshops hosted across Samoa in 2024 bringing together different sectors to work towards protecting the coral reefs.

Demonstrating collaboration and partnership across sectors, Samoan government and relevant stakeholders involved in coral reef monitoring are now developing the Programme together to better inform the status and trends of Samoa's coral reefs.

The Samoa Monitoring Programme Workshop was facilitated by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) in partnership with SPREP. It also helped review existing monitoring regimes, identified challenges and gaps.



© Tracy Jennings, Ocean Image Bank

Incorporating traditional practices with modern science for coral reef management

Facilitating increased, inclusive and effective contributions from coral reef monitoring and traditional knowledge to inform coral reef management across the Pacific saw a range of workshops held across Samoa and Australia AIMS in partnership with SPREP.

Drawing upon the wealth of traditional knowledge and local resource management knowledge in Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Samoa, participants included the Samoan Government and community, Australia's Gidarjil Development Corporation, Papua New Guinea's Sea Women of Melanesia (SWoM), and Conservation International – Samoa.

This will help inform adaptive co-management of coral reef ecosystems in a future of accelerating climate change impacts.

The programme is part of a four-year investment by AIMS and the Australian Government to help to build coral reef monitoring capabilities in the Pacific by expanding the use of ReefCloud to support the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan. It is also supported by the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) and the Accenture Foundation.

Ecosystem and Socio-Economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping in Solomon Islands

Eight communities in the Central Province of the Solomon Islands took part in the 'Ecosystem and Socio-economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping' (ESRAM) assessment to strengthen the protection of key coastal ecosystems that support the livelihoods and wellbeing of over 30,000 people in the Central Islands Province of the Solomon Islands.

The new assessment will inform the design and implementation of integrated coastal, marine and island conservation and development plans for the province and assist in the sustainable management of local fisheries.

This was undertaken through the Pacific BioScapes Programme, a European Union (EU) funded action, managed and implemented by SPREP. This activity of the Programme in the Solomon Islands is implemented by the Solomon Islands Government with support from the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Three communities in South Malaita, Tapa'atewa, Eliote, and Ori Ore, also carried out an ESRAM study under the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC+) project funded by the Kiwa Initiative and the French Facility of Global Environment. The ESRAM provided a blueprint for how communities in South Malaita can harness their natural ecosystems to build resilience to climate change.

Pacific countries convened to align National Biodiversity Targets to Global Biodiversity Framework

Pacific Islands worked to align their national biodiversity targets to the Global Biodiversity Framework in 2024. The historical agreement which sets out an ambitious agenda towards the vision of living in harmony with nature, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, was adopted during the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) in December 2023.

A series of regional and sub-regional dialogues to facilitate the sharing of experiences and mutual learning related to the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), including national targets, to align with the Global Biodiversity Framework, were held including in the Pacific.

The CBD Secretariat partnered with SPREP, the Government of Fiji, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to host the sub-regional Dialogue on NBSAPs for Pacific countries in Fiji. This was followed by a workshop on Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the UNEP Technical Workshop on the Global Environment Facility Early Action Support Project.

SPREP Members participating included Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

OBJECTIVE 2.2
Support the conservation and sustainable use of marine, coastal, and terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity, consistent with regional and international commitments.

Amplifying the One Pacific Voice at the CBD COP16 in Colombia

Fourteen Pacific Island countries gathered in Colombia to push for the implementation of the agreed global Framework on biodiversity to address the challenges the Pacific region faces in nature conservation and management.

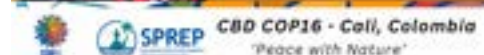
The Sixteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP16) officially opened witnessed by parties to the Convention, government officials, private sector, civil society, academics and youth under the theme 'Peace with nature'.

Prior to this the Pacific Island countries who are parties to the Convention met in Samoa for a Pacific Preparatory Meeting to strategise and prepare the One Pacific Voice negotiating for the protection and conservation of biodiversity.

COP16 was the first biodiversity COP since the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The conference set key milestones in the implementation of the GBF's goals and 23 targets for 2030.

It suspended with countries agreeing on an expanded role of indigenous peoples and local communities in protecting biodiversity. Delegates also took stock of progress in implementing the GBF for which to date 119 countries have submitted national biodiversity targets with 44 countries having submitted National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans.

CBD COP16 ended with plans to resume in 2025. It was attended by Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.



One Pacific – One People, One Ocean at CBD COP16

A special Pacific event held on the margins of CBD COP16 helped amplify innovative Pacific conservation initiatives to halt biodiversity loss in the region. Hosted by SPREP the event projected the voices of Pacific youth with a call for initiatives that support youth involvement in biodiversity projects, Samoa and its work in integrating traditional ecological knowledge with modern conservation practices and Vanuatu showcased its efforts in community-based management and monitoring.

The event highlighted success stories and fostered collaboration amongst participants reinforcing the message that united efforts are essential for safeguarding the Pacific's diverse ecosystems for future generations.



Environmental sustainability initiatives to safeguard ecosystems and cultural heritage

The Responsible Marine Wildlife Viewing Guidelines were launched in 2024 to support sustainable tourism in the Pacific. The guidelines safeguard coral reefs, whales, dolphins, dugongs, sharks, rays, turtles and seabirds, by establishing responsible practices for tourism activities.

Tourism plays a critical role in the development of Pacific Island countries and is a major driver of economic growth and employment. Increasing tourist awareness of marine species and habitats can help mitigate the possible negative consequences of human interactions with wildlife. Tourism can also provide educational experiences that motivate tourists, promote environmental sustainability, and instigate broad behavioural and societal change.

The Guidelines were launched at the Third Council of Tourism Ministers Meeting in Fiji. They were developed through the Pacific BioScapes Programme, a European Union (EU) funded action, managed and implemented by SPREP, in partnership with the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO).



Supporting national climate change strategies in New Caledonia

The PEBACC+ project funded by the Kiwa Initiative and the French Facility of Global Environment continues to make significant strides in mainstreaming Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) and Nature-based Solutions (NbS) into national and sub-national development frameworks across its target countries.

In New Caledonia, the project actively contributed to the design of the New Caledonia Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and the country's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement. These strategic documents now place a stronger emphasis on the role of nature-based solutions as critical components for achieving climate resilience and sustainable development outcomes.

OBJECTIVE 2.3
Prevent the extinction of threatened species and support measures to sustain their conservation status.

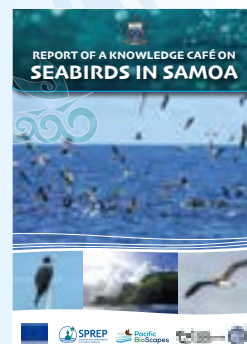
Seabirds in Samoa take centre stage in knowledge exchange

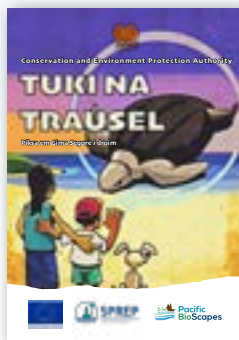
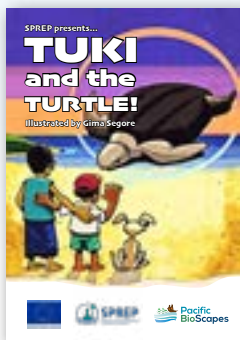
The importance of seabirds to Samoa's cultural heritage and unique ecosystem was given special attention during a knowledge café hosted by SPREP in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), the Samoa Conservation Society (SCS), and the Northern New Zealand Seabird Trust of New Zealand.

Hosted in Samoa, the knowledge café facilitated the sharing and documenting of scientific knowledge and experience, as well as traditional knowledge from community members in Samoa, to better understand seabirds and seabird ecology in Samoa. This has helped support future surveys and improve seabird awareness and conservation programmes.

An overview was provided of the existing seabirds in Samoa, their habitats and their usual places of nesting. Studies conducted by the Ministry, SCS and SPREP at sea and on land to survey the diversity and populations of seabirds in Samoa were also presented.

The knowledge café was made possible through the support of the European Union (EU) Pacific BioScapes Programme.





Protecting sea turtles in Papua New Guinea

A campaign to raise public awareness on the need for sea turtle protection in Papua New Guinea is underway. The Papua New Guinea Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) began the national media campaign in 2024 with educational activities in Manus, Milne Bay, Western and Central Provinces scheduled to roll out in 2025.

As part of the campaign to reduce overharvesting of all marine turtle species in Papua New Guinea and raise awareness of existing national legislation that protects threatened leatherback turtles, an educational comic book was released.

'Tuki and the Turtle', the educational comic book with Tok Pisin text and illustrations by the famous Papuan illustrator Gima Segore has been widely distributed, proving to be of great value in rural communities where access to digital media is limited.

The campaign is supported through the Pacific BioScapes Programme, a European Union (EU) funded action, managed and implemented by SPREP in partnership with CEPA.



OBJECTIVE 2.4

Significantly reduce the socio-economic and ecological impact of invasive species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate priority species.

Cook Islands hosts Sixth Pacific Invasive Learning Network Meeting

Over 70 invasive species professionals and practitioners from across the Pacific region converged in Rarotonga as part of the Pacific Invasive Learning Network sixth meeting.

The Pacific Invasive Learning Network (PILN) connects Pacific professionals and practitioners to share knowledge, expertise, tools, and ideas that are vital to managing invasive species effectively. PILN enables multi-disciplinary country teams to work together on strategies with critical input from other national teams and experts from throughout the region, resulting in a common vision and a plan for effective conservation action.

The Sixth PILN meeting was made possible with funding support from the Global Environment Facility funded GEF 6 Regional Invasives Project, the European Union funded PROTEGE project, the New Zealand Government funded Managing Invasive Species for Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific (MISCCAP) project.



Cook Islands welcomed into the PILN family

The Cook Islands officially became a member of PILN, demonstrating a strong commitment to enhancing national invasive species management efforts. As host of the Sixth PILN Meeting, this was also the opportunity to highlight successful invasive species management initiatives such as the rat eradication programme on Palmerston Island. This programme, funded by the New Zealand MISCCAP Project and executed through PRISMSS Predator Free Pacific Programme, was supported by the Palmerston Island Government and community, Te Ipukarea Society, Ministry of Agriculture, Cook Islands National Environment Service, and PRISMSS partner the New Zealand Department of Conservation.

Palmerston island is already seeing the benefits of removing these pests, with increasing bird populations, secure fruit and vegetable supplies, and more productive coral reefs, all contributing to the local community's resilience to climate change impacts.

New Caledonia scoops 2024 Pacific Invasive Species Battler of the Year Award

Mr. Patrick Barrière, Coordinator of the Threats Unit at the New Caledonian Biodiversity Agency (ANCB), has been honoured as the 2024 Pacific Invasive Species Battler of the Year.

The Battler of the Year Award commenced in 2017 and recognises Pacific invasive species field-based practitioners who work at the grassroots level and have achieved outstanding outcomes for biodiversity in Pacific islands, countries and territories.

For the past five years, Mr. Barrière has played a pivotal role in the PROTEGE invasive species component in New Caledonia. He and his team have led countless community consultations which have resulted in successful pig trapping and deer hunting campaigns. These achievements result in a healthier environment and therefore enhanced resilience for communities in New Caledonia.



Pacific Invasive Species Battlers Certified in Agrichemical Risk Management

Close to 35 Pacific participants that participated in the immersive regional study tour in New Zealand are now better equipped to manage risks associated with agrichemical use which is crucial for controlling invasive species.

The certification attained by the Pacific invasive species battlers will be invaluable for weed management spray applicators involved in the PRISMSS War on Weeds (WOW) and the Resilient Ecosystems-Resilient Communities (RERC) programme initiatives. The interactive training, which included both theoretical and practical sessions on agrichemical risk management, was provided by Educhem Ltd, one of New Zealand's leading agrichemical management training providers, who train and certify to meet the requirements of New Zealand Standard NZS8409:2021 Management of Agrichemicals.

This was just one qualification obtained while on the study tour that was aimed at promoting cross-cultural understanding, supported professional development, and encouraged networking and collaboration among participants. The participants were given the opportunity to be trained on key skills that may be required by on-the-ground invasive species management work which included outdoor and first aid, safe use of agrichemicals, and strengthening communications and engagement by building effective relationships with cultural intelligence amongst community and stakeholders.

Marshall Islands endorses National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan

Recognising the threat of invasive species, the Republic of the Marshall Islands endorsed their National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP), to better coordinate efforts to battle invasive species.

The NISSAP was an activity under the GEF 6 Regional Invasive Species Project funded by the Global Environment Facility, implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and executed by SPREP with assistance from the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) partners.

Managing invasive species involves many activities, including border control, awareness raising, research, monitoring, eradication, control, and risk assessment and a NISSAP allows appropriate prioritisation of the different elements and the spread of resources across them.

The Marshall Islands NISSAP includes an overview of the current situation of invasive species and identifies the process for their management. It also details priority actions necessary to mitigate the impacts of priority invasive species.



Pitcairn Islands adopts inaugural Invasive Species Strategy and Plan

The Island Council of Pitcairn formally adopted its first Territorial Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (TISSAP) which paves the way for the protection of the unique biodiversity and ecosystems of the Pitcairn islands, as well as of local crops critical for the community's food security.

TISSAP's are a critical document to ensure invasive species management is coordinated within a territory and that the different sectors involved with invasive species management are working together toward the same goals and are essential to show political will for managing invasive species and are looked upon favourably by funding bodies.

The TISSAP also provides guidelines to prevent the arrival of high-risk invasive species present in the region with a focus on the 30 species that are priority threats to Pitcairn

The Pitcairn Islands TISSAP was developed after an extensive review of existing information, a consultative visit on invasive species management by technical experts and consultations with the community late in October and December 2023. The TISSAP was produced under the PROTEGE project funded by the European Union.



Funding boost from the United Kingdom to fight invasive species

The Pacific region's battle against invasive species has received a significant boost thanks to funding from the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). This support, provided

through the Climate Action for a Resilient Asia (CARA) programme will foster further collaboration and support for the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (NZMFAT)-funded and SPREP implemented

PRISMSS RIR project. This will enable stronger actions against invasive species, thereby improving the climate resilience of Pacific communities.

The PRISMSS-RIR project builds on the foundational

work of the Managing Invasive Species for Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific (MISCCAP) project, which was funded by NZMFAT and concluded in October 2024. This project laid the groundwork for upcoming efforts.



PROTEGE ends on a high note

Delegates that attended the final Steering Committee meeting for the Oceanian Regional Project of Territories for the Sustainable Management of Ecosystems (PROTEGE), celebrated successes, acknowledged challenges and discussed a path forward to continue enhancing management, conservation and sustainable resource use of biological diversity and water resources

support in the French and British Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs).

Representatives of French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Pitcairn and Wallis and Futuna, together with delegates of the European Union, attended the closing meeting of PROTEGE, held in French Polynesia, with the meeting wrapping up five years of invasive species management initiatives in the French and British OCTs.

PROTEGE, a regional cooperation project, supported the public policies of the four Pacific OCTs, which included, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Pitcairn Islands and Wallis and Futuna to reduce vulnerability of human and natural systems to the impacts of climate change by increasing adaptation capacity and resilience. It also aimed to improve management, conservation and sustainable



resource use of biological diversity and water resources.

It was funded by the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) for a four-year period. The PROTEGE project was implemented jointly by the Pacific Community (SPC) and SPREP.

Reviving the Toloa Rainforest through Community Driven Invasive Species Strategic Management in Tonga

Helping to further improve invasive weeds management efforts on the Toloa Rainforest reserve in Tonga was a mission from SPREP and the PRISMSS RERC Programme through a visit to build capacity with staff from the Tonga Department of Environment, and students from Tupou College.



The visiting team interacted, over a one-week period with the site visits being facilitated by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) 6 Regional Invasives Project (RIP), funded by GEF, implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme, and executed by SPREP.

This followed work that began in 2014 but was paused due to COVID-19. A phased work plan for the restoration of the Toloa Rainforest reserve was prepared based on the forest restoration framework, where the forest has been divided into discrete manageable areas or management units.

The work resulted in the management of over 2000 invasive plants, which mainly comprised Kotia (*Cordia alliodora*), Lakaupouli (*Cestrum nocturnum*), air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*).



Reviving Nature: Takutea's Journey to a Rat-Free, Thriving Ecosystem in the Cook Islands

In a monumental stride in conservation for the Cook Islands, Takutea Island is on its path to becoming rat-free. This significant initiative, led by the Te Ipukarea Society, Takutea Trust, supported by the PRISMSS Predator Free Pacific Technical Leads, Island Conservation and BirdLife International and by the broader

SPREP-based, PRISMSS, represents a collaborative commitment to protecting the island's unique ecosystem, restoring a habitat crucial for native wildlife and local communities alike.

The removal of rats was completed through funding by the PRISMSS Restoring Island

Resilience (RIR) Project, funded by New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). It was also supported by the Cook Islands Voyaging Society, with funding through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme.

The current eradication campaign builds on years

of dedication and local engagement, aiming to restore the island's rich habitat, strengthen its resilience to climate change and extreme weather, and support the growth of native bird populations, including globally important populations of Tavake (Red-tailed Tropicbird) and Teue (Bristle-thighed Curlew).

Nukufetau Atoll Bolsters Pacific Conservation and Enhances Community Resilience by Removing Invasive Rats

In a significant advancement for biodiversity and community resilience in the Pacific the Tuvalu Department of Environment, supported by PRISMSS, has completed the eradication of invasive rats from four key islets on Nukufetau Atoll.

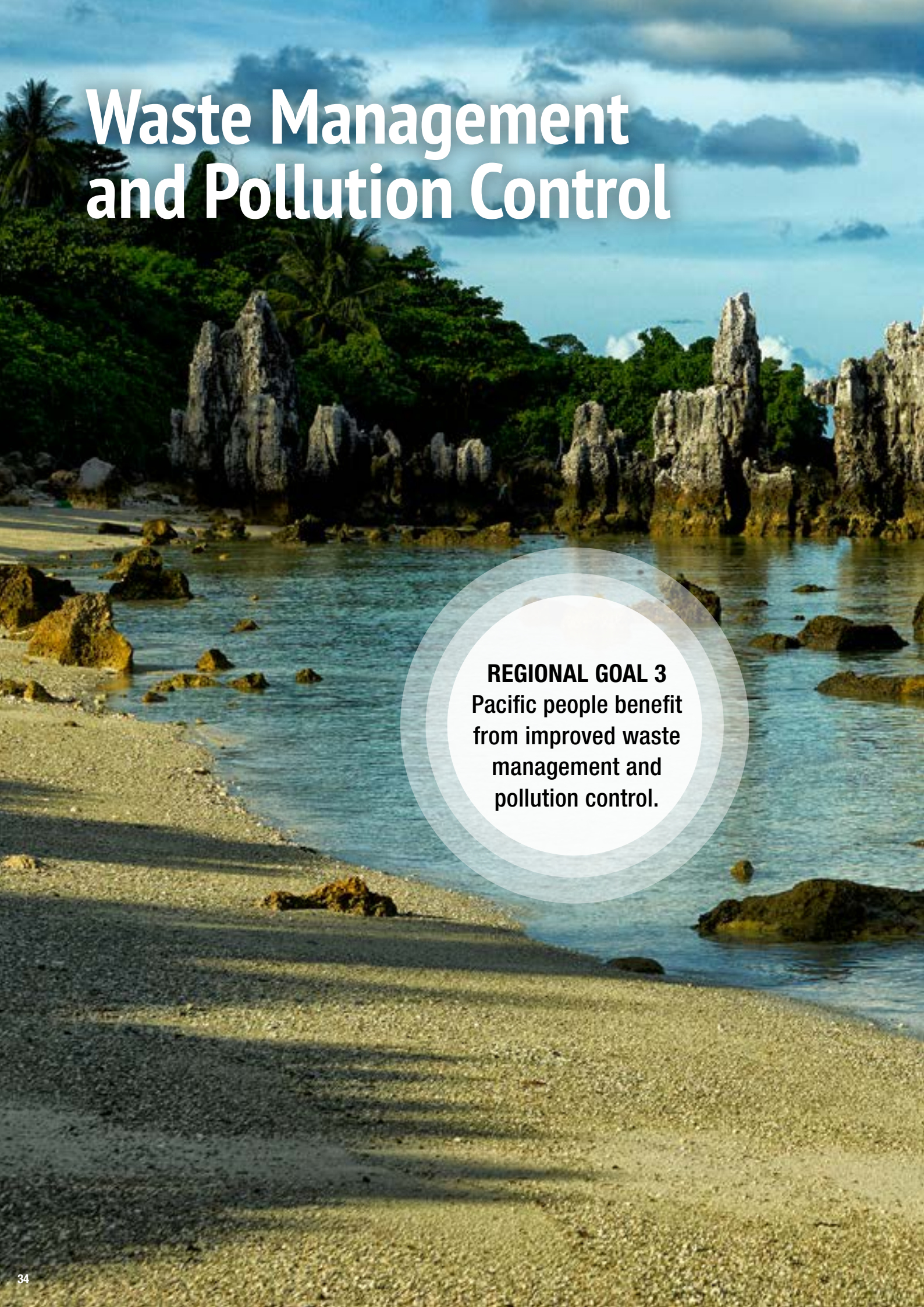
This effort, part of the PRISMSS's Predator Free Pacific (PFP) programme and led by Island Conservation, brings renewed hope for the region's fragile ecosystems and sets a precedent for similar conservation initiatives across the Pacific Islands.

From July to September 2024, invasive rats were removed from Motumua, Sakalua, Teafuaone, and Teafatule islets in Tuvalu. These islets, which serve as nesting sites for Pacific bird species and hatcheries for endangered green sea turtles, were under severe threat from invasive rats that damaged local habitats, depleted natural food sources, and disrupted ecological balance.

This initiative is part of the broader PRISMSS-Restoring Island Resilience (RIR) project, a Pacific-led collaboration funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), which aims to enhance Pacific Island livelihoods and climate resilience by mitigating the impacts of invasive species on both natural and agricultural ecosystems.



Waste Management and Pollution Control



REGIONAL GOAL 3
Pacific people benefit
from improved waste
management and
pollution control.

OBJECTIVE 3.1

Minimise the adverse impacts of chemicals and all wastes on human health and the environment via environmentally sound life-cycle management in accordance with agreed regional and international frameworks, including Cleaner Pacific 2025, and significantly reduce the release of pollutants to air, water, and soil.

Greening the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting hosted in Samoa

A comprehensive public awareness campaign was implemented to reduce plastic use and waste throughout the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting hosted in Samoa. This was targeted at reducing plastic pollution and single-use plastics. The Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP) funded by the Government of Australia provided waste and skip bins for waste segregation, collection and transportation to promote environmentally sound waste management. Additionally, waste audits and monitoring were conducted in conjunction with the Government of Samoa.

These actions included:

- 2x 60 sec advertisements on plastic pollution for public education and awareness
- Digital screen at the Faleolo International Airport- airing of audio-visuals on 3 screens at arrivals, departures and waiting area.
- 3x 60 sec ads: each ad played approximately 80 times in an hour, 1920 times in 24 hours and over 13,440 times in the 7 days of the CHOGM meeting.

Posters were also distributed at a SPREP Booth during the side events held at the National University of Samoa, hosting people in Samoa.



Amplifying the One Pacific Voice for a global, legally binding Plastics Treaty

Pacific Small Islands Developing States (PSIDS) engaging in the sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee (INC) to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment were supported by SPREP.

Working towards an effective amplified One Pacific Voice in the negotiations, SPREP through the support of the Australian-funded POLP facilitated two Pacific preparatory meetings prior to the INC4 in Ottawa, Canada and INC5 in Busan, Korea. These strategic preparatory meetings provided the technical input and support helping to form the PSIDS negotiation positions for effective engagement.

Throughout the INC process in 2024, SPREP provided ongoing assistance to PSIDS delegations assisting with daily coordination and continued technical input in the negotiations. Communications support from SPREP further enhanced Pacific visibility of PSIDS in these global fora through amplification through social media and traditional media.

The second part of the fifth session is scheduled to take place in 2025.

Removing Asbestos from the Pacific

Through the Pacific-European Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus), over 3,800 m² of asbestos-containing materials were removed from three buildings in Banaba Island and stored in “HAZIBAGS” which are specially made to ensure no release of asbestos fibres during handling and transport. The bags were shipped to Tarawa and onward to New Zealand for safe disposal in a landfill approved to receive asbestos-containing material.

A partnership with the Banaba Island Council and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development (MELAD) in Kiribati, this helped removed the exposure risk from the estimated 400 people living on Banaba Island.

The Pacific-European Union Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus) is an 85-month programme funded by the EU and implemented by SPREP to address cost effective and sustainable management of waste and pollution as well as broader impacts including human health and wellbeing, climate change, disaster management, biodiversity conservation and resource recovery.



4th Clean Pacific Roundtable hosted in Tuvalu

Sustainable innovations for a clean environment, resilient ocean and healthy communities was the focus of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable in Tuvalu from 5 to 9 August. This was the first face-to-face Roundtable to be hosted since the pandemic with the 2021 convened virtually hosted by New Caledonia. The Roundtable brought together more than 180 registered participants from 19 Pacific Islands including representatives from government, the private sector, civil society, research agencies, donor communicate and partners including agencies of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP).

- Collated stakeholder input to ensure the Cleaner Pacific 2025 Implementation Plan can be delivered and produced a statement of future prioritised activities in the short-term.
- Promoted improved understanding of gaps and opportunities within the region and support the mobilisation of technical and financial resources to fill gaps in waste and pollution management.
- Engaged with existing regional networks in the waste and pollution sector to support improved coordination of actions and promoted the establishment of new waste management networks.
- Commenced discussion on the Vision, Objectives, and Targets for the Cleaner Pacific 2035 (CP2035) or plus Strategy Development that will be undertaken in 2024 and 2025.
- Initiated commitment from donors and development partners to fund CP2035 Strategy development and desired activities to be included in the Strategy to receive ongoing funding support.

The 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable 2024, coordinated by SPREP in partnership with the Government of Tuvalu was made possible with the Members of the Clean Pacific Roundtable Steering Committee and the collaborative and generous support, coordination and financial assistance from the Governments of Australia and France, European Union, Japan International Cooperation Agency and United Nations Environment Programme.



Amplifying our youth voice at the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable

Recognising the importance of empowering youth to take charge in creating a sustainable future for themselves, a National Schools Competition centred around the theme "Addressing Single-Use Plastic Pollution in Tuvalu" was conducted during the CPRT.

Supported by the Australian-funded POLP, it featured three categories: essay writing, poster design, and sculpture design for primary and secondary school students. A total of 180 students participated from schools across all eight of Tuvalu's Islands.

The students' efforts were celebrated during a dedicated session at the Plastic Dialogue on Day 3 of the Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable, held in Funafuti, Tuvalu. The event featured a prize-giving ceremony and an exhibition of the students' creative pieces. Winners of the essay competition in each category also had the opportunity to read their written pieces to a room full of delegates at the meeting.

"I know that we love our country and want to protect it. But the truth is, we are running out of time. Plastic waste is piling up, and it's not just an eyesore – it's a health risk. Our children are playing in the dirt surrounded by plastic bags and bottles. Our fish are swimming in plastic-filled waters. It's heartbreaking," read Iaeli Kaunatu, a Form 7 student of Fetuvalu Secondary School.

"Tackling the plastic problem in Tuvalu won't be easy, but it's necessary. We owe it to ourselves, our children and future generations to take action," she added.

The submissions were evaluated by a panel of judges comprising representatives from the Department of Waste, the Tuvalu National Council of Women, the Public Works Department, and the SPREP POLP team.

A total of AUD 5000 was awarded as prize money with each winner receiving deposits into their newly created student saver accounts at the Development Bank of Tuvalu.



Plastics Dialogue hosted during the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable in Tuvalu

Discussing the critical issue of plastic pollution in the Pacific islands region, and the efforts to address its impacts on the environment and human health saw the Plastics Dialogue result in the following key outcomes stem from the Plastics Dialogue during the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT):

- Elevation of plastic pollution as an outcome of the CPRT.
- Enhanced coordination of the delivery of the Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter (2018–2025) by SPREP, as the regional lead agency.
- Strategic visibility of POLP in the plastics space through the successful Plastics Dialogue.
- Women engagement through consultation, participation and collaboration – 14 of the 22 dialogue moderators and presenters were women.
- Sharing of regional and national methodologies, lessons, activities to promote national action including through the launch of the POLP regional study reports.
- POLP National Project Officers introduced to the project, expectations and roles of their engagement.
- Communications and stakeholder engagement activities completed.
- Youth and women engagement in the Tuvalu national schools competition.
- Engaged development partners – World Bank, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), US Agency for International Development (USAID) – and enhanced understanding of joint programming opportunities among the key actors providing support linked to Pacific priorities to end plastic pollution under the next iteration of the Pacific Islands Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter.

Supported by the Australian-funded POLP, the dialogue also exchanged information and view on the existing and pipeline activities in the Pacific islands region to reduce plastic pollution and how efforts could be streamlined to increase efficiency and reduce duplication.

OBJECTIVE 3.2

Strengthen national, regional, and international mechanisms for waste management including for chemicals, hazardous wastes, ship and aircraft generated waste, marine plastic litter, and other marine debris.

Solomon Islands enforces single-use plastic ban

The provisions to ban manufacturing, distribution, supply and sale of prohibited single-use plastics became effective on 1 March 2024 after the importation ban started on 1 September 2023.



Through the Joint Agency Enforcement Taskforce, representatives of the regulatory agencies held an investigation that led to the discovery of banned items and subsequently resulted in the verbal warnings being issued to businesses, notices of non-compliance, fines, seizure and court referral.

For 2024, Solomon Islands Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) reported that a restaurateur was charged for breaching the regulation through the distribution of banned single-use plastic (SUP) forks and that a search warrant was executed by Police. This case was then transferred to court with a subsequent trial held in February 2025 which resulted in a conviction.

The role of the Taskforce is critical in upholding and ensuring the effectiveness of the regulation. The active involvement of Police was especially crucial in terms of law enforcement and deterring violations.

Supported by the Australian-funded POLP, activities were supported by an integrated communications campaign including face-to-face awareness and outreach prior to 1 March 2024. A consumer awareness campaign around the environmental and health risks of SUP also set out to increase consumer motivation and interest in changing behaviour and knowledge of alternatives. This was complimented by MECDM outreach initiatives with the support of the graduate interns to schools, markets, communities and other high-foot traffic areas across Honiara. This ran in parallel with compliance monitoring and enforcement activities targeting business owners which was undertaken by the joint agency enforcement taskforce including the Honiara City Council.

Tonga Single-Use Plastics Roadmap launched

The National Single-Use Plastic (SUP) Roadmap for Tonga was launched during the Fifty-Third Pacific Islands Leaders Forum Meeting. The roadmap provides a clear pathway towards enhancing environmental cleanliness, reducing reliance and use of plastics, increasing plastic waste recycling and identifying and promoting alternatives to single-use plastics. Support will be provided to Tonga to implement some of the initial activities in the roadmap in 2025 and 2026.

The National SUP Roadmap for Tonga was developed through a partnership between the Government of Tonga, SPREP, the Australian-funded POLP and the New Zealand High Commission in Tonga.



Standards to phase out single use plastics across Pacific tourism

The standards to phase out single use plastics were developed in collaboration with the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) and in consultation with tourism sector stakeholders from the private sector, government, civil society and non-government organisations and development partners.

The Standards provide direction and guidance to develop and implement national standards for single-use plastics phase-outs for Pacific Islands by acting as a benchmark for the tourism industry to assess current performance and to progressively build upon in areas requiring further development over time.

They also support countries and their tourism sector in becoming more sustainable through public and private sector partnerships and action as well as create awareness and encourage visitors to travel responsibly.

The standards were endorsed by the SPTO Board of Directors and launched by the Council of Tourism

Ministers in Suva. The certification framework and implementation toolkit for the standards will be finalised in April 2025, enabling implementation of the standards and certification programme from May.

These were developed by the SPREP implemented Australian-funded POLP and SPTO.



Tonga Asbestos Management Code of Practice

Creating a legislative enabling environment for the proper and safe management of asbestos was the development of a Tonga specific Asbestos Management Code of Practice (AMCOP).

Developed through the Pacific-European Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus), the Asbestos Management Code of Practice provides best practices regulatory bodies, practitioners, tradespeople and the public on how to undertake safe work requirements when working or encountering asbestos.

It is a vital initial measure to guarantee the effective management of asbestos in the future by offering guidance on managing, controlling, and ultimately containing all asbestos materials in Tonga.

The AMCOP was developed in partnership by the Government of Tonga and the Pacific-European Union Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus).

OBJECTIVE 3.3

Recover resources from waste and pollutants through composting (nutrient recovery), recycling (material recovery), energy recovery, and other measures in order to minimise waste and contribute to economic and social development.

Vanuatu strengthens Product Stewardship Scheme



Vanuatu Department of Environment Protection and Conservation (DEPC) has identified the Product Stewardship Scheme as an effective solution for management of recyclable and recoverable materials since 2017.

The Pacific-European Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus) developed tools to support evidence-based decision making through the development of an economic model to enable comparison of various scheme options, conducted consultations and legislative review into elements of the scheme, drafted guiding notes for legislation and regulations and drafted operating procedures and contracts for scheme operations.

Once the scheme is implemented, this will provide effective solution for management of recyclable materials, and result in litter reduction, job creation, and providing an income to unemployed or marginalised groups.

Chipper boost's ability of Republic of Marshall Islands to manage organic materials

Managing organic material is a lot more efficient for the Majuro Atoll Waste Company (MAWC) in the Republic of Marshall Islands, with the arrival of a new heavy-duty chipper. The overflowing Jable-Batkan dumpsite in Majuro is the urgent problem for waste management in the Republic of Marshall Islands. This dumpsite has long exceeded its design capacity with waste now pushed up to 17m high against a seawall on the ocean side of the atoll. A contributing factor to the site's overcapacity was the high volume of organic and paper/cardboard material.

Through the Pacific-European Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus) heavy equipment was procured to enable organic and paper, cardboard processing. The mobile organics shredder was purchased specifically for the Marshall Islands to provide collection from households and material to be processed at source to enhance operations and maximise transport. Upgrades were also completed with training undertaken on how to use the specialist equipment. Procedures were developed for staff, and an awareness programme was designed to raise awareness of organic and paper, cardboard projects to change household and business waste practices.



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



PacWastePlus
PACIFIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE 3.4

Improve waste and pollution monitoring of receiving environments to enable informed decision-making on appropriate measures to protect human health and the environment and to reduce associated environmental damage.

Marine litter data collected from across the Pacific

Throughout the implementation of the first phase of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) funded Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) Project, 73 Beach Surveys and Waste Audits were conducted across 43 locations in the Pacific region. This was made of up six surveys in Fiji since 2023, 22 surveys in Samoa since 2019, 17 surveys in Solomon Islands since 2022, 13 surveys in Tonga since 2021, ten surveys in Vanuatu since 2023 and five surveys since 2021 in Wallis and Futuna, to collect data on marine litter composition.

The data collected throughout the SWAP is gathered in a Marine Litter Study Report, for which the main goal was to showcase the findings of the Beach Surveys and Waste Audits when it comes to the distribution, composition, and density of marine litter across the Pacific region. This data is also contributing to the Global Plastics Treaty discussions, which aim to address plastic pollution globally by focusing on the entire plastic lifecycle – from production to disposal.

There were 76,869 items collected throughout the 73 surveys, weighing in at 4,492kg. For each waste category, total number of items collected were:

- 44,653 plastic items including 2,790 foamed plastic items
- 2,828 fabric and textiles items
- 8,861 glass and ceramic items
- 11,191 metal items
- 2,892 paper and cardboard items
- 954 rubber items
- 966 wood items
- 1,734 other items

More data on Marine Litter will be collected throughout the second phase of the SWAP from 2025–2028 in the six countries and territories mentioned above to which will be added French Polynesia, Kiribati and Tuvalu.

The partners that helped bring about these Marine Litter results included SPREP, Agence Française de Développement (AFD) funded SWAP, Australian funded POLP, GEF ISLANDS Project, Sustainable Coastlines New Zealand, University of the South Pacific, Governments of Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, University of Newcastle, and the local communities across the six Pacific Islands.



New Renewable Energy Regional Qualifications in the Pacific

Starting in 2021, the Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions (PAWES) Project funded by the European Union and implemented by SPREP in partnership with SPC spanning Samoa, Solomon Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, and Papua New Guinea saw two new endorsed qualifications come into being.

The PAWES Project aims to enhance the Pacific region's waste management and energy security focussing on empowering governments and education providers. In 2024 two endorsed qualifications were introduced, these include a Certificate in Sustainable Energy (Level 4) designed to provide foundational

knowledge and skills in renewable energy and waste management technologies and a Diploma in Sustainable Energy (Level 6) advanced qualification offering comprehensive training in sustainable energy systems and waste-to-energy solutions. This came into being after the Pacific Community's (SPC) Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP) and PAWES project convened members of the Industrial Advisory Committee and industry stakeholders, who are representatives of training providers and staff of energy service providers from around the region to endorse the Regional Qualifications after a series of Qualification Development workshops.

Baseline Assessment Reports Completion

The European-Union funded PAWES project successfully completed and published comprehensive baseline assessment reports for all five participating countries in 2024. These reports provide crucial foundational data for future waste-to-energy decisions and policy development. Through these there is the evidence-based foundation for national waste-to-energy policy development, a current state of analysis of solid waste management and energy landscapes as well as identification of opportunities for waste-to-energy technology implementation. The assessment reports also support informed decision-making by government and private sector stakeholders.

- **Samoa Baseline Assessment Report** – Comprehensive evaluation of current waste management and energy landscape
- **Republic of Marshall Islands Baseline Assessment Report** – Assessment of solid waste management systems and energy infrastructure
- **Papua New Guinea Baseline Assessment Report** – Analysis of waste-to-energy potential and current practices
- **Tuvalu Baseline Assessment Report** – Evaluation of waste management challenges and energy security needs
- **Solomon Islands Baseline Assessment Report** – Assessment of waste streams and energy generation opportunities



Coral reef, Gau Island, Fiji © Stuart Chape

Masters Scholarships Awarded

Recipients representing Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu were awarded scholarships supported by the European Union-funded PAWES Project in partnership with the University of the South Pacific. They span the following areas:

- **Melas Christian Nos** – Focusing on efficient waste-to-energy conversion methods including biodigesters and thermal technologies
- **Natalie Kausimae** – Researching feasible waste-energy solutions to address environmental challenges in the Pacific
- **Miriam Taukiei** – Developing practical, scalable waste management solutions with input from Tuvalu Department of Waste Management
- **Nikita Shriwastow** – Promoting women and girls in STEM while researching waste-to-energy sector innovations

Environmental Monitoring and Governance

REGIONAL GOAL 4

Pacific people and their environment benefit from commitment to and best practice of environmental governance.

OBJECTIVE 4.1

Strengthen national sustainable development planning and implementation systems through use of Environmental Impact Assessments, Strategic Environmental Assessments, and spatial planning.

Empowering Solomon Islands to conduct EIAs and apply spatial planning

It was genuine and durable partnerships that resulted in the upskilling of over 40 Solomon Islands officials to undertake Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA), and spatial planning.

By the end of the five-day workshop led by SPREP, the Solomon Islands Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) committed to work closely with SPREP to improve environmental decision-making processes. Participants gained skills across the full EIA steps from screening projects to reviewing EIA reports and learned to integrate Geographical Information Systems (GIS) data to identify sensitive ecosystems and habitats when evaluating development proposals. This has empowered Solomon Islands Regulators to make more informed, evidence-based decisions for sustainable development.

The workshop was made possible through SPREP's collaboration with the Solomon Islands Government, the European Union Pacific BioScapes Programme, the IUCN-funded Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas (EREPA) Project, the United Kingdom Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCCP), and the European Union Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries – Phase III (ACP MEA3) Project.



The EIA and spatial planning workshop in Solomon Islands was guided by the use of the Strengthening Environmental Impact Assessment: Guidelines for Pacific Island countries and territories and the EIA Guidelines for Coastal Tourism Development in Pacific Island Countries and Territories developed by SPREP. The regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) guidelines was also introduced as a tool to integrate sustainability into national policies and plans. A field visit to the community-managed Barana Nature Park allowed participants to see conservation and eco-tourism in action, reinforcing the real-world importance of environmental assessment and planning.

SPREP SEA Guidelines applied by the Cook Islands

A significant step forward was taken by the Cook Islands National Environment Service (CINES) in strengthening its environmental governance in national decision-making processes through SEA training. Through SPREP, the capacity of 15 CINES staff was built for sustainable development planning and policy development.

Supported by the European Union funded ACP MEA3 Project, the training was timely, coinciding with significant national environmental policy and legislative reforms. The training demonstrated the practical application of the SPREP's Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Guidelines for the Pacific at the national level, strengthening new legislation.

The workshop informed the implementation of the new National Environment Policy 2022-2032 and the draft Environment Bill, which incorporates SEA. A strategic mapping exercise identified practical steps for improving and strengthening systems to integrate SEA into national planning processes.

"What makes this particularly noteworthy, is the draft Bill includes specific provisions for Strategic Environmental Assessment. These provisions were developed using SPREP's Regional SEA Guidelines, demonstrating the practical application of our regional frameworks at the national level"

Ms Roselyn Strickland, Environmental Legal Counsel, CINES



Vanuatu enhances processes for Development Permits through EIA Training

Improving EIA processes and development approval procedures was at the core of support from SPREP to national and provincial stakeholders in Vanuatu. The training resulted in the streamlining of how multiple government agencies collaborate on issue of environmental permits for development. This was designed to help Vanuatu implement its National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP 2016- 2030) by strengthening environmental planning and integrating custom values into the EIA decision-making process.

Over 40 participants representing more than 10 agencies took part in the training and mapped the overlaps in their Permitting roles and produced a draft referral checklist to coordinate project approvals across departments.

By the end of the training, Vanuatu's EIA regulators had enhanced skills in impact assessment, stakeholder consultation and GIS use empowering them to make more coordinated and evidence-based decisions.

Led by SPREP this was supported by the Vanuatu Climate Information Services Programme funded by the Green Climate Fund, the United Kingdom OCCP, the EU-funded Pacific BioScapes programme and the EU-funded ACPMEA3 Project.



Kiribati Embraces Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Sustainable Future

Growing national capacity to apply SEA to policies, plans and programs saw close to 50 participants from across diverse sectors in Kiribati participate in a training with SPREP. Kiribati has been laying the groundwork for SEA across several years. The amended Environment Act 2021 now includes provisions for SEA, providing a legal basis for its implementation. In response to the growing interest in SEA as a planning tool in Kiribati, the training emphasised integrating traditional ecological knowledge into SEA processes. The workshop, undertaken in partnership with the Government of Kiribati and the ACP MEA3 Project, was timely given legal frameworks in Kiribati now support SEA and the strategic need to assess large-scale plans such as seabed mineral activities.



Applying GIS in Solomon Islands

Building Solomon Islands ability to effectively manage and conserve its natural resources through GIS training saw more than 20 participants learnt the GIS principles and techniques. Practical demonstrations to use GIS tools for data capture, analysis, and reporting were part of the training that was a partnership between the Solomon Islands Government, IUCN-funded EREPA Project, the ACP MEA3, and the European Union-Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (EU-OACPS) Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme.

Through the EREPA project, SPREP led the spatial analysis to delineate protected area boundaries, addressing terrestrial biodiversity loss and ecosystem decline by improving natural resource management in Guadalcanal, Malaita, Rennell-Bellona, and Temotu provinces.



Enhancing Samoa's marine biodiversity through GIS

Supporting ongoing efforts of Samoa to address overfishing, and marine pollution through habitat restoration, marine protected areas, and community-led conservation. GIS training was held for 25 participants in Samoa. GIS was introduced as a vital tool to strengthen spatial data collection, analysis, interpretation to support decision-making which will enhance the participants capacity to manage and protect its marine resources.

The GIS training programme empowered Samoa Fisheries professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to leverage the use of GIS technology effectively in their fisheries management work. Through this initiative, participants strengthened their capacity for sustainable community-based fisheries management and contribute to the preservation of the rich marine biodiversity of Samoa.

SPREP delivered the training in partnership with the Government of Samoa, World Bank Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project (SAFPROM), EU funded ACPME3 Project, and the EU-OACPS BIOPAMA Programme.

GIS supporting natural resource management and conservation in Fiji

An intensive five-day training programme in Fiji on "Empowering Natural Resource Management and Conservation through Spatial Technologies" saw 20 participants expressing confidence in applying their new-found skills and in strengthening inter-agency working relations. The training helped enhance their capacity to use GIS for integrated ecosystem management, marine conservation and sustainable fisheries management.

Facilitated by SPREP, the workshop was a partnership between the SPREP Environmental Governance and Biodiversity Conservation programmes funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented regionally and in Fiji: the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative, the ACP MEA3 Project, and the BIOPAMA3 Project. The BIEM Initiative is a component of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) Programme funded by the European Union and the Government of Sweden.

"Through harnessing the potential of spatial technologies, we can revolutionise how we understand, monitor, and protect our natural heritage. GIS allows us to map, analyse and visualise complex environmental data and provides crucial insights for informed decision-making." – Dr Sivendra Michael, Permanent Secretary, Fiji Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.



GIS supporting a sustainable environment in Kiribati

The training on Charting Sustainable Development Pathways in Kiribati through Spatial Technologies and Data Management and Earth Observation Awareness, represented a strategic investment in the future of Kiribati. Organised by SPREP the training responded to the need for technical capacity building among the environmental stakeholders of Kiribati.

Over 30 participants gained practical GIS and data management skills tailored to Kiribati's environmental priorities. Tools introduced included QGIS for spatial analysis and mapping, KoBo Toolbox for field data collection, and Earth Observation (EO) applications presented by Geoscience Australia. The training enhanced national capacity for environmental monitoring, reporting, and compliance with international agreements on resilient communities and healthy ecosystems.

The GIS workshop was made possible through a partnership between SPREP, the Government of Kiribati, Emma Luke funds, Geoscience Australia, the EU ACPME3 Project and the EU-OACPS BIOPAMA Programme.



OBJECTIVE 4.2

Improve national capacity for good environmental governance supported by technical assistance for the development of policy and legislation, and implementation of Member international and regional commitments.

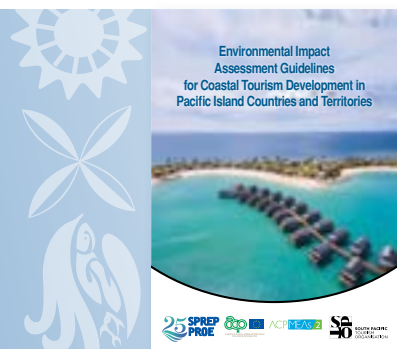
Parties meet to empower the Noumea Convention

An ad-hoc meeting of the Noumea Convention was held to develop a workplan and budget to implement recommendations of the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (Noumea Convention) review undertaken in 2021.

During the ad-hoc meeting 12 Parties determined a pathway for raising the importance of the Noumea Convention for a sustainable Pacific environment including the strengthening of the Noumea Convention Secretariat, improving regional cooperation on seas and oceans, developing communication and awareness strategies, and ensuring the sustainability of the Convention.

The workplan and budget will be presented to the Eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the Noumea Convention in 2025 for endorsement.

The Ad-hoc meeting of the Parties to the Noumea Convention was supported by the European-Union funded ACPMEA3 Project.



Understanding the environmental rule of law to build capacity in developing Pacific policies and legislation was at the core of regional training for Pacific lawyers that work outside of environment sectors. Supported by the European Union-funded ACPMEA3 Project, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), IUCN Oceania, and the Pacific Network of Environment Lawyers – the training brought eight Pacific lawyers together for their first training on the environmental rule of law.



Empowering Pacific Islands negotiators



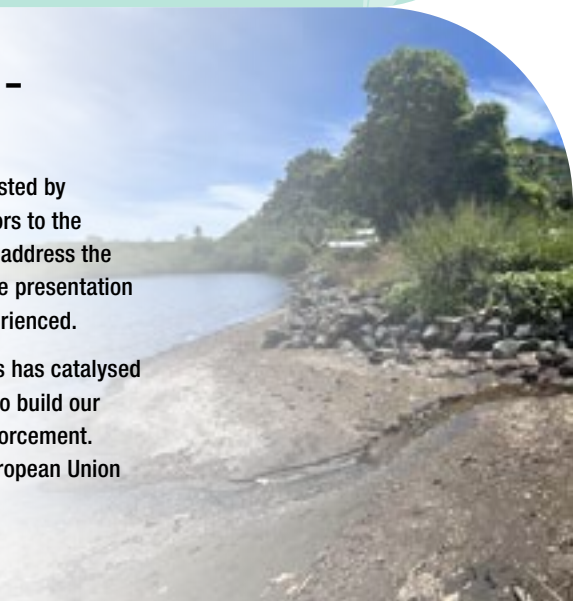
Building confidence of Pacific Island negotiators for effective engagement when negotiating in multi-lateral environment agreements saw training take place during the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 16) and the Regional Lawyers Training Workshop on Environmental Rule of Law.

This training helped participants understand the issues as they built their capacity to review agendas, formulate national positions and align them to regional positions, and build coalitions for collective bargaining power. All delegates participated in a mock negotiations' activity.

Partnerships to strengthen environmental law enforcement – SPREP PNEA and AELERT Regional Talanoa Webinar

A regional learning exchange webinar on environmental law enforcement and regulation hosted by the Pacific Network for Environmental Assessment (PNEA) introduced Pacific Island regulators to the Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators Network (AELERT). Helping to address the challenges of enforcing environmental law across the Pacific, the exchange webinar saw the presentation of solutions for every-day challenges experienced.

The first Talanoa between the two partners has catalysed a way forward for strengthened relations to build our Pacific capacity for environmental law enforcement. This was supported by AELERT and the European Union ACPMEA3 Project.



Samoa and Vanuatu launch National State of Environment Reports

Advancements have been made in Samoa and Vanuatu with the launch of their State of Environment (SOE) Reports to help protect and sustainably manage natural resources. They provide up-to-date, reliable environmental data that policymakers can use to create informed strategies aligned with sustainable development goals. The reports help prioritise critical areas for intervention based on evidence of environmental degradation or improvement.

Samoa launched its Fourth National State of Environment Report and National Environment Sector Plan. The report assessed four key thematic areas: the natural environment, the built environment, atmosphere, climate and disaster management, as well as environmental governance. Data-driven insights and recommendations were based on fifty indicators and sub-indicators assessed across these themes. The Fourth State of Environment Report for Samoa helped form the Samoa National Environment Sector Plan both of which were developed in partnership with Government of Samoa, the Global Environment Facility-funded SPREP INFORM Project, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)-funded UN Joint Programme Building Forward Better by Safeguarding Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services (UNJP-SESS Project) implemented by SPREP and UNEP.

Vanuatu made history with the launch of its first State of Environment Report since the Environmental Protection and Conservation Act was enacted in 2002. The SOE report reflects the state of Vanuatu's natural resources, environmental challenges, and pathways for strengthening sustainable development directions which supports national development plans and regional frameworks such as the 2050 Blue Pacific Strategy. The report was developed in partnership with the European Union-funded ACPMEA3 Project.

OBJECTIVE 4.3
Strengthen
environmental data
collection, monitoring
and analysis and
reporting on results,
nationally and
regionally.



Pacific Environment Portal amplified during the Fourth Conference on Small Islands Developing States

Data-driven solutions: Key to overcoming challenges in Small Island States was the title of a special event during the Fourth Conference on Small Islands Developing States (SIDS4). Amplifying the Pacific Environment Portal (PEP) as the premier platform for environmental data management in the Pacific, the event showcased its benefits and features in supporting national, regional and global reporting obligations.



The event highlighted the importance of strengthening existing collaboration across our Pacific Islands, Pacific regional agencies and stakeholders to enhance data management practice as well as addressed the critical need for continuous training and resources to improve data collection, analysis and management skills across our Pacific islands.

The well-attended side event featured speakers representing SPREP, the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), the Pacific Community (SPC) and UNEP.



OBJECTIVE 4.5

Strengthen synergies between science, policy, and traditional and local knowledge to guide decision making.

Cook Islands makes history with first Pacific OECM

The Cook Islands launched the very first Other Effective area-based Conservation Measure (OECM) in the Pacific. Announced as an OECM on the International Day of Biodiversity, the Takitumu Conservation Area (TCA), spans 155 hectares of forested area situated in the Takitumu District on Rarotonga. It has been safeguarded by three landowning families since 1996 mainly to protect the kākērōri and conserve other unique plant and animal species in the area.

A key highlight is how OECM can be recognised as a form of protected area. Often, communities may not have the prerequisites of a protected area, but an OECM is a pathway for consideration to protect and manage the species and habitats within those areas.

In 2023, SPREP in partnership with the UNEP-WCMC supported the Cook Islands through a national workshop, bringing together a range of stakeholders to learn about the OECM concept, possible benefits, challenges, tools and assistance that would be available to support the establishment of OECMs.

Since the 2023 workshop, the Cook Islands National Environment Service held a series of consultations with landowners and communities, including formation of a Working Group, leading to granted consent by the landowners for submission of the TCA to be recognised as an OECM on 12 March 2024. A collaboration that demonstrated genuine partnership and commitment to protecting Cook Islands biodiversity not just for the present, but for future generations.



Pacific engagement at Environmental Conference

Supported by SPREP, delegates from Fiji, Samoa and Tuvalu participated at the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) 2024 conference. The event provided a cross-regional learning platform as to how traditional knowledge is integrated into national environmental management practices such as EIA.

Fiji presented a case study highlighting the crucial role traditional landowners play in project planning and EIA process in Fiji.

Attendance was made possible through the support of the European Union-funded ACPMEA3 Project.



Environment data portals amplified during Climate Change Week in the Marshall Islands

The PEP and the Marshall Islands Environment Portal was showcased during the Marshall Islands Climate Change Week through a SPREP-dedicated booth. The interactive space built awareness across school students and stakeholders, as to the climate challenges across the Pacific Islands region and the initiatives underway to help address these.

Throughout the 2024 Climate Change week, the series of impactful activities engaged the community, highlighted environmental sustainability, and showcased ongoing efforts to combat climate change. Local schools participated in open discussions, debates, and creative diorama displays, demonstrating the active involvement of the younger generation in climate discussions.

The 2024 Climate Change week exhibition at the International Conference Centre featured over 10 booths and was targeted towards high schools and college students however it was also open to the public.

SPREP's participation was supported by the UNEP Enhancing Climate Information and Knowledge Services for Resilience in five Island Countries of the Pacific (UNEP CIS-Pac5) programme and the SPREP North Pacific Office.



Pacific Annual Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing User Conference

Work undertaken to address Pacific environmental challenges through GIS was amplified at the 2024 Pacific Annual Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing User Conference. SPREP attended the event that brought together more than 100 participants from across the Pacific Islands under the theme “Sustainable Management for Coastal Areas through Remote Sensing and GIS.” SPREP was able to network and showcase activities done in the Pacific applying innovative technologies in GIS and Remote Sensing across various fields and sectors.



Secretariat Highlights

A tropical landscape featuring a dense field of green, leafy plants in the foreground. In the background, there are several tall palm trees and a thick line of green foliage under a clear sky. The image has a warm, slightly hazy quality.

ORGANISATIONAL GOAL 1
SPREP has information, and communication systems that get the right information to the right people at the right time and influence positive organisational, behavioural, and environmental change.

OBJECTIVE 1.1

Share and use knowledge through the development and maintenance of reliable systems and processes for the effective collection, storage, and access to critical information

SPREP has been on a journey of digital transformation guided by its ICT Strategy, a story of strengthening resilience, fostering collaboration, and empowering its staff and members through innovative technology. Key highlights:

- Currently being implemented, the New Zealand-funded Digital Transformation project—known as the Integrated Enterprise Management System (IEMS)—seeks to modernise SPREP's business and people systems.
- Strengthened security posture and IT network and infrastructure resilience through cybersecurity interventions that have blocked intrusion and denial of service attempts, implementing highly available systems and industry disaster recovery strategies
- SPREP IT continues to build technical capacity and empower members through technical support such as providing oversight and technical guidance in the development of a weather mobile app for Tonga. Assisted Kiribati and Nauru with IT needs assessments to support the Traditional Knowledge application and launched the Nauru NHMS website.
- A new and enhanced eLearning platform was launched at the Pacific Meteorological Council, connecting people with the knowledge and skills to address the region's environmental and information technology challenges. These technological advancements also help address barriers of accessibility to technical capacity building and knowledge sharing.
- Adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to revolutionise access to information. AI-powered search and chatbot functionality has been implemented on SPREP information portals.

Key milestones and achievements are expected to be achieved as SPREP continues with its digital transformation journey of continuous improvement, resilience, and innovation.



OBJECTIVE 1.2

Influence positive behaviour change within SPREP and its stakeholders through persuasive, purposeful, and integrated communications.

More than 50 Pacific Meteorological practitioners from 14 Pacific Islands underwent communications training to help deliver messages clearly for their audiences, enabling and empowering action for preparedness. Delivered by SPREP in partnership with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), it also helped build partnerships between Pasifika TV and Radio New Zealand that enables Cyclone Watch during the TC season. The training was supported by partners who united to make this happen include WMO, the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Project, the European Union Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Applications Programme (ClimSA), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Radio New Zealand International, Pasifika TV and the Vanuatu Meteorology Geo-hazard Department (VMGD).



SPREP was featured during the 2024 Pacific Media Summit in Niue with the launch of the Vision Pasifika Media Award by the Prime Minister of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi, supported by POLP in partnership with the

Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC). The award encourages reporting to raise public awareness.

Work continued to help our SPREP Members amplify their voices nationally:

- Readiness Officers from Nauru, Niue and the Republic of the Marshall Islands completed training with SPREP to empower their Pacific Islands narrative with ongoing support provided across the year.
- Guidance was provided to develop media releases, and electronic newsletters for Niue.
- Twenty reporters from the Journalists Association of Samoa (JAWS) underwent training to empower ongoing environmental reporting. It was supported by the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and the Australian Funded Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP).
- In American Samoa, support led to input of resilience and awareness campaign plans, and capacity building to help enhance a way forward.
- A Media Engagement Strategy was developed for Samoa to support clear and effective communication following a marine oil spill of the shores of Samoa.

Ensuring our Pacific people have access to resources to build their knowledge and awareness the following was made available and distributed:

- More than 70 copies of the Ocean Toolkit for Pacific Media to help grow media reports on our ocean.
- Over 100 resources on Plastic Pollution were developed and distributed for Pacific young people with support from the Australian funded Pacific Ocean Litter Project.

Media coverage helping to amplify our Pacific voice across key events in 2024 took place:

- The Clean Pacific Roundtable in Tuvalu saw SPREP work with the Tuvalu Media Department to develop ten news stories shared across SPREP's website and social media, reaching over 50,000 people on the SPREP Facebook page over a three day period.
- During the 4th International Conference on Small Islands Developing States in Antigua and Barbuda, 41 pieces of content were developed and shared on the SPREP website and social media, reaching over 90,000 people on Facebook alone over a four day period.



In 2024, SPREP continued to implement the SPREP Information and Knowledge Management Strategy strengthening its role as a regional knowledge leader by enhancing the accessibility, sharing, and preservation of environmental information across the Pacific. Key achievements included:

- Enhanced integration between the SPREP Virtual Library and the Battlers Resource Base improving discoverability
- Eco-conscious use of QR codes on publications in exhibitions promoting sustainable access to information
- Digitisation of legacy audio-visual resources with PCCC support ensuring long-term preservation and accessibility
- Dissemination and sharing of SPREP reports and environmental resources with the Salafai Public Library in Savai'i, reinforcing our commitment to ensuring environmental information is accessible to communities across the Pacific.

SPREP also strengthened internal knowledge management through:

- Staff training and knowledge sharing seminars
- Improved institutional memory systems, and use of the Fagogo Intranet.

Community and youth engagement remained a priority reaching over 450 students in 2024. The seabird conservation outreach in Samoa was held as part of SPREP's broader knowledge sharing initiatives, supported by the EU funded Pacific Bioscapes Programme. The inaugural SPREP Information Day in Savai'i saw over 100 students learning more about SPREP and our Pacific environment issues, over 200 students from Monash University visited SPREP, and SPREP was at Samoa College's career day engaging with over 100 students.

With over 1,700 gender-related resources added in the SPREP repository and a continued focus on inclusive outreach, SPREP reaffirms its commitment to knowledge sharing as a foundation for informed decision-making, environmental stewardship, and regional resilience.

OBJECTIVE 1.3

Improve quality and interoperability of information and communications technology infrastructure in the region.

Promote integrated programme approaches to address environmental management challenges.

SPREP has multi-disciplinary processes in programme delivery and in supporting Members to develop national and regional policies and strategies.



The signing of the CTSPFs is a testament to the shared commitments between SPREP and its Members to environmental protection and climate resilience. The CTSPFs enhance SPREP and Members' abilities to collaborate on a wide range of issues, from meteorology and early warning systems, biodiversity conservation, to climate adaptation and disaster preparedness, waste management and pollution control, and environmental sustainability.



Established in 2017 with funding support from the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) began with a project portfolio valued at USD 30 million. By 2024, this portfolio had expanded nearly seven-fold, driven by projects developed across SPREP Programmes. The PCU was integrated into the newly established Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation (SPPRM) Department in 2024. As at end of 2024, 60 projects were under active implementation, with an additional 18 in the pipeline.

Together, the PCU and PRMG provide strategic governance of the portfolio and pipeline, ensuring alignment with SPREP's Strategic Plan, risk management, and compliance. The PCU also works closely with the Environmental Governance Programme to uphold Environmental and Social Safeguards in line with institutional and multilateral fund requirements.

Strengthen SPREP's learning and outcomes reporting framework, integrating organisational and environmental performance.



ORGANISATIONAL GOAL 3

SPREP has a reliable and sustainable funding base to achieve environmental outcomes for the benefit of the Pacific islands region and manages its programmes and operations to stay within its agreed budget.

OBJECTIVE 3.1

Achieve a balanced and sustainable budget

Through proactive financial oversight, strategic implementation, and operational support, SPREP achieved a balanced and sustainable budget, resulting in overall financial surplus results at year end. Key initiatives included:

- Regular cash flow monitoring
- Timely financial forecasting
- Foreign exchange risk management
- Implementation of the Finance and Resource Sustainability Strategy

These efforts, combined with efficient administrative services and effective property management, enhanced our financial performance and long-term stability, resulting in:

- A significant positive financial impact with an overall surplus of USD 660,824.
- Total actual expenditure exceeded budget expectations, reaching USD 44 million compared to the budgeted USD 41 million, largely driven by strong delivery across Programmes, which achieved USD 37 million in actuals versus a budget of USD 33 million.

However, the Core Budget was underspent, with actuals at USD 6.9 million against a budget of USD 7.6 million – resulting in a shortfall of USD 700 thousand. This underspend is directly correlated to the year-end surplus, demonstrating prudent cost management and effective budget oversight in core operations.

Programmes were responsible for Programme Implementation and budget management with the support from the Finance Department in terms of procurement and reporting while the Finance Department team led in terms of overall financial management of SPREP for all its funding including Programmes and the direct monitoring of SPREP's Core budget.

A key milestone in 2024 was the continued strong momentum in Programme delivery, building on the gains made in 2023. Overall Programme delivery reached an average of 112% against targets, with two Programmes significantly exceeding their implementation goals. This achievement reflects both effective execution and sustained commitment across teams.

In parallel, early implementation of the Finance and Resource Sustainability Strategy approved last year has started to yield tangible results, particularly evident through increased income from member contributions and programme management fees – demonstrating positive traction on our financial sustainability priorities.

All partners of the organisation collectively contributed to the success of our work in 2024, whether through funding, technical assistance, or strategic collaboration. Their combined support was instrumental in achieving our programme and financial outcomes.

Notably, in terms of sustainable core funding, we acknowledge the continued commitment of our long-standing partners such as New Zealand and Australia which provide core funding support to sustain SPREP's core operations each year. A significant development in 2024 was the entry of the United Kingdom as a core funding partner even though it was initial and one-off funding, contributing an exceptional GBP\$3 million in core support for the first time to bridge the unfunded budget gap for the 2024/2025 Biennial budgets.

Additionally, New Zealand through its NZD 15.2 million Climate Change funding provided support to strengthen SPREP's institutional human capacity and its systems for successful implementation and achievement of the outcomes of its Climate Finance Strategy, which was instrumental in supporting key organisational positions and the improvement of our systems through Digital Transformation. The shared commitment of all partners has been vital in strengthening our foundation and advancing our strategic goals.

In 2024, SPREP strengthened the integrity and efficiency of our financial operations through close alignment of financial oversight with programme management, monitoring, and reporting systems. Risk assessment and mitigation which is an integral part of our core work remained a priority at the Finance Department level, as demonstrated by the successful review and update of the Procurement Policy and Manual.

Our sound approach to internal controls was further validated by consistently positive audit outcomes achieved across all audits both for the annual SPREP audit and project audits undertaken last year. In addition, the Finance Department ensured high standards of financial accountability by delivering timely and accurate financial information to SPREP donor partners throughout the year.

The impact of this work has been greater financial accountability, enhanced donor confidence, and improved decision-making across the organisation. By integrating risk management and financial controls with programme oversight, we ensured that resources were used effectively, compliant with policy, and aligned with strategic priorities. The positive audit outcomes continue to strengthen our credibility with donors and partners, enabling continued and, in some cases, increased funding. Timely and accurate financial reporting also supported proactive management and transparency, contributing to the organisation's overall financial stability and performance as attested to last year's overall financial results.



Continued annual bilateral and trilateral high-level meetings were held with Australia and New Zealand as key Core donor partners of SPREP. They were also both instrumental as part of the Working group that assisted with the review of the Core Funding Structure and thus the development of the Finance and Resource Sustainability Strategy for the Secretariat which was approved at the Executive Board meeting in September 2024. Some of the priority recommendations have been addressed, linked to the overall positive financial performance at year end.

Negotiations with UK Government as a new core donor partner was successful in securing significant funding support of GBP 3 million which assisted in bridging the budget gap for 2024/2025 Biennial budgets. The successful onboarding of the UK government as a new core donor with a GBP3 million contribution also expanded our core funding base, reducing reliance on a limited number of partners and strengthening overall financial resilience. It sets the stage for potential long-term partnership in a similar capacity and that such valuable contribution serves as a valuable platform. It also strengthens our relationship with the UK government and positions the organisation to attract additional core funding support from new partners. The impact of this work has been significant in sustaining financial stability and strategic direction of the organisation. Ongoing high-level engagement with core donors such as Australia and New Zealand as continuing valued Core Donor partners for SPREP has reinforced trust and alignment, enabling continued and predictable core funding. Their active involvement in shaping the Sustainable Finance and Resource Strategy ensured that donor perspectives were embedded in long-term financial planning, directly supporting early implementation success and contributing to the 2024 financial surplus overall.

OBJECTIVE 3.2
Manage funds efficiently and transparently through effective financial, risk management, and audit systems, integrated with programme management, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems.



OBJECTIVE 3.3
Build effective, strategic, long-term relationships with new and existing donors through regular communications, including the high-level discussions and meetings.



OBJECTIVE 3.5

**Seek additional sources
and forms of sustainable
financial support.**

In 2024, SPREP implemented a range of targeted actions to diversify and strengthen sustainable financial support, many of which—while not directly initiated as a response to the Finance & Resource Sustainability Strategy —were closely aligned with its priority recommendations.

These included:

- Enhancing cost recovery mechanisms by more consistently applying overhead charges to donor-funded activities where relevant and applicable
- Fixing programme fees at the ceiling 15% rate for new funding to be negotiated as a strategic interim measure while a more comprehensive review is planned for later this year

The additional funding from the NZ Government as part of its Climate Finance strategy of NZD 15.2 million was successfully negotiated and secured last year to assist with strengthening SPREP's institutional capacity both in terms of its people as well as systems to deliver on its mandated work especially that on Climate Change priorities.

Additionally, GCF provided funding to enhance Pacific Direct Access Entities technical, institutional and operational capacity to better support the Pacific SIDS in meeting their climate ambitions.



In 2024, SPREP made notable progress under Organisation Goal 4.2 by strengthening its leadership in regional and international partnerships for environmental action.

Four new partnerships were formalised with (i) Monash University; (ii) the Great Barrier Reef Foundation; (iii) Live and Learn; (iv) and the Solomon Islands National University, broadening SPREP's capacity to support its members across its programme areas.

The gender and social inclusion (GESI) mainstreaming support and MEL frameworks of the Secretariat, as well as work undertaken in 2024 to develop the incoming SPREP Strategic Plan are funded by the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

As part of the SPREP – SPC MoU, the SPC led Pacific Women Lead (PWL) assisted SPREP with funding support for gender mainstreaming from 2024-2026 (under PWL's regional programme). This was utilised for the recruitment of SPREP's first Gender Adviser who commenced duties in late 2024, with immediate priorities to finalise the gender policy in line with best practice, and continuing gender mainstreaming across SPREP, including coordinating the Gender Equality and Inclusion Mainstreaming (GEIM) Group activities.

ORGANISATIONAL GOAL 4

**SPREP is leading and engaged
in productive partnerships
and collaborations**

OBJECTIVE 5.1

Recruit and retain people who contribute their skills and knowledge in a collaborative manner to execute SPREP's strategic plan in an effective and efficient manner, including the channelling of technical assistance.

ORGANISATIONAL GOAL 5
SPREP has access to a pool of people with the attitudes, knowledge, and skills to enable it to deliver on its shared regional vision.

The Secretariat recognises the importance of the Strategy in setting the strategic direction and guidance of its people leadership and management approaches and transformation particularly during the on-going evolution of employment principles and practices and uncertainties in the global markets and ways of working. Ultimately, the People Strategy is a commitment to our People and a reflection of a key SPREP value in Valuing our People. Ongoing initiatives that give support to this commitment include key work on restructure and realignment.

Key developments include:

- Suspension of the second Deputy Director General (DDG) position
- Renaming the Island and Ocean Ecosystems (IOE) Programme as the Biodiversity and Conservation (BC) Programme and moving the bulk of the Programme to Fiji
- Formation of the new Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation (SPPR) Department
- Establishing the new Climate Science and Information (CSI) Programme with the transfer of the Climate Science and Meteorology functions and staff from the Climate Change Resilience (CCR) Programme
- Renaming the Environmental Monitoring and Governance (EMG) Programme as the Environmental Governance (EG) Programme
- Restructured the Legal Unit as the Legal Services and Governing Bodies Department (LSGB) Department with inclusion of institutional policy oversight and coordination.
- Transferring of the Noumea Convention Secretariat functions from EG Programme and the Waigani Convention Secretariat functions from the Waste Management and Pollution Control (WMPC) Programme to the LSGB Department.
- Transferred the Administration function from Finance to the Human Resources to consolidate and strengthen our approach to Workplace Health, Safety and Security.

In 2024, the staff retention rate was 87%.

The recruitment trial continued with a review expected to complete in Quarter 2 of 2025. A high volume of the recruitment was mainly for projects. A notable highlight was the recruitment and onboarding of the first Director for the newly established Strategic Planning Partnership and Resource Mobilisation Department. This key position will play an essential role in collaborating across all areas of SPREP. Recruitment process kickstarted for six Senior Leadership Team (SLT) positions, majority due to the requirements of the 6-Year Rule as well as new and revamped ones incorporating the restructuring process. A key initiative in this process is the engagement of the Troika as part of the recruitment and selection process for all SLT. This is to facilitate Troika engagement as representatives of our Members in Leadership level guidance and processes.

The Remuneration Review was facilitated by the Secretariat with the Members Working Group consisting of Members from Australia, Cook Is, New Zealand, Samoa, Tokelau and the United Kingdom, leading the process. An open invitation was circulated to other Members to join.

Strategic Pay of New Zealand was engaged in August 2024 to carry out the independent review of the Secretariat's staff remuneration and employment conditions with completion expected at end of October 2024. The contract was extended three times with the contract ending on 2 May 2025, and the final report to be circulated to the Members Working Group by end of the following week. The Members Working Group will meet to consider the report and its recommendations, including next steps for seeking Members decision.



OBJECTIVE 5.2

Build our human resource capability and capacity through continuous professional development within an empowering professional workplace culture.

In line with our dedication to ongoing workplace improvements and to support our staff through the People Strategy initiatives, the following are some key improvements to staff terms and conditions, while awaiting the outcome of the Remuneration Review:

- A 3% performance bonus paid out to all staff.
- Granting of a Gratuity Allowance for all national EPAI employees.
- Granting of a Location Allowance for Fiji-based EPAI staff.
- Renewal of Medical Insurance with additional and improved terms and conditions and Increased Overseas Medical Evacuation cover.

OBJECTIVE 5.3

Build a constructive, empowering, and results oriented culture where working as a collaborative team that respects and values each other is the norm

To provide an empowering and enabling working environment and foster culture and making SPREP a happy workplace, a number of activities were implemented to support diversity and inclusiveness:

- Welcome Back social activity at start of 2025
- Easter Devotion across the different campuses
- Gift of Time for Mother's Day
- Pinktober with GEIM Team
- International Women's Day
- Journey to the North Pole and Health and Wellness initiatives

The first Grievance Policy for the Secretariat was approved after comprehensive consultations with staff and engagement of independent external consultant as well as leadership and guidance of Internal Staff Working Groups.

Other policies in draft form in response to staff feedback include the Flexible and Remote Work Arrangements, Occupational Health, Safety, Security, and Wellbeing and the Workforce Plan.

All these initiatives and many others in the pipeline are crucial for reinforcing SPREP's commitment and duty of care as an employer while ensuring business continuity by implementing appropriate and practical ways of working in accordance with the purpose of the People Strategy.





Cross Cutting Issues and Lessons Learnt

To effectively address the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, it is essential to recognise their interconnected nature and understand how these linkages influence our strategic priorities and the delivery of appropriate interventions and solutions.

In this section of the PIP 4 (2024–2025) High-Level Summary, we focus on key crosscutting themes: innovation, risk management, strategic linkages, gender mainstreaming, and lessons learned.

Risk management

Risk management is integral to SPREP's corporate governance and decision-making processes and remains a strategic priority across the organisation. At the organisational level, Priority Enterprise Risks (PERs) are continuously monitored and managed by the Risk Committee (RC).

At the programme level, risk management remains an important aspect of the work of the Technical Programmes and are integrated into project implementation which continued to be monitored and evaluated throughout the lifetime of projects. The assessments identify risks and proposed mitigation measures to prevent and minimise these risks.

SPREP continued to vigilantly monitor and implement measures to prevent and minimise the potential impacts posed by cyberthreats. These included ongoing training for staff as well as protocols and application of security measures. SPREP takes a risk-based approach in ensuring that the organisation is protected and safeguarded from any cyber security threats that may affect the organisation.

Financial risks are consistently and continually monitored and managed as attested to by the positive audit reports for all audits and verification/assurance engagements completed in 2024. This speaks not only to the efficient and transparent management of funds by SPREP but also the sound fiduciary and internal control systems as well as governance structures that SPREP has in place. The Secretariat continues to work closely with the Audit Committee and Risk Committee in ensuring potential financial risks are monitored and mitigated as appropriate.



Innovation

Innovation and flexibility are essential in delivering services to Members. SPREP has embraced digital transformation by offering interactive hybrid learning through virtual platforms tailored for Pacific Members. This includes the adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the implementation of a software-as-a-service (SaaS) digital business card solution, among other innovative tools.

Digital transformation has contributed significantly in modernising SPREP's financial operations. Key advancements included enhanced platforms for routing and procurement, continued use of DocuSign for secure digital approvals, restructuring of procurement delegation and workflows, and transactive banking platform applications to streamline financial transactions. These innovations have contributed towards improving the efficiency and effectiveness of financial processes, enabling better services internally and externally.

Needs assessments conducted with member countries to identify GIS gaps have resulted in the increased use of Earth Observation data and remote sensing technologies. These efforts support more informed decision-making and strengthen environmental monitoring across the region.

The PCCC's online platforms continued to serve as a learning gateway for Pacific Island members, fostering innovation, supporting and promoting the development of new climate services and products, hosting 'challenge events' which brings together researchers, policymakers and practitioners in finding solutions to key climate-related challenges, and supporting the implementation of the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services.

Strategic linkages

SPREP continued to operate and deliver its work and services in a more integrated and cohesive manner across programmes and projects. These have been supported and facilitated through internal coordination mechanisms which have been in operation since 2018.

To ensure Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change, the CCR and IOE continued to promote ecosystem-based adaptation, nature-based solutions and WRP initiatives. For example, PRISMSS is developing a business case from the lens of climate change and its linkages to invasive species eradication and management in Pacific SIDS for funding support through the Adaptation Fund.

The IOE Threatened and Migratory Species (TAMS) sub-programme continued to engage with Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission meetings on the issue of bycatch of threatened and migratory species, to ensure Pacific people benefit from healthy and resilient island and ocean ecosystems.

To ensure Pacific people benefit from improved waste management and pollution control, the Waste Management and Pollution Control programme a new e-learning platform on SPREP website has been developing hosting series of courses developed by PacWaste Plus. This initiative was developed in collaboration with the SPREP IT to ensure easy and continued access to these resources.

Strengthening community resilience to climate change impacts through the effective management of disaster waste remains a strategic priority. Key initiatives include improving access to landfills in Tonga and Vanuatu and the abatement of asbestos-containing materials that are hazardous to disaster responders and volunteers. SPREP also continues to support negotiations for a global plastics treaty addressing the triple planetary crises.

To ensure Pacific peoples and their environment benefit from commitment to and best practice of environmental governance, greater emphasis was placed on the Ocean Governance Framework in alignment with SPREP's mandate and strategic priorities. The Framework aims at strengthening the Secretariat's role in ocean governance, improve internal coordination, support the Noumea and Waigani Conventions, and strengthen collaboration with Members and partners. Additionally, the Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Coordination Group (EMRCG), with cross-programme representation, continued to promote a coordinated approach to data management and reporting across the organisation.

SPREP also continued to serve as a central hub for the dissemination of official information with member countries, partners and stakeholders – ensuring that the right information reaches the right people at the right time to support informed decision-making and regional collaboration.

To amplify Pacific voices in global negotiation processes and related forums, SPREP provided strategic support to Members at key international events. These included the 29th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 29) to the UNFCCC in Baku, Azerbaijan, 4th Cleaner Pacific Roundtable (CPRT) in Funafuti, Tuvalu, INC-4 in Ottawa, Canada, UNEA-6 in Nairobi, Kenya, UNOC 2024 in Barcelona, Spain, BRS Convention in Geneva Switzerland and the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Cali, Colombia.

Finance-led outcomes under Organisational Goal 3 are integrally linked to all strategic priority areas, as they consolidate and report on SPREP's overall funding base. The effectiveness of financial management directly influences the delivery of activities across the Secretariat, supporting the achievement of all regional goals outlined in the Strategic Plan

SPREP's People Strategy recognises staff as its most valuable asset. The Director General provides overall leadership of the strategy with implementation coordinated by the Human Resources and Administration Department (HRAD) in collaboration with all staff. HRAD plays a cross-cutting role across all Programmes and Departments, supporting the delivery of key functions such as organisational restructuring, recruitment, onboarding, performance management, and broader People initiatives. It also ensures the delivery of essential operational services, including payroll and leave management.



Gender

Gender equality and social inclusion are critical to the achievement of SPREP's Strategic Plan 2017–2026. They are an integral part of SPREP programmes and projects that support Member countries' environmental priorities and Sustainable Development Goals. These were delivered through SPREP's technical work with members, regional engagement and in global fora, and through the a wide range of gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) knowledge products developed as well as guidelines and training conducted. Some of these were delivered through the Kiwa Initiative, supported by the GEDSI and NbS Community of Practice.

The “One Pacific Voice” continues to advocate for the mainstreaming of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) across key priority areas of mitigation, adaptation, and finance as well as its integration within the thematic areas of the Global Stocktake of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

The Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) meeting and the sixth Pacific Invasive Learning Network (PILN) meeting reaffirmed the importance of applying Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) and traditional knowledge (TK) principles to ensure success.

At the institutional level, gender equality has been embedded into SPREP's operations and integrated into programme outcomes. The Secretariat continues to actively engage with the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) to promote gender equality, including through advocacy at key global forums such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UNFCCC Conferences of the Parties (COPs). At COP 29, the PSIDS Gender Climate Champion, Hon. Mona AINU'u, Minister of Natural Resources of Niue, delivered Pacific statements and key messages that underscored the unique vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). She highlighted the disproportionate impacts of climate change on women and people in all their diversities across the Pacific, reinforcing the need for inclusive and equitable climate action.

The SRREP Gender Policy was significantly revised adopting international best practice and standards. GEIM supported the review process along with SPREP projects and pro-programmes leads. Women participation in various activities across programmes and departments is reaching the average between 45% to 60%.



Lessons learnt

The first year of PIP 4 (2024–2025) implementation provided valuable insights, with several critical lessons learned to inform future planning and strengthen delivery. On partnership engagement and regional coordination, the work to have PSIDS negotiators to lead and coordinate different thematic priorities have helped in building their confidence in and knowledge of the negotiation process.

The collaboration with the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) to develop the standards and certification framework to phase out single use plastics in the tourism sector has ensured a framework that is fit-for-purpose and practical for business operators and national compliance monitoring and enforcement agencies. Productive partnerships and strategic synergies are essential to achieving sustainable outcomes. Collaboration with key partners continues to enhance the value and impact of SPREP's programme delivery.

Effective coordination and implementation of country-level programmes require inter-agency planning and continuous communication with executing agencies and national focal points to ensure timely delivery. A recurring challenge remains the recruitment of National Project Officers, often hindered by limited availability of qualified personnel.

The nature of SPREP's work requires its operations and personnel to remain agile and responsive to a dynamic operating environment. This includes strengthening institutional capacity to ensure compliance and consistent application of approved governance policy frameworks, such as financial management procedures, procurement manual, staff regulations, HR policies, risk management protocols, IT policies, the Knowledge Management Strategy, and Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS).

Sustainable funding for SPREP relies heavily on the collective efforts of Members, partners, and donors. While the programme portfolio continues to grow, the demand on core capacity grows accordingly, placing increased pressure on limited resources available. Long-term sustainability depends on internal efforts and strong external collaboration. The Sustainable Financing and Resourcing Strategy, approved last year, provides key recommendations for improving sustainable funding for SPREP. These included the need for increased Programme Support Fees and unrestricted donor contributions for core funding which remain vital for ensuring the long-term success and sustainability of the Secretariat.

Looking ahead, digital transformation continues to play an important role as an enabler and driver for innovation, improving operational performance, effectiveness and efficiency, strategically positioning the organisation, and strengthening its comparative advantage.



ANNUAL STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024

Scope of responsibility

As the Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), I hold overarching accountability for ensuring the sound stewardship of the organisation's financial resources and for maintaining an effective and efficient system of internal control in accordance with Regulation 25 of the SPREP Financial Regulations. I am responsible for ensuring that SPREP's funds are safeguarded, properly accounted for, and utilised with due regard to economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in support of our strategic objectives and fiduciary responsibilities.

Purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is a fundamental component of good governance. It is designed not only to manage financial and operational risks to an acceptable level but also to support the achievement of SPREP's strategic and programmatic goals. It comprises a continuously evolving set of processes intended to identify, assess, and mitigate key risks while promoting a culture of transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement.

Key Elements of the Internal Control Environment

Internal Control Framework

SPREP has adopted an Internal Control Framework aligned with the COSO¹ model, the globally recognised standard for internal control systems. The Framework defines five interrelated components and 17 principles essential for an integrated, robust control environment. SPREP's guideline articulates key controls across these components, tailored to the Secretariat's unique operating context.

Organisational Values and Code of Conduct

SPREP's core values and Code of Conduct are visibly embedded within the Secretariat's culture and operations. They articulate the standards of ethical behaviour expected of all staff. This is further supported by our Fraud Prevention and Whistleblower Protection Manual, which promotes a safe and confidential mechanism for reporting suspected misconduct and reinforces our zero-tolerance approach to fraud.

Policy Compliance and Process Integrity

We are undertaking a comprehensive review and revision of our suite of policies, procedures, and operational manuals to ensure consistency, relevance, and responsiveness to emerging institutional needs and evolving external requirements. This process will further reinforce compliance and strengthen operational resilience.

Procurement Integrity

The SPREP Procurement Manual sets out stringent requirements to ensure transparent, fair, and efficient procurement processes. It safeguards member funds and ensures that procurement decisions are aligned with best practices and governed by appropriate delegation of authority.

Financial Management Systems

The Director Finance and Administration leads a competent team responsible for financial management, procurement, reporting, and project accounting. SPREP utilises the Tech-One enterprise system for financial management, in operation since 2014. This system enables robust budget monitoring, procurement tracking, and the preparation of financial statements in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Standards on Auditing (ISA).

¹ Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission

Risk Management

SPREP's Risk Management Manual, updated in November 2021, is aligned with ISO 31000:2018. A Risk Committee, operating under a formal Terms of Reference, supports risk oversight. Risk management is embedded as an integral, structured process that facilitates early identification, prioritisation, and mitigation of risks across all organisational levels.

Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Control

As Director General, I am ultimately responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of our internal control systems. In fulfilling this responsibility, I am supported by several key mechanisms:

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The SLT provides high-level strategic and operational leadership. They exemplify SPREP's values and play a critical role in ensuring that controls are embedded across all functions and that strategic decisions are aligned with risk management principles and performance goals.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is composed of five independent experts, together with the Troika (past, current, and future Chairs of the SPREP Meeting). The Committee advises me on matters related to financial integrity, internal control adequacy, compliance, risk management, and the performance of both internal and external audits. Their insights and oversight continue to be pivotal to strengthening SPREP's governance architecture.

Internal Audit Function

The Internal Audit Unit operates with independence and provides objective assurance over governance, risk management, and internal control effectiveness. Reporting administratively to me and functionally to the Audit Committee, the Internal Auditor's work enhances accountability and supports a learning culture within SPREP.

External Audit

The external audit of SPREP is conducted annually in accordance with IFRS and ISA standards, providing an independent and professional assessment of the Secretariat's financial statements. For the financial year 2024, SPREP received an unqualified (clean) audit opinion from the independent auditor, KPMG Fiji, with no major control deficiencies identified.

Conclusion

Drawing on the assurance mechanisms outlined above and guided by SPREP's Internal Control Framework, I am satisfied that the Secretariat has maintained an adequate and effective system of internal control throughout the 2024 financial year. These controls have enabled the Secretariat to deliver on its strategic mandate, manage risks prudently, and uphold the confidence of our Members and Partners.

Where improvement areas have been identified, actions are underway to address them as part of SPREP's commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in service delivery. As we continue to implement the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026, we remain steadfast in our obligation to uphold the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and performance.



Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General
Apia, Samoa
6 May 2025

1. Introduction

The Audit Committee is pleased to submit this Statement on Internal Control for the Financial Year 2024, in accordance with the SPREP Governance Policy and the relevant decisions adopted by SPREP Meetings.

The Committee operates under a mandate established by the SPREP Governance Policy and further defined in the Audit Committee Charter. These guiding instruments provide a coherent and robust framework for the Committee's responsibilities and operations, enabling it to exercise its oversight role with independence, clarity, and integrity.

2. Composition of the 2024 Audit Committee

For the Financial Year 2024, the Audit Committee was composed of the following distinguished members, each bringing valuable expertise and regional representation to support and strengthen the governance of the Secretariat:

- Chairperson** Mr. Tupuola Oloialii Koki Tuala, Partner, Koki Tuala Chartered Accountant (KTCA). Appointed initially in 2016 and reappointed under special terms by the Troika for an additional two-year term through to 31 December 2026, following the successful completion of two four-year terms.
- Member** Samoa: Ms. Rosalini Moli, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Finance, Samoa. Re-appointed to serve a second term in March 2023.
- Member** Tokelau: Ms. Ake Puka-Mauga, Secretary to Council and Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau. Appointed in July 2023.
- Member** New Zealand: Mr. Jonathan Lee, Second Secretary (Trade and Economic), New Zealand High Commission. Appointed in March 2024.
- Member** Australia: Ms. Bridgette Cottrill, Senior Policy and Development Officer, Pacific Climate Negotiations and Oceans New Zealand, Partners and Pacific Climate Change Branch, Office of the Pacific, DFAT. Appointed in April 2024.

The Committee appreciates the commitment and contributions of all its members, who continue to uphold high standards of accountability and oversight in support of the Secretariat's governance framework.

3. Assessment of Internal Control Effectiveness

The Committee has reviewed the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024, as duly signed by the Director General, Mr. Sefanaia Nawadra, on 2 April 2025. The Committee is satisfied that the audited statements are consistent with the financial records, internal reports, and other supporting documentation presented to the Committee throughout the year.

Based on the Committee's examination of these reports, as well as periodic updates and substantive briefings received from the Secretariat. The Committee is of the view that internal control systems have operated effectively and provided reasonable assurance over the Secretariat's financial management, operational integrity, and governance processes during the reporting period.

Based on its review, the Committee is pleased to present the following summary of key matters discussed and deliberated during the financial year.

a. Financial Performance

The Committee acknowledges the collective and concerted efforts of the Secretariat in managing its financial position and performance. For the year ended 31 December 2024, the Secretariat recorded a net surplus of US\$660,824, compared to US\$1,260,299 in the previous year. This outcome reflects continued efforts to strengthen financial discipline, enhance operational efficiency, and maintain alignment between revenue and expenditure. The Committee commends the Secretariat for its consistent financial performance over recent years, which has contributed to a more stable and resilient financial footing.

The principal revenue streams in US dollars for the last five years (2020–2024) are presented below for reference.

b. Support from Partners and Donors

The Committee recognises and sincerely appreciates the ongoing and significant support provided by the Secretariat's core development partners, particularly Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), whose contributions remain vital to SPREP's operations.

In addition, the Committee acknowledges the valuable support received from other development partners, including the People's Republic of China, whose contributions in 2024 have further strengthened SPREP's operational and corporate capacities.

A key milestone in 2024 was the signing of a core funding agreement with the United Kingdom in June, securing substantial financial support for the 2024–2025 period. Total income from donor contributions in 2024 reached US\$3,210,393, an increase from US\$2,570,374 in 2023, representing 41.5% of total income for the year ended 31 December 2024. This growing support reflects strong donor confidence in SPREP's governance, programmatic delivery, and strategic direction.

c. Membership Contribution Increase

The Committee warmly welcomes the resolution of the 31st SPREP Meeting to implement the 20% increase in membership contributions first proposed at the 28th Meeting effective from 2024.

The Committee expresses its sincere appreciation to Members who have honoured this increase. This collective commitment is a tangible demonstration of regional solidarity and plays a pivotal role in strengthening the long-term financial sustainability of the Secretariat. It also sends a strong and unified message to the international community regarding the region's commitment to environmental stewardship and the shared ownership of SPREP's mission.

At the same time, the Committee remains acutely aware of the fiscal challenges facing some Members and encourages continued dialogue and engagement to support the resolution of any outstanding contributions. In 2024, membership contributions accounted for 16.4% of the Secretariat's total income. Timely payment not only fulfils a legal obligation but also reinforces the principles of partnership, accountability, and collective responsibility supporting SPREP's mandate.

d. Project Management Charges

The Committee acknowledges significant improvement in project management charges, a primary revenue stream for the Secretariat. In 2024, revenue from this stream increased by 21.4% equivalent to US\$515,114 rising from US\$2,402,591 in 2023 to US\$2,917,705. This positive development reflects the Secretariat's strengthened project implementation capacity, improved delivery performance, effective coordination, and strong collaboration with partners and Members, as well as the expansion of its project portfolio.

Project management charges accounted for 38% of the Secretariat's total income for the year ended 31 December 2024, emphasising their strategic importance to the organisation's financial sustainability. The Committee emphasises that enhanced project delivery supports not only the achievement of programmatic outcomes for Members, but also directly contributes to strengthening the Secretariat's core funding base.

Accordingly, the Committee encourages the Secretariat to pursue continuous improvement in project execution and delivery. It also urges the Secretariat to strategically leverage its accreditation and comparative advantages to expand this revenue stream recognising that the more effectively SPREP delivers, the greater its capacity to generate sustainable financing to support core functions and long-term organisational resilience.

e. Improvement in Reserve Position

The Committee is pleased to acknowledge the continued strengthening of the Secretariat's financial reserves, which increased from US\$2,304,271 as of 31 December 2023 to US\$2,965,095 as of 31 December 2024. This upward trajectory reflects the Secretariat's prudent financial stewardship, the growing confidence and trust of Members and donors, and the collective commitment of the Secretariat's leadership and staff. Importantly, the Secretariat is now in a position where it holds reserves sufficient to sustain approximately four to five months of operational expenditure in the event of unforeseen disruptions.

Looking ahead, the Committee underlines the strategic importance of safeguarding and further reinforcing this reserve position. A robust and resilient financial buffer remains critical to:

- Sustaining the increasing operating expenditure to ensure the continuity and effectiveness of core programmes and service delivery to Members.
- Safeguarding staff welfare and preserving institutional stability during periods of volatility or uncertainty.
- Facilitating timely and coordinated responses to emerging risks, environmental emergencies, or disruptions in funding flows; and
- Enabling the Secretariat to pursue future strategic priorities, including investments in infrastructure and organisational development.

f. Financial Position and Performance (2015–2024)

The Committee reviewed the Secretariat's financial performance and reserve position over the past decade. The data below highlights the Secretariat's financial evolution, illustrating a significant turnaround from technical insolvency in 2015–2016 to a strong reserve position in 2024. The table serves as a valuable reference point and reminder to Staff, Management, and Members of the importance of shared responsibility and continuous improvement in driving institutional resilience and long-term success.

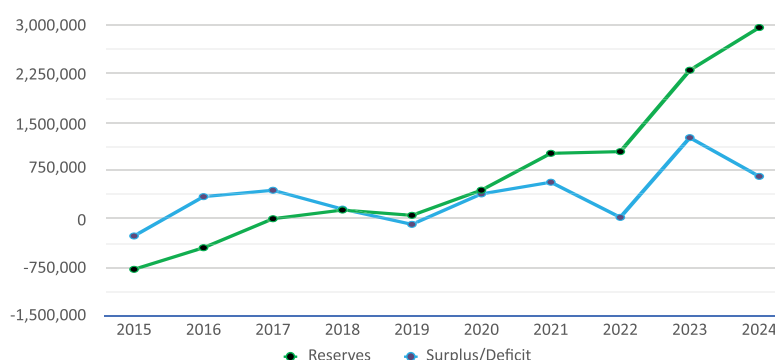
- Efficient implementation of current operations and member obligations.
- Maintaining assets and infrastructure to ensure longevity.
- Managing staff welfare.
- Responding to unanticipated events.
- Supporting future headquarters and regional expansion, and visibility of the Secretariat.

Year	Financial Position Reserve US(\$)	Financial Performance Net Surplus/(Deficit) US(\$)
2024	2,965,095	660,824
2023	2,304,271	1,260,299
2022	1,043,972	26,261
2021	1,017,711	570,573
2020	447,139	389,376
2019	57,763	(81,977)
2018	139,740	154,273
2017	5,123	445,982
2016	(443,762)	346,898
2015	(778,112)	(261,729)

Financial Position and Performance (2015–2024)

The financial position (reserves) and financial performance (net surplus/deficit) for the last 10 years are as follows:

Secretariat's Financial Position (Reserves) and Performance (Surplus/Deficit) from 2015–2024



g. Recommendations for Sustaining SPREP's Reserve Position

Building on this strong progress, the Committee offers the following recommendations to further secure and strengthen the Secretariat's reserve position in the long term:

- i. Maintain strategic vigilance and continuously improve revenue generation, internal capacity building, and diversification of funding sources.
- ii. Deepen engagement with all SPREP Members to encourage timely payment of membership contributions, active participation, and a shared sense of ownership in the Secretariat's mission. This includes enhancing the value proposition of membership by aligning services more closely with Members' evolving environmental priorities.
- iii. Strategically implement the recommendations of the Working Group on Finance and Resource Sustainability, ensuring alignment with SPREP's evolving operational needs and long-term financial goals.
- iv. Consolidate and expand partnerships by securing new and innovative core funding arrangements, while reinforcing existing relationships, with particular attention to engaging remaining metropolitan Members and other development partners.
- v. Continue to strengthen internal systems and processes to support timely, efficient, and results-focused project delivery.
- vi. Maintain sound fiscal discipline through robust budgetary controls and the prudent, transparent use of core funds.
- vii. Stay attuned to emerging external risks, including inflationary pressures, evolving donor landscapes, and geopolitical developments that may affect the Secretariat's financial sustainability and operational resilience.

h. Regularisation of Overdrawn Project Balances

The Committee notes the Secretariat's action in 2024 to regularise and write off overdrawn project balances totalling US\$394,185, the majority of which originated from previous financial years. This action, taken in response to issues identified through the review process, reflects the Secretariat's efforts to address legacy accounting matters. The Committee encourages continued strengthening of project closure protocols, financial oversight mechanisms, and internal controls to help prevent similar issues from arising in the future.

i. Contingent Liability

The Committee also takes note of the disclosure of a contingent liability associated with a litigation claim brought by a former consultant, estimated at approximately US\$70,000. Based on legal advice, it is not considered probable that an outflow of economic resources will be required to settle the claim.

The Committee commends the Secretariat for its transparent disclosure and encourages continued vigilance in monitoring this matter. Looking ahead, the Committee also encourages the Secretariat to strengthen internal safeguards and contract management practices to minimise the risk of similar legal claims in future.

j. Fraud Prevention and Awareness

The Committee acknowledges with appreciation the continued confidence of donors and stakeholders in SPREP's governance and accountability mechanisms. It also stresses the critical importance of maintaining vigilance in the ongoing fight against fraud.

During the reporting period, no fraud incidents or complaints were received through the Secretariat's established reporting channels. Notably, no fraud cases have been formally reported over the past eight years since the introduction of the whistleblower mechanism a testament to the effectiveness of SPREP's internal controls and the strength of its ethical culture.

The Committee was pleased to note that targeted fraud awareness sessions were conducted to empower staff to identify, prevent, and report suspected fraud. These sessions also reinforced the importance of protecting whistleblowers and ensuring that reporting mechanisms remain clear, confidential, and accessible.

Importantly, elements of these sessions were extended to selected Member representatives involved in project implementation, helping to foster a broader culture of integrity, shared accountability, and responsible resource management.

k. Strengthening the Internal Audit Function

As part of the Committee's ongoing commitment to reinforcing the Secretariat's governance architecture and fostering a culture of continuous improvement, an independent review of the Internal Audit (IA) function and broader governance arrangements was commissioned and undertaken during the third quarter of 2024. The final assessment was concluded in October 2024.

This strategically significant initiative was carried out by an external consultant, engaged specifically to ensure independence, objectivity, and alignment with internationally recognised benchmarking standards. The resulting findings and recommendations offer a clear and actionable roadmap for advancing SPREP's internal governance maturity. Key priority areas identified include:

- i. Promoting greater alignment with globally recognised internal audit standards and best practices.
- ii. Addressing persistent capacity and resourcing constraints to ensure the IA function is adequately equipped to fulfil its mandate; and
- iii. Enhancing professional development opportunities and strengthening the technical capabilities of audit personnel.

The Committee has identified the implementation of these recommendations as a strategic governance priority for the 2025–2026 period and will continue to provide oversight, guidance, and direction to ensure their effective execution.

L. Importance of Cybersecurity

The Committee acknowledge the Secretariat for the measures undertaken following the cyber incident reported in December 2023. However, the Committee emphasises that cybersecurity remains a rapidly evolving and increasingly sophisticated area of risk, as also highlighted in discussions with the external auditors, KPMG. Sustained vigilance, adaptability, and strategic investment are critical to safeguarding the Secretariat against future threats.

In this context, the Committee encourages the Secretariat to build on its recent progress and further strengthen its cybersecurity posture by:

- i. Regularly review, test, and enhance its cybersecurity risk management plan to ensure it remains responsive, forward-looking, and resilient in the face of emerging threats.
- ii. Strengthen its policy frameworks and IT infrastructure to protect critical systems and data, while aligning with international good practices.
- iii. Cultivate an organisation-wide culture of cyber awareness through ongoing staff training, knowledge-sharing, and timely communication of risks and mitigation strategies; and
- iv. Embed cybersecurity as a core component of the enterprise risk management (ERM) framework, with clear accountabilities, strong governance, and adequate investment to ensure long-term protection and operational continuity.

The Committee will continue to monitor developments and encourages the Secretariat to maintain a proactive, integrated, and strategic approach to cybersecurity thereby strengthening stakeholder confidence and ensuring business continuity in an increasingly digital operating environment.

m. Cultivating a Risk-Aware Culture

The Committee stresses the importance of embedding a proactive and dynamic risk management culture across all levels of the Secretariat. Key actions include:

- i. Regularly reviewing and updating the risk management plan to ensure alignment with the evolving risk landscape.
- ii. Promoting a culture that values risk-awareness, encourages responsible risk-taking, and reinforces accountability at all levels.
- iii. Fostering early identification and mitigation of risks through collaborative and forward-looking approaches.
- iv. Ensuring risk considerations are systematically integrated into strategic planning and operational decision-making.

The Committee encourages and supports Management's ongoing efforts to strengthen risk management frameworks that are practical, relevant, and effective in safeguarding the Secretariat's performance, reputation, and long-term sustainability.

n. Discussion and Review of Financial Statements

The Committee has thoroughly reviewed the 2024 audited financial statements, including the applicable accounting policies, in consultation with the Director General, the Director of Finance and Administration, and the external auditors, KPMG Fiji. In addition, the Committee examined the external auditor's report and the accompanying management letter, which included constructive recommendations to support continuous improvement in SPREP's financial and operational practices.

The Committee is pleased to note that the audit was conducted without any disagreements between the engagement team and management, no limitations in audit scope, and no adverse findings reported by the external auditors.

The Committee acknowledges the value of its annual consultations with the external auditors, which continue to serve as an important platform for exchanging perspectives, clarifying key issues, and jointly identifying opportunities for enhancement. This collaborative approach was acknowledged by the KPMG partner and has added tangible value to SPREP's audit process and financial oversight.

o. Ongoing Consultations with Management

The Committee reaffirms its strong support for the continued practice of regular and proactive engagement with the Senior Leadership Team throughout the year. These consultations have significantly contributed to fostering open dialogue, supporting evidence-based decision-making, and expediting the implementation of pragmatic solutions to address emerging challenges. This practice has enhanced the Committee's oversight role and strengthened its partnership with management in advancing the Secretariat's goals.

p. Acceptance of Audited Financial Statements

In view of the above, the Audit Committee recommends that the 2024 audited financial statements, along with the unqualified audit opinion issued by the external auditor, be formally accepted by SPREP Members.

The Committee reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the highest standards of governance, transparency, and accountability. It commends the Director General, the Senior Leadership Team, and all staff for their continued dedication to these principles and their efforts toward continuous improvement. The Committee looks forward to ongoing collaboration in supporting SPREP's mission and ensuring the trust and confidence of Members and development partners are well maintained.

Tupuola Oloialii Koki Tuala
Chairman of the Audit Committee
Apia, Samoa

Date: 13 June 2025



EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT'S REPORT

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Executive Management's Report For the year ended 31 December 2024

The Executive Management present the annual report together with the financial statements of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) for the year ended 31 December 2024 and independent auditors' report as set out on the following pages thereon in accordance with the SPREP's Regulations.

Executive Management:

The Executive Management in office as at the date of this report are:

Sefanaia Nawadra – Director General
Easter Chu Shing – Deputy Director General
Tagaloa Cooper – Director Climate Change Resilience
Anthony Talouli – Director, Waster Management and Pollution Control
Jope Davetanivalu – Director, Environmental Monitoring & Governance
Clark Peteru – Legal Counsel
Simeamativa Vaai – Director Human Resource
Petra Chan Tung – Director Finance & Administration
Maikali Nawaqaliva – Director, Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation

Principal Activity:

The principal activity of SPREP is to promote co-operation in the Pacific region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations.

Operating Results:

We are pleased to present the following operating results of the Secretariat for the financial year as at 31 December 2024:

- During the year the Secretariat expended US\$7.2 million dollars compared to expenditure of US\$5.4 million in 2023.
- The net surplus for the period was US\$660,824 compared to the net surplus of US\$1.26 million in 2023.
- Foreign exchange exposure continues to be controlled and minimized within tolerable limits relative to transactions during the year, noting at year end a foreign exchange loss of \$58,138 compared to a loss of \$34,789 in 2023.
- Management recognizes that while reserves have improved in the last two years based on financial performance results, there is still a need to maintain sustainability of funding in the long run with a view to strengthening the financial structure for SPREP and thus maintaining adequate reserve funds over time to ensure a solid financial position for the Secretariat in the long term.
- The challenge remains for the Secretariat to ensure a collective effort by Members and Executive Management to support the long-term financial sustainability & resourcing through maintaining adequate funding support from members and donors.

Responsibility for Financial Reporting and State of Affairs

The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of management. The financial statements have been prepared according to International Financial Reporting Standards and include amounts based on management's best estimates and judgments.

Management has established and had been maintaining accounting and internal control systems which include clearly stated policies and procedures. These systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that our financial records are reliable and form a proper basis for the timely and accurate preparation of financial statements, and that our assets are properly safeguarded.



EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT'S REPORT

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Executive Management's Report For the year ended 31 December 2024

SPREP Members oversee management's responsibilities for financial reporting. The financial statements have been reviewed and approved by the SPREP Members on recommendation from management.

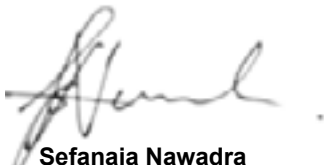
Our independent auditors KPMG Fiji, having been appointed by the SPREP Members, have audited our financial statements. The accompanying independent auditors' report outlines the scope of their examination and their opinion.

In our opinion:

- a. The accompanying statement of comprehensive income is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2024;
- b. The accompanying statement of financial position is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of the Secretariat's affairs as at 31 December 2024;
- c. The accompanying statement of movement in reserves is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the movement of funds and reserves of the Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2024; and
- d. The accompanying statement of cash flows is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows for the Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2024.

We are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We authorize the attached financial statements for issue on behalf of the Executive Management of the Secretariat.



Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General

02 April 2025



Easter Chu Shing
Deputy Director General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Independent Auditor's Report on the Summarised Financial Statements

To the Members of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Opinion

The summarised financial statements, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, the statements of core fund statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in fund and reserves and statement of cash flows for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial statements of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme ("the Secretariat") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarised financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements, in accordance with the established criteria, being the extraction of the primary statements from the audited financial statements.

Summarised Financial Statements

The Summarised financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by International Financial Reporting Standards. Reading the summarised financial statements and our report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and our report thereon. The summarised financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to that date of our report on the audited financial statements.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated 3 April 2025.

Other information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information is financial and non-financial information in the Secretariat's annual report which is provided in addition to the summarized financial statements and our auditors report thereon.

The other information we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report was the Executive Management's Report. The remaining other information included in the annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of the Auditors' Report.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Our opinion on the summarised financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the summarised financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the summarised financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. Based on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditors' Report, we have nothing to report in relation to the Executive Management's Report.

Management's Responsibility for the Summarised Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summarised financial statements in accordance with the established criteria, being the extraction of the primary statements from the audited financial statements.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summarised financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 810 (Revised), "Engagements to Report on summarised Financial Statements."



Suva, Fiji
10 April 2025

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2024



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Core Fund Statement of Comprehensive Income For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		\$	\$
Income			
Member contributions	5	1,271,981	1,190,245
Programme management charges	17(b)	2,917,705	2,402,591
Other donor fund income	6	3,210,393	2,570,374
Amortisation of deferred income - property and equipment	8	239,474	239,474
Other income	7	102,683	188,851
Total income		7,742,236	6,591,535
Expenses			
Advertisements		12,372	11,678
Consultancies		91,980	86,410
Depreciation	12	277,383	274,905
Electricity & Water		95,339	55,104
Freight and Postal Expenses		768	272
Impairment Expense		18,681	(23,397)
Insurance		479,728	345,551
Printing, Stationery and Office Supplies		228,111	131,885
Professional Services		139,500	106,890
Program Support Costs		201,087	119,391
Repairs & Maintenance		36,532	43,794
Remuneration Costs		4,032,490	3,503,198
Superannuation expense		393,123	343,883
SPREP Meeting		41,149	103,099
Telephone and Internet		50,670	47,879
Travel		174,772	79,420
Workshops & Trainings		298,880	70,084
Other Expenses	19	582,582	139,910
Total expenses		7,155,147	5,439,956
Surplus before net finance costs and foreign exchange		587,089	1,151,579
Net finance income	10	131,873	143,509
Foreign exchange loss		(58,138)	(34,789)
Net Surplus		660,824	1,260,299

This is a Primary Statement of the Summarised Financial Statements.

This statement and the accompanying notes to and forming an integral part of the financial statements can be found on the SPREP website: www.sprep.org

The established criteria for preparation of these summarised financial statements is to extract the primary statements (namely the Core Fund Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Funds and Reserves, and Statement of Cashflows) from the audited financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2024



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment	12	9,408,491	9,640,657
Total non-current assets		9,408,491	9,640,657
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	48,636,270	42,419,270
Receivables and prepayments	14	215,161	189,067
Total current assets		48,851,431	42,608,337
TOTAL ASSETS		58,259,922	52,248,994
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES			
Reserves			
Core funds		2,965,095	2,304,271
Total reserves		2,965,095	2,304,271
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee benefits	15	1,113,618	304,202
Deferred income - property and equipment	8	8,962,112	9,201,586
Total non-current liabilities		10,075,730	9,505,788
Current Liabilities			
Programme/donor funds	17 (b)	36,319,223	31,948,960
Payables and accruals	16	1,207,437	1,282,196
Employee entitlements	15	925,776	1,056,723
Deferred income - property and equipment	8	239,474	239,474
Income received in advance	9	6,527,187	5,911,582
Total current liabilities		45,219,097	40,438,935
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		58,259,922	52,248,994


Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General


Easter Chu Shing
Deputy Director General

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2024



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
Statement of Changes in Funds and Reserves
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Core Fund	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1st January 2023	<u>1,043,972</u>	<u>1,043,972</u>
Net Surplus for the year	<u>1,260,299</u>	<u>1,260,299</u>
Reinstated Balance at 31st December 2023	<u>2,304,271</u>	<u>2,304,271</u>
 Reinstated Balance at 1st January 2024	 2,304,271	 2,304,271
Net Surplus for the year	<u>660,824</u>	<u>660,824</u>
Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>2,965,095</u>	<u>2,965,095</u>

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2024



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
		\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities	Notes		
Member contributions		1,206,876	1,202,564
Interest received		143,152	175,171
Core donor funds received	6	3,210,393	2,570,374
Other receipts		151,260	213,396
Personnel costs - Corporate Services		(3,786,242)	(3,666,640)
Corporate Services costs		(1,673,109)	(2,886,099)
Programme Income/(Expenditure)		7,086,706	(1,524,157)
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities		6,339,036	(3,915,391)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property and equipment		(45,217)	(27,090)
Proceeds from drawdown of term deposit		4,561,409	7,947,104
New term deposit		(4,704,332)	(4,561,409)
Net cashflows from/(used in) investing activities		(188,140)	3,358,605
Cash flows from financing activities			
Lease payments		-	-
Net cashflows from/(used in) financing activities		-	-
Net change in cash held		6,150,896	(556,786)
Cash at beginning of the year		38,101,398	38,692,973
Effects of foreign exchange		(58,138)	(34,789)
Cash balance at the end of the year	13	44,194,156	38,101,398

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Weather Ready Pacific Program – Preparing for Extreme Events in a Climate Change World	
Saving Species of Special Interest from Bycatch: 5 years of Port-based Outreach	
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Circular Economy	
Circular Economy – Unlocking Waste as resource	
The Role of IT in the Effective Management of Invasive Species in the Pacific	
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SPREP Environment Ministers and High-Level Representatives – Talanoa Communiqué 2023, 8 th September 2023. Taumeasina Island Resort, Apia, Samoa.	
Performance Implementation Plan (PIP 4) 2024-2025 : Work Programme and Biennial Budget 2024 & 2025	
Twelfth Meeting of the Waigani Conference 2023, 1 September 2023. Taumeasina Islands Resort, Apia, Samoa	
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SPREP Partnership Dialogue Report – 4 September 2023. Taumeasina Island Resort Apia, Samoa	
31 st SPREP Meeting : The Chair's Summary – 8 September 2023. Taumeasina Island Resort, Apia, Samoa	
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Post-training report introduction to RTL GNSS	
Vanuatu Traditional Knowledge National Indicator Booklet	
Vanuatu Climatology Maps	
Malampa Province Climatology Maps	
Tuvalu National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2027	978-982-04-1219-4 (p) 978-982-04-1220-0 (e)
Sarakata-Luganville catchment : Flood Management Plan, Early Warning System and Standard Operating Procedures	
Vanuatu Rapid Climate Risk Assessment Framework and Methodology	
Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation 26 th Annual meeting, 16–17 October 2023	
Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Scaling up Pacific Adaptation : Learning from the Past and Scaling up Climate Change Adaptation Measures for the Future – Final report	978-982-00-1530-2
31 ^e Conférence des Représentants et Représentantes Officiels du PROE – 5-7 September 2023 Apia, Samoa	

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[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2022: Action Conducted by Temotu Provincial Government](#)

[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2022: Action Conducted by Graciosa Bay Ward Development Committee](#)

[Journée mondiale de nettoyage du littoral 2022: Action menée par l'association Faiva Tautai des pêcheurs Wallis](#)

[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2022: Savai'i Samoa](#)

[Pacific Ocean Litter Project \(POLP\) International Clean-up Day 2022: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa](#)

[Pacific Ocean Litter Project \(POLP\) International Coastal Clean-up Day 2022: Waste Management and Control Division Honiara City](#)

[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2022: Actions by the Community Centered Conservation in Fiji](#)

[Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation Planning \(EbA\) tool side event at COP27](#)

[Experience and Lessons Learnt Sharing on Disaster Waste Management From Pacific Islands](#)

[Atelier en ligne sur la gestion de déchets issus de catastrophes naturelles](#)

[Disaster Waste Management in Tonga – Teaser](#)

[Your Rubbish is Everyone's Rubbish](#)

[International Coastal Clean-up Day \(ICCD\) 2022 Waste Collection Statistics](#)

[Documentary on how Tonga has handled Disaster Waste generated by January Volcanic Eruption & Tsunami](#)

[Documentaire relative à la manière dont les Tonga ont organisé la gestion des déchets produits par l'éruption volcanique et le tsunami de Janvier 2022](#)

[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2022: Action conducted by Vanuatu Climate Action Network \(VCAN\)](#)

[Samoa Recycling Waste Plastics and Waste Oil: J-PRISM II and SRWMA](#)

[Plastic Paradise – French, Bislama, Tongan, Fijian, Pidgin, Samoan and English](#)

[Introduction to Pacific Ocean Litter Project \(POLP\)](#)

[PNEA Webinar: Strengthening Strategic Environmental Assessment in the Pacific](#)

[Folau ma le Fa'atuatua – CROP agencies \(SPC, SPREP, USP\) journey with Samoa](#)

[Currents Affairs | Cook Island removes rats from Palmerston Island to increase Island resilience](#)

[PacWastePlus Steering Committee Meeting Opening Ceremony](#)

[CITV Interview PacWastePlus Programme Manager](#)

[How to use Standard Estimation Methodology on calculating disaster waste volume](#)

[National Disaster Management Office and Applying the Practitioner guideline on this issue](#)

[The Need for a National Disaster Waste Management Plan](#)

[Moana Taka Partnership animation](#)

[Marine Species Programme Webinar](#)

[PacWastePlus Mid term evaluation video](#)

[SPREP new revamped website: official launch at 31st SPREP Meeting of Officials](#)

[Environmental Auditing for Tourism Operations in the Pacific](#)

[Celebration 30 years since the establishment of SPREP](#)

[Walk-through Video Demonstration of the VanKIRAP Project's Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal \(4\)](#)

[Walk-through Video Demonstration of the VanKIRAP Project's Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal \(3\)](#)

[Walk-through Video Demonstration of the VanKIRAP Project's Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal \(2\)](#)

[Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal : a walkthrough video](#)

[Mana Moana Pasifika Voices 2022 – Trailer](#)

[Sea turtles monitoring manual launch – Webinar](#)

[Stranding of Oceania database webinar](#)

[Uniting for a Cleaner Pacific](#)

[Journée mondiale de nettoyage du littoral 2023: Action menée par l'association](#)

YOUTUBE VIDEOS

[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2023: Activity conducted by SRWMA](#)

[Introduction to the Marine Species Programme](#)

[International Coastal Clean-up Day 2023: Action conducted by the Graciosa Bay Ward 9 Development Committee, Solomon Islands](#)

[Weather Ready Pacific 2023](#)

[Protect Our Paradise](#)

[Leaving a legacy beyond sports](#)

[PNEA Talanoa webinar: EIA Good Practice Learning and Sharing](#)

[Pasifika TV spends time with members of the indigenous caucus group at COP 28](#)

[They taking pictures of us in the water : Poetry written by Audrey Brown-Pereira Performed by Rizvan, Snare, Sven Illy, Judah Kidd, Illseff, Snowman](#)

[Écrire /Writing : Poetry written by Déwé Gorodé Performed by Paul Wamo Taneisi & Lucile Bambridge](#)

[Cry Sis : Poetry Written by Ruby Macomber Performed by Ruby Macomber & Selina Alefosio](#)

[Climate warrior and climate change advocate Miss Samoa Moemoana Schwenke at COP28](#)

[Minister for Palau at COP28](#)

[Former Climate Change Minister of Climate Change for New Zealand James Shaw at COP28](#)

[Niue's fight against invasive species featured at COP28](#)

[About the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion at COP28](#)

[Pasifika welcomes you to Day 2 of COP28](#)

[Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change at COP28](#)

[Pacific Islands Poet, Audrey Brown-Pereira, talks to Pasifika TV about Pasifika Voices and her poem](#)

[Pasifika TV closes off Day 3 at COP28](#)

[Working with Pacific Islands to amplify their One Pacific Voice at COP28](#)

[Pacific Mother and Daughter duo at COP28](#)

[Weather Ready Pacific at COP28](#)

[Tuvalu Minister of Finance, Hon. Seve Paeniu at COP8](#)

[The Moana Blue Pacific opens](#)

[Pasifika TV speaks to the Pacific Islands Climate Action Network](#)

[The role that faith communities when it comes to climate change](#)

[Learn more about GIS at COP28](#)

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[Day 4 at COP28 with Pasifika TV](#)

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[Building resilience with the Pacific Climate Change Centre](#)

[Unlocking Blue Pacific Prosperity at COP28](#)

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[Update of the Global Stocktake at COP28](#)

[Plastic free Pacific at COP28](#)

[The linkages between Plastic and Climate Change at COP28](#)

[Alliance of Small Islands States holds a press conference at COP28](#)

[Pasifika TV speak to Safaira Tagiruni of Grace Ministry at COP28](#)

[Sustainable water, sanitation infrastructure, and services in Kiribati features at COP28](#)

[Hon. John Silk of the Republic of the Marshall Islands featured on Pasifika TV](#)

[Climate action initiatives in Fiji](#)

[Welcome to 6 December at COP28](#)

[Erity Teave Hey Pres Mana Papa Nui Foundation Rapa Nui](#)

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Opening Day 6 of COP28 with Pasifika TV
 Daniel Lund Special Advisor CC Div Fiji on loss and damage
 Innovative kids for climate change
 Meet Cresside Kuala a human rights defender and environmental activist at COP28
 Our next generation at COP28
 Building climate resilient roads in Vanuatu featured at COP28
 Welcome to Day 8 at COP28
 Learn more about Drua incubator innovation with Fiji
 Samoa's tree planting initiative showcased at COP28
 Just transition to a fossil fuel free Pacific with Vanuatu
 Pasifika TV wraps up Day 8 at COP28
 COP28 video from the Ministry of Natural resource and Environment of Samoa
 Welcome to Day 9 of COP28 with Pasifika TV
 COP28 Magnifying glasses
 Sustainability Pavilion at COP28

YOUTUBE VIDEOS

Pacific Climate Warriors at COP28
 Climate Change in Samoa
 Indigenous people at COP28
 Closing Day 9 at COP28
 Solomon Islands Fatei initiative showcased at COP28
 International Coastal Clean-up Day 2023 Action conducted by Pacific ocean litter Youth Project
 Pacific Games 2023 Final Highlights
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 7 Solomon Islands Golden Girl and Tree Planting
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 6 Samoa and SPREP
 Paoa FM interview Tree Planting
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 5 Fiji
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 4 Facilities
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 3 Tourism
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 2 MECDM
 Pacific Games 2023 Highlights 1 PNG and Technical Official

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GCCA & SUPA Newsletter Quarter 4, October – December 2022
 SPREP-Tok: Issues, 89, 90 & 91 ISSN: 2311-861X
 PACRES newsletter : Vol 7 & 8
 PACRES newsletter: Vol 6, 7 & 8 2023

SERIES

COSPPac Monthly Climate Bulletin – January – December 2023 ISSN: 2617-3557
 Regional Early Action Rainfall Watch : Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Watch: January – December 2023 ISSN: 2617-3665
 PRISMSS Triannual Newsletter – April & December

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 Introducing Pacific BioScapes
 Turtle (poster)
 How We Can Help (poster)
 Conservation Wins (poster)
 Our Pacific Ecosystem (poster)
 Pacific Factsheet – Response Options
 Pacific Factsheet – Projections
 Pacific Factsheet – Key Findings
 Pacific Connections (poster)
 Threats to Our Marine Ecosystem (poster)
 Seabirds (poster)
 Sharks and Rays (poster)
 Whales and Dolphins (poster)
 Dugong (poster)
 Climate Change Impacts on Water Security in Vanuatu – Water
 Extreme Heat Impacts on Electricity Demand in Efate – Infrastructure
 Marine Heatwave Impacts on Seagrass in Vanuatu – Fisheries
 Current and Future Influence of Tropical Cyclones on Agricultural Production in Vanuatu
 Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion at COP28 : Call for Side Events Applications

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 Plastics 101 – Factsheet 978-982-04-1282-8 (e)
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 Bioplastics 101 – Factsheet 978-982-04-1290-3 (e)
 Meteorological Terms & Definitions for Varsu Area Council, Epi Islands
 Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal
 Agromet Bulletin – User Guide
 Reporting on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties : How You Can Report on COP Virtually – Pacific Media Mana Kit Factsheet 10
 At the Venue of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties – What Can you Expect when arrive : Pacific Media Mana Kit Factsheet 9
 Attending the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties – Media Coverage from the COP itself : Pacific Media Mana Kit Factsheet 8
 Reporting on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties – Preparation for travel to COP – Pacific Media Mana Kit Factsheet – 7
 Reporting on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties – The Key Players : Pacific Media Mana Kit Factsheet 6

Staff list AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

STAFF MEMBER	DESIGNATION	COUNTRY	CONTRACT EXPIRY
SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM			
Sefanaia Nawadra	Director General	Fiji	3 Apr 26
Easter Chu Shing	Deputy Director General and Acting Director Biodiversity Conservation and Fiji Office	Samoa	9 Feb 27
Tagaloa Cooper-Halo	Director Climate Change Resilience	Niue	30 Jun 25
Joep Davetanivalu	Director Environmental Governance	Fiji	21 Apr 25
Anthony Talouli	Director Waste Management and Pollution Control	Fiji	14 Apr 25
Maikali Nawaqaliva	Director Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation	Fiji	9 Sep 27
Petra Chan Tung	Director Finance and Administration	Samoa	30 Jun 25
Simeamativa Vaai	Director Human Resources	Samoa	30 Jun 25
Clark Peteru	Officer-In-Charge, Legal Services and Governing Bodies	Samoa	30 Jun 25
Salesa Nihmei	Officer-In-Charge, Climate Science and Information	Vanuatu	30 Apr 25
EXECUTIVE SUPPORT			
Audrey Brown-Pereira	Executive Officer	Cook Is	31 Oct 26
Rosanna Galuvao-Ah Ching	Executive Assistant to the Director General	Samoa	30 May 25
Apiseta Eti	Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director General	Samoa	31 Dec 27
COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH			
Nanette Wootton	Communications and Outreach Adviser	Cook Is	31 Dec 25
Sosikeni Lesa	Media and Public Relations Officer	Samoa	2 Jul 26
Leanne Moananu	Communications Support Officer	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Christine Tuioti	Outreach Support Officer	Samoa	29 May 25
INTERNAL AUDIT			
Niraj Kumar	Internal Auditor	Fiji	30 Jul 25
TECHNICAL PROGRAMMES			
CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE			
Foinijancey Fesolai	Climate Change Resilience Programme Assistant	Samoa	1 Oct 26
Filomena Nelson	Climate Change Adaptation Adviser	Samoa	8 Oct 26
Timothy Breese	Climate Change Adviser	NZ	5 Sep 25
Ewan Cameron	Project Coordinator, International Climate Change Engagement (ICCE)	Cook Islands	19 Nov 26
Teuila-Jane Fruean	Project Officer, ICCE	Samoa	31 May 26
Vanda Faasoa-Chan Ting	Climate Change Mitigation Adviser	Samoa	31 Aug 27
Ofa Kaisamy	Manager, Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC)	Tonga	31 Dec 25
Yvette Kerslake	Technical Adviser – Science to Services, PCCC	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Tuileva Tuileva	Senior Project Officer, PCCC	Samoa	30 Jun 26
Naoafioga Feu'u-Foti	Finance and Administration Officer, PCCC	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Fred Patison	Climate Change Finance Readiness Adviser	Solomon Is	31 Dec 25
CLIMATE SCIENCE AND INFORMATION			
Sunny Seuseu	Project Manager, Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt (Van-KIRAP)	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Connie Sewere	Technical and Finance Assistant, Van-KIRAP	Vanuatu	31 Dec 24
Siosinamele Lui	Traditional Knowledge Adviser, Climate and Oceans Support Programme in the Pacific Phase 3 (COSPPac3)	Samoa	30 Jun 27
Philip Malsale	Senior Climatologist, COSSPac3	Vanuatu	30 Jun 27
Florette Tuauu-Tiperia	Project Officer, COSSPac3	Samoa	30 Jun 27
Naheed Hussein	Project Manager – Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA)	Fiji	1 May 26
Wati Kanawale	Finance and Administration Officer, ClimSA	Fiji	21 Jan 26
Patricia Mallam	Knowledge Brokerage Officer, ClimSA	Fiji	29 Jan 26
Terry Atalifo	Regional Climate Center Coordinator, ClimSA	Fiji	16 Jul 26
Ofa Fa'anunu	Manager, Weather Ready Pacific Programme (WRPP)	Tonga	17 Jun 27
Pomate Skelton-Soloi	Finance and Administration Officer, WRPP	Samoa	18 Aug 27
Kim Jinwhhee	Climate Services Intern, placement from Korea Meteorological Institute	South Korea	May 25
ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE			
Rafael Tavita	Environmental Governance Programme Assistant	Samoa	14 Apr 27
Vainuupo Jungblut	Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Adviser	Samoa	13 Aug 26
Putu Tofinga	Environmental Assessment and Planning Officer	Kiribati	13 Aug 26
Tavita Su'a	Pacific Environment Portal Systems Developer and Analyst	Samoa	30 Jun 27
Vani Koroisamanunu	Environmental GIS Specialist	Fiji	31 Dec 24
Lagi Reupena	Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Officer	Samoa	20 Oct 27
Ivan Diarra	Pacific Network for Environmental Assessment, Technical Support Officer	Nigeria	30 Jun 25
Anastacia Amo-a-Stowers	Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) Coordinator – ACPMEAs3 Project	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Flavia Vaai	MEAs Support Officer – ACPMEAs3 Project	Samoa	31 Dec 25
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION			
Makerita Atiga	Biodiversity Conservation Programme Assistant	Samoa	2 Aug 26
Karen Baird	Threatened and Migratory Species Adviser	NZ	26 Apr 25
Amanda Wheatley	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Adviser	Australia	16 Dec 27
Kasaqa Tora	Spatial Analyst Specialist – Protected Areas	Fiji	28 Feb 25
Isaac Round	Protected Areas Officer	Fiji	7 Apr 26
Claire Oiiire	Young Professional, Pacific Biodiversity Coordinator for the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation	Solomon Is	31 Jan 26
Juney Ward	Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Adviser	Samoa	26 Apr 27
Tamara Lui	Project Coordinator, Promoting Pacific Island Nature-based Solutions	Samoa	30 Apr 26
Turang Teuea	Project Coordinator, Management of Blue Carbon Ecosystems (MACBLUE)	Kiribati	30 Sep 25
Akanisi Lomaloma	Finance and Administration Officer, MACBLUE	Fiji	30 Sep 25
Nolani Hazelman	Young Professional, Pacific Youth Wetlands Coordinator	Samoa	17 Nov 25
Mathilde Kraft	Project Development Coordinator, Kiwa Initiative	France	28 Feb 25
Kenneth Kassem	Project Manager – By-Catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Initiative	USA	31 Aug 25
David Moverley	Invasive Species Adviser	NZ	30 Nov 27
Isabel Rasch	Project Manager – Regional Invasive Species Project	Samoa	31 Oct 25
Dannicah Chan	Invasive Species Project Associate	Samoa	31 Oct 25
Dominic Sadler	Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS) Manager	Switzerland	14 Jul 26
Josef Pisi	PRISMSS Programme Coordinator	Samoa	14 Jul 26
Nitish Narayan	PRISMSS Communications and Liaison Officer	Fiji	30 Jun 26
Pata Mase	PRISMSS Support Officer	Samoa	30 Jun 26
James Fakaua	PRISMSS Information Technology Officer	Samoa	30 Jun 26
Louis Thiercelin	PROTÉGÉ Invasive Species Component Manager	France	31 Mar 25
Etienne Delattre	Programme Manager, Pacific Biodiversity and Sustainable Land-Seascapes (Pacific Bioscapes) Programme	Belgium	08 Jan 28
Carlo Iacovino	Communications and Outreach Specialist, Pacific Bioscapes Programme	Australia	15 Jan 28
Loraini Sivo	Project Manager, Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC+)	Fiji	30 Apr 26
Setaita Tavanabola	Communications Officer, PEBACC+	Fiji	31 Jan 26
Joanne Aihunu	Solomon Islands Country Coordinator, PEBACC+	Solomon Is	31 Jan 26

STAFF MEMBER	DESIGNATION	COUNTRY	CONTRACT EXPIRY
William Arudovo	Vanuatu Country Coordinator, PEBACC+	Vanuatu	31 Jan 26
Joana Koroikotuibau	Finance and Administration Officer, PEBACC+	Fiji	30 Apr 26
Nicolas Rocle	Marine Environment and Conservation Specialist, on secondment from the Ministry of Ecological Transition, France	France	31 Aug 25
Jezlla Peteru	PRISMSS Data Entry Support Consultant	Samoa	30 Apr 25
Vaega Toelupe	PRISMSS Event Coordinator	Samoa	22 Dec 25
WASTE MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION CONTROL			
Davina Bartley-Tiitii	Waste Management and Pollution Control Programme Assistant	Samoa	25 Mar 25
Mohammed Zullah	Pollution Adviser	Fiji	31 Oct 25
Paul Irving	Marine Pollution Project Officer, Pacific Islands Regional Marine Spill Contingency Plan (PACPLAN)	Australia	14 Mar 25
Susana Telakau	Solid Waste Management Adviser	Tuvalu	7 Nov 27
Julie Pillet	Senior Project Officer, Commitment to Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP)	France	30 Jun 25
Memoree Imo	Project Support Officer, SWAP	Samoa	30 Jun 25
Lilian Penaia	Technical Waste Officer, Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions Project (PAWES)	Samoa	11 Jun 25
Joshua Sam	Hazardous Waste Management Adviser	PNG	15 Jul 25
Bradley Nolan	Programme Manager, PacWaste Plus (PWP)	Australia	30 Sep 25
Crystal Schwenke	PWP, Technical and Administration Officer	Samoa	30 Jun 25
Sela Simamao	PWP, Finance and Procurement Officer	Tonga	30 Sep 25
Lance Richman	PWP, Technical Waste Project Officer – Hazardous Waste	USA	30 Jun 25
Sainimili Bulai	PWP, Technical Waste Project Officer – Solid Waste	Fiji	30 Jun 25
Hilary Boyes	PWP, Technical Waste Project Officer – Resource Recovery	NZ	30 Jun 25
Andrea Volentras	Project Manager, Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP)	Samoa	24 Oct 26
Ngaire Ah Ching	Senior Project Officer, POLP	Samoa	4 Sep 25
Zhiyad Khan	Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Officer, POLP	Fiji	11 Sep 25
Dwayne Bentley	Project Coordinator Officer, POLP	Samoa	22 Jan 26
Maryann Vaiula	Project Support Officer, POLP	Samoa	31 Jul 27
Dean Solofa	Project Manager, Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) Pacific Child Project	Samoa	31 Mar 26
Renee Kamu	ISLANDS Pacific Child Project, Finance and Administration Officer	Samoa	24 Aug 27
GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS			
LEGAL SERVICES AND GOVERNING BODIES			
Kathleen Taituave-Afereti	Environmental Law and Policy Officer	Samoa	10 Nov 27
Everett Sioa	Legal and Governing Bodies Officer	Samoa	21 Feb 27
NORTH PACIFIC OFFICE			
Semi Qamese	Manager, North Pacific Office (NPO)	Fiji	22 Mar 25
Kilom Ishiguro	Technical and Liaison Officer – NPO	RMI	31 Dec 25
INFORMATION SERVICES			
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY			
Christian Slaven	Information Technology (IT) Manager	Samoa	30 Nov 27
Niten Kumar	IT Network and Systems Engineer	Fiji	2 Apr 26
Billy Chan Ting	Web Applications Developer Specialist	Samoa	30 Apr 26
Ainsof So'o	Systems Developer and Analyst	Samoa	31 Oct 25
Conrad Orange	IT Specialist	Samoa	15 Sep 27
Setefano Finau	IT Support Officer	Samoa	16 Apr 26
Kendrick Lui	IT Support Officer	Samoa	6 Oct 27
Adrian Roma	IT Support Officer	Samoa	17 Nov 27
KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT			
Miraneta Williams-Hazelman	Knowledge Manager	Samoa	30 Nov 27
Lupe Silulu	Records and Archives Officer	Samoa	31 Dec 27
Ane Ah Poe	Knowledge Management Officer	Samoa	31 Dec 26
Aleluia Seiuli	Records and Archives Assistant	Samoa	8 Mar 26
STRATEGIC PLANNING, PARTNERSHIPS AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION DEPARTMENT			
Faia'e Faamanu-Falanaipupu	Project Support Officer	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Rupeni Mario	Project Development and Implementation Specialist	Fiji	31 Dec 25
Christina Taua	Strategic Project Planning Officer	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Vitolina Samu	Project Implementation Officer	Samoa	31 Dec 25
Salome Tukuafu	Strategic Partnerships and Donor Relations Adviser	Tonga	16 Aug 27
Rebecca Polestico	Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser	Philippines	30 Apr 25
Melanie Bradley	Strategic Planning Adviser	Australia	8 Oct 26
Kim Robertson	Gender Adviser	NZ	3 Nov 27
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT			
Laaloa Onesemo	Finance and Administration Assistant	Samoa	3 Dec 26
Veronica Levi	Financial Accountant	Samoa	10 Apr 25
Maraea Slade-Pogi	Procurement Officer	Samoa	5 Jan 26
Siniva Tuuau-Enosa	Project Accountant	Samoa	26 Jun 25
Alvin Sen	Project Accountant	Fiji	16 Jun 25
Elizur Nashon	Project Accountant	Fiji	30 Sep 27
Gloria Esera	Accountant	Samoa	3 Sep 26
Mercy Tausili	Finance Officer	Samoa	19 Sep 27
John Fetisone	Finance Officer	Samoa	19 Sep 27
Valelia Iusitino	Finance Officer	Samoa	5 Jun 25
Premna Pedebone	Finance Officer	Samoa	26 Mar 26
Viona Numia	Finance Officer	Samoa	12 Mar 26
Astrid Koon Wai You	Finance Officer	Samoa	10 Nov 27
Lupeuluiva Overhoff	Finance Officer	Samoa	10 Nov 27
Samuelu Esera	Finance Officer	Samoa	24 Nov 27
Lawrence Warner	Property Services Officer	Samoa	4 Dec 27
Faamanatu Sititi	Driver / Clerk	Samoa	5 Dec 26
Cynthia Ah Loo	Cleaner / Teaperson	Samoa	31 Dec 26
Ivoga Sefa	Cleaner / Teaperson	Samoa	5 Jan 26
Lui Sea	Cleaner / Teaperson	Samoa	14 Oct 27
Tagiilima Enele	Groundsman	Samoa	12 May 26
Isaia Talaitau	Groundsman	Samoa	11 Sep 25
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT			
Monica Tupai	Human Resources (HR) Assistant	Samoa	31 Dec 24
Luana Jamieson	HR Adviser	Samoa	5 Jan 26
Marion Tuipulotu-Chan Chui	HR Officer	Tonga	31 May 26
Roger Warren	HR Officer	Samoa	7 Jun 26
Olivia Hogarth	HR Officer	Samoa	20 Nov 25
Ada-Fanua Ott	HR Officer	Samoa	4 Dec 25

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific countries	NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
ACPMEA3	The Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries – Phase 3 project	NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
AELERT	Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators Network	NHMS	National Hydrometeorological Service
AFD	The Agence Française de Développement	NISSAP	National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan
AIMS	Australian Institute of Marine Science	NIWA	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research
AIT RRC	Asian Institute of Technology	NOAA	National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
AMCOP	Tonga Asbestos Management Code of Practice	NSDP	National Sustainable Development Plan
BC	Biodiversity and Conservation	NUS	National University of Samoa
BIEM	The By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Initiative	OCCP	The United Kingdom Ocean Country Partnership Programme
BIOPAMA	Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme	OCEM	Other Effective area-based Conservation Measure
BMUV	the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection	OPOC	Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner
CBD COP16	Sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	PacWastePlus	The Pacific-European Waste Management Programme
CCR	Climate Change Resilience	PAVE Health	Pacific Action to enhance the Visibility of Evidence on Health and Climate Impacts
CEPA	Papua New Guinea Conservation and Environment Protection Authority	PCCC	Pacific Climate Change Centre
CHOGM	Commonwealth Heads of Government	PCCR	Pacific Climate Change Roundtable
CINES	Cook Islands National Environment Service	PCU	Project Coordination Unit
ClimSA	European Union Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Applications Programme	PEBACC+	Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change-Plus
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019	PEP	Pacific Environment Portal
CP2035	Cleaner Pacific 2035	PEUMP	The Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme
CPRT	Clean Pacific Roundtable	PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
CREWS	Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems	PILN	Pacific Invasive Learning Network
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific	PMC-7	Seventh Pacific Meteorological Council
CSI	Climate Science and Information	PNEA	Pacific Network for Environmental Assessment
CTSPFs	Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks	POLP	Pacific Ocean Litter Project
DDG	Deputy Director General	POPCCC4	The fourth Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference
DEPC	Vanuatu Department of Environment Protection and Conservation	PPIN	Promoting Pacific Island Nature-based Solutions
DG	Director General	PRISMSS	Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service
EBA	Ecosystem-based adaptation	PRMG	Project Review and Monitoring Group
ECD	Environment and Conservation Division (Solomon Islands)	PROTEGE	Oceanian Regional Project of Territories for the Sustainable Management of Ecosystems
EG	Environmental Governance	PWL	Pacific Women Lead
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessments	RERC	Resilient Ecosystems-Resilient Communities
EIANZ	Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand	SAFPROM	World Bank Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project
EO	Earth Observation	SCS	Samoa Conservation Society
EREPA	Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas Project	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
EU-OACPS	The European Union-Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
GBF	Global Biodiversity Framework	SIDS4	Fourth Conference on Small Islands Developing States
GBRF	Great Barrier Reef Foundation	SLT	Senior Leadership Team
GCF	Green Climate Fund	SOE	State of Environment Reports
GEIM	Gender Equality and Inclusion Mainstreaming	SPC	The Pacific Community
GESI	Gender and social inclusion	SPPRD	Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation Department
GIS	Geographical Information System	SPTO	Pacific Tourism Organisation
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	SUP	Single-Use Plastic
IEMS	Integrated Enterprise Management System	SWAP	Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific Project
IKI	International Climate Initiative	TCA	Takitumu Conservation Area
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment	TISSAP	first Territorial Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan
IOE	Island and Ocean Ecosystems	TLTB	i-Taukei Lands Trust Board
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature	UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
LSGB	Legal Services and Governing Bodies Department	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
MACBLUE	Management and Conservation of Blue Carbon Ecosystems Project	UNEP CIS-Pac5	Enhancing Climate Information and Knowledge Services for Resilience in five Island Countries of the Pacific
MAWC	Majuro Atoll Waste Company	UNJP-SESS Project	UN Joint Programme Building Forward Better by Safeguarding Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements	USAID	US Agency for International Development
MEDCM	Solomon Islands Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology	VFD	Vanuatu Fisheries Department
MELAD	Kiribati Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development	VMGD	Vanuatu Meteorology Geo-hazard Department
MISCCAP	Managing Invasive Species for Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific	VUW	Victoria University of Wellington
MNRE	Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
NAP	National Adaptation Plan	WMPC	Waste Management and Pollution Control
NbS	Nature based solutions	WOW	War on weeds



Our Region

The Pacific is the world's largest ocean, covering nearly a third of the Earth's surface. About 30,000 islands of varied shapes and sizes lie across its vast expanse. The Pacific Island Members of SPREP are:

- American Samoa
- Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
- Cook Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Fiji
- French Polynesia
- Guam
- Kiribati
- Republic of the Marshall Islands
- Nauru
- New Caledonia
- Niue
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu
- Wallis and Futuna

SPREP also has five metropolitan Members:

- Australia
- France
- New Zealand
- United Kingdom
- United States of America



SPREP

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme