

*1991 / 92  
Annual  
Report*



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South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

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(right: Tofi'lau Eti Alesana, Prime Minister of Western Samoa, left: Dr Vili A. Fuavao, Director of  
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9/92 - IC

# Foreword

*A message  
from the  
Director*

*As recently as the beginning of 1991, SPREP had only 3 professional officers and 4 support staff, all working out of South Pacific Commission offices in Noumea, New Caledonia. We have since grown to 15 professional and 12 support staff, and moved to our own headquarters in Apia, Western Samoa. Our annual budget has increased from USD1.5 million in 1990 to USD7 million in 1992, while on present indications, total staff numbers may reach about 40 by early next year.*

*These developments are the result of far-reaching decisions taken at a Ministerial-level meeting of SPREP's member governments in July 1991. Ministers agreed that SPREP should be an autonomous organisation and accepted an offer by the Government of Western Samoa to provide temporary office accommodation in Apia, as well as land for a permanent Headquarters site.*

*The relocation from Noumea to Apia was completed only eight months later. It involved transferring incumbent professional staff and families, recruiting new professional officers and an entire*

*complement of support staff, moving office records, equipment and furniture from Noumea, separating finance and administrative services from the South Pacific Commission and establishing our own systems, acquiring staff housing in Apia, and fitting out and furnishing an office complex. This was accomplished against the background of, perhaps, the most destructive cyclone to have visited the Samoan Islands in living memory and the need at the same time, to keep SPREP's usual work programme rolling.*

*I cannot pretend this process was without difficulties. I can say, though, that it would not have been possible at all without the whole-hearted commitment of the Government of Western Samoa, which, at a time of national emergency, and with many competing claims on its limited resources, spared no effort to ensure that SPREP's move took place virtually as planned.*

*With the relocation exercise over, SPREP faces the twin challenges of completing its institution-building as quickly as possible and, at the same time, ensuring that its work programme is developed in such a way as to provide maximum benefits for its member countries and territories. New staff are already working in the areas of Biodiversity, Environmental Impact Assessment, Land-Based Pollution Control, Environmental Education, Information and Publications, Geographic Information Systems and Computers.*

*They join existing staff who have been working for some time on Environmental Science, Marine and Coastal Management, National*

*Welcome to  
SPREP's new  
Headquarters*





*Industrial development in sensitive mangrove areas - we must take care*



*Environmental Management Strategies, Climate Change and coordination of the Region's preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development - the Earth Summit - in Brazil in June this year.*

*Further staff will join us in the near future to undertake Legal Services and Meteorological and Climatology advice. Negotiations are also progressing for SPREP to implement, on behalf of the United Nations Development Programme, a major, regional Biodiversity Conservation Project funded under the Global Environment Facility of the World Bank.*

*To coordinate these activities effectively across 22 countries and territories spread over the world's largest ocean, SPREP is currently undergoing four separate, but related exercises, aimed at enhancing its institutional capacity to serve its members. These are the evolution of a formal Treaty to establish SPREP as an autonomous agency; the development of a draft Corporate Plan for consideration by the Fifth Intergovernmental Meeting - our controlling body - in Apia in September; the development of proposals for an integrated, annual Work Programme and Budget process; and a review of salaries*

*and terms and conditions of service for staff following our relocation to Apia. With these building blocks in place I am confident that SPREP will be well positioned to meet the expectations of its members in coming years.*

*In conclusion, I should like to pay tribute to SPREP's Intergovernmental Meeting for its commitment and vision in taking the historic decision last July to start the process of constituting SPREP as a separate and autonomous regional organisation, and to the Government of Western Samoa for its initiative in hosting SPREP's headquarters. I would also like to thank my staff for their untiring, extra efforts over the past few months, particularly those who were required to move themselves and their families from Noumea in mid-contract. It was not easy for them. That they did so willingly is testimony to their commitment and vision as well. With this degree of cooperation between the organisation and its members, we are off to an excellent new beginning. All of us here at SPREP look towards an exciting and productive future.*

*Vill A. Fuavao  
Director*

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# Introduction

## What is SPREP?

The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme - also known as SPREP - is a regional organisation established by the governments of 22 Pacific Island countries and territories (American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Marianas Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu Wallis and Futuna and Western Samoa); and 4 developed countries (Australia, France, New Zealand and United States). SPREP's Headquarters was moved to Apia, Western Samoa, early in 1992.

## What is its Aim?

SPREP's mission is to assist South Pacific countries and territories protect and improve their shared environment, and to manage their resources to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations.

*Helping  
preserve the  
Pacific  
Environment  
for future  
generations*



*Will our great grandchildren be able to see unharmed reefs?*

## History

Consultations between the SPC and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 1975 led to proposals for a comprehensive programme of environmental management in the region. In the same year talks were held between the SPC and the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation (SPEC - now called the Forum Secretariat) to prepare proposals for a coordinated approach to the region's environmental problems.

In 1977 UNEP reiterated support for this initiative, joined in 1978 by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Proposals submitted to the South Pacific Forum - the annual meeting of Heads of Government of independent countries in the Pacific - and the South Pacific Conference - the annual gathering of representatives of all states and territories of the Pacific - started SPREP in 1978.

Preparations then began for the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific, which took place in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, in 1982. This produced an "Action Plan for Managing the Natural Resources of the South Pacific Region" to guide SPREP's future activities. SPREP reported to both the South Pacific Forum and the South Pacific Conference, with a Coordinating Group comprising SPC, SPEC, UNEP and ESCAP providing executive oversight. The Programme was administered from SPC's Headquarters in Noumea.

In 1986, to enable members to become more active in setting priorities for and managing SPREP, the first Intergovernment meeting on the SPREP Action Plan (IGM) was convened, at first meeting every two years (1986, 1988 and 1990), and then annually from 1990. Also in 1986, the Coordinating Group was replaced by a Steering Committee of five representatives: one from each distinct cultural / geographical area of Polynesia, Melanesia, Micronesia, one from France, UK and USA, and one from Australia and New Zealand. The Group met at least once a year to assist and provide direction to the SPREP Secretariat in implementing its Work Programme. In 1990, the Steering Committee, in turn, was abolished when the IGM became an annual event.



At the 1990 IGM, amidst calls for SPREP to have greater autonomy from SPC, three working groups - chaired by Western Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea respectively - were set up to revise the Action Plan, financial arrangements, and the legal status of SPREP. These Working Groups prepared submissions to the 1991 IGM which met in Noumea under the chair of Fiji.

The 1991 IGM recognised that more work was needed in these areas, and so established Action Plan, Finance and Legal subcommittees, chaired respectively by New Zealand, French Polynesia and Western Samoa. A Ministerial Session of the IGM then decided to re-constitute SPREP as an autonomous organisation. Ministers also accepted an offer by the Government of Western Samoa to host SPREP's Headquarters in Apia, and negotiations began (which are still in progress) on the terms of a Treaty formally establishing SPREP as an autonomous entity. The actual move of the SPREP's office and staff from Noumea to Apia took place early in 1992.

### What are its Objectives?

The SPREP Action Plan sets out the mandate for its activities and provides a framework for environmentally-sound planning and management for the region. The 1991-95 Action Plan is a regional strategy, identifying many aspects of environmental assessment, management and law.

SPREP is responsible to its member governments and administrations for overall technical coordination and supervision in implementing the Plan, which aims to:

1. further assess the Pacific environment, especially where humans influence ecosystems, and the effects on their own environments;
2. improve national and regional capabilities, links and funding to carry out the Action Plan;

3. provide integrated legal, planning and management methods to protect and use natural resources in an ecologically sound way;
4. provide more training, education and public awareness for improving the environment;
5. encourage development that maintains or improves the environment;
6. protect the land and sea ecosystems, and the natural inhabitants that need help;
7. reduce pollution in land, fresh and sea water, and the air; and,
8. encourage the use of Environmental Impact Assessment and other methods to stop, or lessen, the effects of humans on the environment.

### What Does it Do?

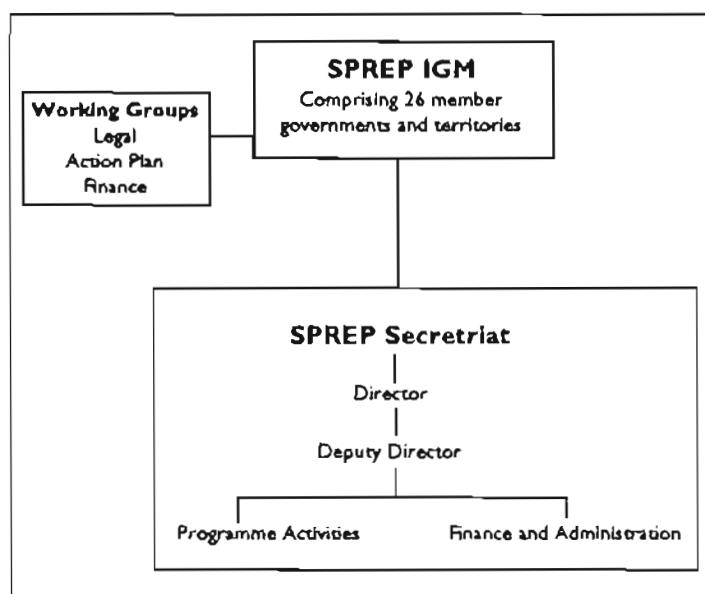
SPREP's Work Programme deals with these elements:

1. Conservation of Biological Diversity,
2. Global Climate Change and Sea Level Rise,
3. Environmental Planning and Management,
4. Coastal Management and Planning,
5. Management of Pollution and Pollution Emergencies,
6. Environmental Information, Education and Training,
7. Regional Environmental Concerns.

Details of activities conducted during 1991/92 in each of these sectors are provided in the section on **Programmes and Activities**.

*SPREP:  
Managed by  
South Pacific  
Member  
Countries for  
South Pacific  
Member  
Countries*

## How is it Structured?



### *SPREP and how it works*

#### 1. The Intergovernmental Meeting

SPREP's controlling body is its Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM). This comprises representatives of 26 member states and territories, who now meet once a year to review the previous year's activities, approve a Work Programme and Budget for the next financial period, and consider institutional, staffing and other matters affecting the organisation.

The Fourth SPREP IGM was held in Noumea, New Caledonia, in July 1991 at Ministerial level, preceded by a meeting of senior officials, both under the chairmanship of Fiji. Assisted by three subcommittees - the

*SPREP's controlling body is its Intergovernmental Meeting ... (which) comprises representatives of 26 member states and territories*

Action Plan Working Group, the Finance Working Group and the Legal Working Group (chaired respectively by New Zealand, French Polynesia and Western Samoa), Ministers took the historic decision to reconstitute SPREP as an autonomous entity and accepted an offer by the Government of Western Samoa to establish a new Headquarters for SPREP in Apia.

A Special Session of the SPREP IGM, in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, in October, approved a revised SPREP Budget for 1992, based on the impending move to Western Samoa. It also directed that a full review of staff salaries and terms and conditions of service be carried out early in 1992.

The Fifth SPREP IGM will be held in Apia, Western Samoa, in September 1992. As well as the usual administrative and financial issues, it is expected to make further progress on developing the proposed Treaty establishing SPREP, as well as a Corporate Plan for the SPREP Secretariat.

#### 2. The Secretariat

The Secretariat is responsible for executing the policies and directives of the IGM, for formulating and implementing projects under the Action Plan, for providing advice and assistance to member governments and administrations either directly or through consultants, and for securing appropriate donor assistance. It is headed by a Director, assisted by a Deputy Director, and aided by a team of professional staff recruited from within and outside the region and support staff recruited in Western Samoa.

Details of the Secretariat's current staffing are provided in Annex 2.



# Programmes and Activities



## Environment Planning and Management

The Regional Environment Technical Assistance (RETA) and National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) programmes address basic environmental issues in 12 Pacific Island countries. This assistance is largely funded by ADB and UNDP, with additional support from AIDAB and IUCN. RETA started in November 1990, and NEMS began in April 1991, with each programme to last for 30 months.

RETA and NEMS aim to develop National Environment Management Strategies for the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Western Samoa. Tonga already has an Environment Plan, while similar projects are also underway in Fiji and Vanuatu. The Fiji project is funded by bilateral assistance from the ADB, and the Vanuatu project is funded by AIDAB.

NEMS are a statement of a country's environmental principles, and a detailed plan for realising the country's long-term environmental goals. These strategies are co-ordinated in-country by a Task Force, comprising senior representatives from government departments, NGOs and the private sector.

Each country is developing its own strategies, unique to its own economic, physical, cultural and social situation. They clearly link environmental protection to economic development in each country, and outline the priority environmental action programmes that are needed. The existing knowledge on the environment in a number of countries is summarised in State of Environment (SOE) Reports, which outline major environmental issues for key sectors in each country, such as forestry, fisheries, tourism and conservation. SOE reports have already been produced for the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Solomon Islands and the Cook Islands.

*We need planning to protect our vital natural resources*



These strategies are developed after National Workshops or Seminars for interested groups and the wider community, and are then subject to extensive review. This review process is vital if the Strategies are to be accepted and successful. Representatives from NGOs, education and media are actively encouraged to be a part of this review.

Environmental legislation is also being reviewed in each country, and a number of draft reports have been prepared. In many Pacific countries, such legislation is poorly developed or non-existent, and responsibilities for managing the environment are often dispersed between different government agencies, with limited co-ordination between them. These reviews aim to critically assess existing laws, recommend amendments to existing legislation and, where appropriate, recommend new legislation.

Managing the environment also needs a sound institutional base. A common constraint in Pacific countries is that relevant agencies are poorly staffed and lack the basic resources for implementing programmes. Studies are also underway to review existing levels of staffing and expertise in environmental agencies, and to recommend appropriate steps to strengthen agencies in each country. In some countries, the programme has helped establish new staff positions where none existed before.

Relevant environmental training activities are implemented by the NEMS and RETA programme. These include such areas as environmental impact assessment (EIA), testing water quality, and raising environmental awareness. Representatives from community groups, including NGOs, are actively encouraged to attend this training. NGO activities are also actively fostered. These include country-specific activities such as recycling aluminium cans, and training NGO personnel in environmental awareness and EIA.

*Helping South Pacific Countries plan their own environmental future*

Future activities involve reviewing, finalising and adopting National Environmental Management Strategies in each country, and implementing identified programmes. These activities will be closely linked with other SPREP programmes, particularly Pacific preparations for the UNCED conference, and with SPREP's EIA training programme.

It is envisaged that implementing NEMS will involve relevant Environment Departments or Sections working closely with other government departments, NGOs, community groups and the private sector. This will ensure that all development activities are undertaken with full regard for fragile island environments and that the sustainable development of natural resources is achieved.

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## Pollution Management

Pollution and development often go hand-in-hand. Industrialisation, modern agricultural production and Western living styles all generate pollution problems, many of which are beyond the capacity of SPREP member governments to tackle on their own. SPREP helps these governments tackle and address other regional pollution and contamination problems in land, air and water.

1992 is a year for developing projects aimed at areas such as:

1. managing and disposing solid and hazardous toxic wastes;
2. improving pesticide management and its use in agriculture and forestry; and
3. monitoring pollution and pesticide residues.

Until January 1992, this area of environmental concern was spread among a number of SPREP officers. In January, SPREP employed its first Environmental Contaminants Officer, who aims to:

Some baseline studies have been conducted around the region, and these will be continued.

These problems will be addressed using a number of methods. These include scientific studies and research, workshops and seminars, and raising community awareness by using extension material such as radio and television programmes and video training tapes.

1. help member governments prevent, reduce and control pollution and the impact of pollution on the environment;
2. fulfil SPREP's obligations under the "SPREP" Convention, and its protocols; and
3. develop a co-ordinated regional programme to prevent, monitor and control pollution, and to manage wastes.

Responsibilities for regional projects such as the regional marine pollution monitoring project (SPREP POL), training in disposing of solid wastes, and training the trainers in the correct use and disposal of pesticides will now be carried out by the Environmental Contaminants Officer. Projects held in abeyance, and requested by the region, will also now be put into action.



Oil spill in  
Pago Pago  
Harbour,  
American Samoa

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## Coastal and Marine Programme

Coastal lands and nearshore waters are vital to Pacific Island peoples, cultures and economies. Most humans live here, they are the focus of subsistence and commercial agriculture and fishing, and they are the target area for most economic development. These factors can combine to degrade and

destroy coastal habitats, over-exploit natural resources and cause growing conflicts among users of coastal resources. Coastal areas now also face the threat of sea level rise due to global warming.

Much loss of coastal areas and resources could be avoided through Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). This promotes a comprehensive and integrated approach to using, conserving and managing coastal resources, and involves all sectors of the community. The Coastal and Marine Programme was developed to address coastal environment issues in a co-ordinated manner, and to promote ICZM in the region, so it compliments many other SPREP programmes.

*Coastal lands and nearshore waters are vital to Pacific Island peoples, cultures and economies.*

SPREP is the South Pacific centre for the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, so SPREP has a close working relationship with UNEP's Ocean and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Center (OCA/PAC) in Nairobi, Kenya. The Coastal and Marine programme works with other relevant international agencies, complimenting related regional programmes in FFA, SPC, USP's Institute of Marine Resources and SOPAC.

with Pacific institutions to develop a coordinated coastal ecosystem monitoring programme, which is compatible with global efforts to determine human impacts on coastal areas, including those created by climate change. Studies on vulnerability to sea level rise are also coordinated by the Programme.

*Helping preserve coastal ecosystems for our children and our developing economies*

In the past year, reviews were carried out to assess marine biodiversity and Marine Protected Areas in the region. They focused on coral reef, mangrove and nearshore fish habitats. This basis will be used to renew efforts in marine conservation in the region. The Programme also is actively working with the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme and other global marine biodiversity conservation efforts.

An expert group was recently convened to develop a Regional Marine Mammal Conservation Programme, for which funding is now being sought.

In-country projects focused on surveying coastal resources and on developing protected areas or coastal management plans. These use local expertise and are in collaboration with partner organisations. These include:

The Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Classification and Conservation Criteria were developed by Pacific Island scientists and country representatives, under a joint USAID, SPREP and Nature Conservancy project, to classify the kinds and status of marine habitats in the region. SPREP is also collaborating

1. a comprehensive reef and lagoon management plan for Bora-Bora, a first for French Polynesia;
2. the first large-scale, multi-disciplinary coastal resource inventory in Papua New Guinea, along the Hiri coast;
3. a similar inventory of the largest estuary in Micronesia, Palau's Ngermeduu Bay; and
4. a reef inventory of Oroluk Atoll and Minto Reef, FSM, for potential development as a marine park.

*Mangroves - a vital link in coastal ecosystems*



Island governments have limited capacity to develop and implement ICZM at present. This continues to be the major constraint in properly addressing coastal and marine environment issues in the region. There are often no institutions, administrative structures, legislation, trained personnel, financial resources or information for management decisions and coastal planning. In addressing these issues, governments need to make a concerted effort to develop coastal management and planning programmes.



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## Pacific Preparations for the Earth Summit

*Presenting  
The Pacific Way  
to the World*

At the Third SPREP IGM in Noumea in 1990, member countries called for assistance to prepare for the Earth Summit, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 3-14 June 1992. SPREP was able to help with assistance from ADB, UNDP, and the Australian and New Zealand governments.

SPREP has assisted and coordinated the preparation of National Reports on environment and development for 13 countries in the region. These were submitted to the United Nations, and are the basis of *The Pacific Way : Pacific Island Developing Countries report to UNCED*. This report, now an official UN document, summarises the issues and constraints to sustainable development that these countries see as important to the future of the region. The report also presents consensus positions developed by the island countries leading up to the Earth Summit. A more detailed supporting document, *Environment and Development : a Pacific island perspective*, is now in press.

Two Regional Workshops on South Pacific preparations for UNCED and a briefing for delegates to the Fourth UNCED Preparatory Committee Meeting were also held. These workshops, involving representatives of governments, NGOs and intergovernmental organisations, were instrumental in developing the two regional documents, along with the *Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development* that was considered and endorsed at the SPREP Ministerial-Level IGM, Noumea, New Caledonia, in July 1991.

This declaration and a SPREP statement to the United Nations, were formally submitted to the Third UNCED Preparatory Committee Meeting in August 1991. A video message from Maurice Strong, Secretary General of UNCED, was prepared for Heads of Government, and a more detailed video on sustainable development in the region will be launched at the Earth Summit.

Even with substantial time constraints on our regional preparations, the considerable in-country efforts and the diligence of country delegates at Preparatory Committee Meetings were effective. This was seen in the final text of UNCED's Agenda 21, the global plan of action for the 21st Century. This now includes many important activities for the region, including an entire programme area on the sustainable development of small islands. The constructive links formed between the preparations for UNCED and the ongoing work towards National Environment Management Strategies (NEMS) will be more valuable in implementing this and other areas of Agenda 21.

Attendance at the Earth Summit by as many as eight Heads of Government from the region is a measure of the commitment by SPREP members to sustainable development, and to the new global partnership being fostered by UNCED. It is also recognition of the achievements of Pacific Island Countries in the UNCED negotiations. Implementing UNCED outcomes will depend greatly on national priorities. To make the most of these achievements, and to turn commitment into reality, it is necessary to integrate development and environment, a goal of SPREP's Action Plan for 1991-1995, and so is clearly a long term objective for SPREP and the whole region.



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*Sunrise in the Pacific  
- and a rise in  
Pacific awareness  
about the environment*

## Information, Education and Awareness

Environmental information, education and awareness aims to increase the knowledge and understanding of important environmental issues in the region. These issues include population growth and urbanisation, sustainable resource use, environmental degradation, and poverty and economic growth. It seeks to show how the environment serves the needs of present and future generations of Pacific Islanders.

*We must spread the conservation message to stop wastage of our natural resources.*



To do this, the programme has a number of target groups and activities in the region, which include:

1. providing educational materials and curriculum for schools and education ministries
2. using a variety of media to raise community awareness
3. linking the efforts of all government and non-government groups to further these communication aims
4. act as a "clearing house" between SPREP and its clients and within SPREP, to allow a free and efficient flow of relevant information, and
5. providing teacher training and support.

This programme now has three officers to carry out a busy schedule: the Project Officer (Environmental Education), the Information and Publications Officer, and the Environment Information Data Analyst, who is now in training in Bangkok. All these officers started employment in Apia, so the programme is picking up again after a difficult "holding" period by existing SPREP staff, whose efforts are recognised and appreciated. The initial period in Apia was filled by orientation to the new positions and establishing the SPREP headquarters.

Much has been achieved since then. The Education Officer has run a successful curriculum development workshop in Kiribati, and a media training workshop in FSM. An Environmental Education Teachers Training Manual is in print, and should soon be available, to improve the quality of environment education in the region.

The Information Officer has renewed contact with various organisations in the region, including media, libraries and NGOs, outlining the new growth and services of

SPREP for the region. A number of publications have been printed or are in publication, including many long-standing project and meeting reports. This has been speeded up by using in-house desktop publishing facilities and local printers. The Information Officer is also responsible for establishing the SPREP Information Centre, but progress is slow due to lack of staff and insufficient funds.

An important database now being developed by the Environmental Information Data Analyst is the Pacific Environmental Assessment and Management Information System (PEAMIS) Project, which uses computer information systems to develop maps, allowing decision makers to make informed and ecologically sound decisions for development projects. SPREP also has a large database of regional and international contacts to provide effective communications, and ensure that information gets to the right people. It has been developed for distributing SPREP publications, press releases, meeting notices and other information.

The extra staff in this programme now allows expanded services in the future. Some exciting developments include:

1. expanded use of PEACESAT for conferencing and computer communications;
2. establishing the SPREP Information Centre to cater for requests from all our clients, in-house and in the region;
3. more use of radio for sending effective messages about the environment in the region; and,
4. more input from NGOs and other groups into the *Environment Newsletter* and other SPREP publications.

*Spreading the environment message to the Pacific*

## Conserving Biological Diversity

Biological diversity is the rich variety of the living environment around us: birds, trees, bats, turtles, fish - and the forests, mangroves, reefs and estuaries that shelter them. These plant and animal species clothe and feed Pacific peoples, provide economic opportunities through tourism and fishing, and sustain the culture and spirit of island societies.

The South Pacific is renowned for its diverse and unique species. However, island ecosystems are very fragile because of their small size, so island biological diversity and the species that comprise it are among the most threatened in the world.

Biodiversity conservation aims to protect biological diversity and species endemism (uniqueness) in the region, and to promote the ecologically sustainable use of the region's biological resources.

SPREP supports projects for:

1. collecting data, particularly surveys;
2. establishing conservation areas;
3. protecting threatened and endangered species through research and habitat protection;
4. promoting traditional knowledge and techniques for ensuring sustainable use of resources; and,
5. developing policies, legislation, administrative structures and training to support these projects.

1992 saw the start of the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP). This is a five-year project which aims to establish and initially manage a series of large, diverse Conservation Areas, in which human activities will be guided to

protect important ecological features, and to enable sustainable use of the area's natural resources. Local land-owning groups will be intimately involved, a fundamental part of the concept. A project team is consulting with governments in preparing the initial phases of the project.

Participants at the Conservation of Biological Diversity Workshop in October 1991 were brought up to date on a number of international and regional issues in biological diversity conservation. An important result was a South Pacific consensus on an approach to the issues in the global Convention for the Conservation of Biological Diversity, which is due to be signed at the Earth Summit in Rio in June 1992.

The Ecosystem Classification Workshop, also held in October 1991, discussed the first step in ecological survey methods. This first step is to classify ecosystems into different types, so ensuring that areas and the species that inhabit them are only compared with other similar areas. A common classification system also allows region-wide comparisons. The workshop was held to establish a common regional approach to terrestrial and marine classification.

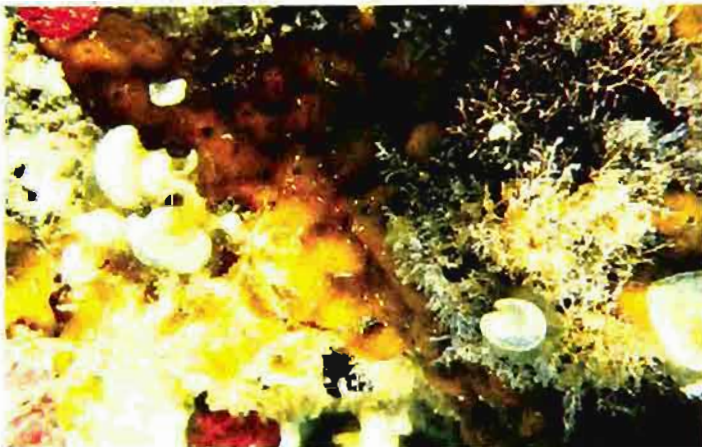
The Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme, supported by Canada and Australia, held the Second Regional Meeting on Marine Turtle Conservation in August 1991. Turtle tagging was undertaken or planned for Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Yap State (FSM) and the Marshall Islands. A marine turtle conservation poster and tag return poster are available in English, French and five Pacific languages, and a regional data base and bibliography are being developed.

The major focus for the immediate future will be the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme. The completion and approval of the preparatory phase will be the start of a significant boost to SPREP's biodiversity conservation activities. The project can expect final approval and funding by the end of 1992.

In the meantime, there are other smaller country projects being undertaken, such as carrying out a study of the costs and benefits of biological diversity conservation in Solomon Islands.

*Biodiversity:  
The richness of  
Nature's bounty  
in the  
South Pacific*

*We must preserve  
our incredible  
biological diversity*







## South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Project

The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) is a five year endeavour to identify, establish and initially manage a series of Conservation Areas, in 14 SPREP member countries.

These Conservation Areas will be large and biologically diverse. Human activities will be guided to protect important ecological features while encouraging sustainable use of the areas resources. Other programme activities include providing information, species protection and policy analysis for biodiversity in the region.

The SPBCP is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which was

started to help developing countries address major environmental problems such as climate change, pollution control and conservation of biodiversity. SPREP is executing the SPBCP on behalf of the GEF partners: UNEP, UNDP and the World Bank.

The Project Concept was approved in 1990. The interim project document is now being prepared, after intensive meetings and discussions in five member countries, and will be available for the Earth Summit in Brazil. The full document will be ready for consideration at the next SPREP IGM. If the IGM approves this programme, then staff will hopefully be recruited and the project implemented early in 1993.

## Climate Change and the Pacific

The region is concerned about the potential impacts of climate change and sea level rise on Pacific Island countries and territories. These concerns have greatly expanded SPREP's activities in this area. SPREP acts as a regional clearing house and co-ordinating unit on climate change issues and related environmental concerns.

In 1991-92, SPREP's Climate Change task team members and scientists carried out preparatory missions and conducted public awareness seminars in eight countries in the South Pacific. SPREP metropolitan countries continued to work with SPREP to co-ordinate and implement a number of regional projects. These include:

1. the climate change and sea level rise project being implemented by the National Tidal Facility at Flinders University, South Australia;
2. climate monitoring; and
3. impact assessment and coastal zone management programmes.

SPREP co-ordinated Pacific Island governments to attend Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) working group meetings, sub-groups meetings and workshops. With funding from UNEP,

UNDP, Australia, New Zealand and Britain, SPREP organised Pacific Island governments' attendance to all meetings of the Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change, held around the world. This Convention is due to be signed at the Earth Summit in Rio in June.

A number of case studies have been conducted on the vulnerability of the some Pacific Island countries to sea level rise. The preliminary common methodology developed by the coastal zone management subgroup in the IPCC Response Strategies working group was used. Case studies have so far been completed for the Marshall Islands, Kiribati and Tonga.

The Second Meeting on Climate Change on Sea Level Rise was held in Noumea, New Caledonia on 6-10 April 1992. The results of this expert meeting were incorporated into the Pacific region's submission for negotiations on the Climate Change Convention. The UNCED process and discussions were used to develop the work plan for SPREP's Climate Change Programme. Participants were keen to see more case studies to be completed, concentrating on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) programme.

*Coastal areas will be most affected by a rise in sea levels*

## Environmental Impact Assessment

Concern about the impact of development projects on the environment has grown in recent years. SPREP member countries are realising that to save the environment, development cannot be allowed without an assessment of how it will affect the environment - and that this assessment must be carried out in the planning stage, not after the project is completed.

SPREP now has inhouse expertise to help member countries ensure that economic developmental activities are carried out in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner. The Environmental Impact Assessment Officer also assists countries to formulate and implement policies which are consistent with sustainable development, taking into account the associated complex problems of population growth, resource use, urban drift, unemployment and economic growth.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Officer strengthens national EIA capabilities by:

1. carrying out in-country, sub-regional and regional training workshops;
2. helping governments set up EIA capabilities by developing proposals and seeking funding;
3. helping governments undertake reviews of EIAs done by developers or outside consulting firms;
4. develop an EIA task team of experts to provide advice on, or carry out EIAs of, major development projects in the region; and,
5. advising governments on legislation and administrative procedures for developing and implementing EIA.

Work in 1992 has centred mainly on Strengthening Environmental Planning and Management Capabilities in the South Pacific, a UNEP-funded project. The main activities include:

1. Developing instructional materials for environmental planning and management to raise awareness of EIA. These materials include EIA posters, a booklet and a video.



*Development Projects must be carefully assessed for their environmental impact, before they start - and before avoidable mistakes are made*

2. Conducting environmental planning and management seminars for policy and decision makers to raise their awareness of the contribution that EIA, SCBA, and land use planning can make to rational decision-making on development projects. These have been incorporated into EIA in-country training workshops.

Three missions were also undertaken in 1991 to assess development projects in the region. These include EIAs on the Afulilo Hydroelectric Power Scheme in Western Samoa, a hotel development in the Cook Islands and a new market development in Tonga.

Future activities will include:

1. Training in environmental planning and in managing development programmes and projects, which will start in May 1992 for SPREP member countries.
2. Developing regional environmental planning and management information data bases and information service which will consist of:
  - (a) updated information on applying EIA case studies and other methods in appraising development projects;
  - (b) practices and regulations in applying EIA and related methods; and,
  - (c) experts and consultancy firms in South Pacific countries that specialise environmental planning and management.

*EIAs link the environment with economic development*

## Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

Date	Title	Place
<i>Regional Conferences</i>		
3 - 5 July 1991	Fourth SPREP Intergovernmental Meeting, Meeting of Officials	Noumea, New Caledonia
8 - 9 July 1991	Fourth SPREP Intergovernmental Meeting, Ministerial-level Meeting	Noumea, New Caledonia
10 - 11 July 1991	First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (Apia Convention)	Noumea, New Caledonia
12 July 1991	First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region and Related Protocols (SPREP Convention)	Noumea, New Caledonia
12 - 14 August 1991	Regional Meeting and Workshop of the Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme	Noumea, New Caledonia
6-10 April 1992	Second SPREP Meeting on Climate Change and Sea Level Rise in the South Pacific	Noumea, New Caledonia
<i>Seminars and Workshops</i>		
9-11 October 1991	National Environment Management Strategy Seminar	Majuro, Marshall Islands
21-23 October 1991	Workshop on the South Pacific Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development	Port Vila, Vanuatu
24-28 October 1991	SPREP/UNEP Biodiversity Convention and Conservation Programme Workshop	Port Vila, Vanuatu
29-30 October 1991	Ecosystem Classification Workshop	Port Vila, Vanuatu
19-21 November 1991	National Environment Management Strategy Seminar	Honiara, Solomon Islands
9-13 December 1991	Sub-regional Training Course on Environmental Management of Fish Processing Plants	Majuro, Marshall Islands
5-7 February 1992	National Environment Management Strategy Seminar	Pohnpei, FSM
2-6 March 1992	Sub-regional Training Course on Environmental Impacts of Mining	Honiara, Solomon Islands
18-20 March 1992	National Environment Management Strategy Seminar	Rarotonga, Cook Islands
28-29 April 1992	Review of National Environment Management Strategy Seminar	Pohnpei, FSM
29 April - 2 May 1992	National Environmental Impact Assessment Workshop	Pohnpei, FSM



## Conventions

SPREP is the Secretariat for two important regional conventions:

1. The Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (" Apia Convention" ); and
2. The Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific (" SPREP Convention" ), and related protocols:
  - a. Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution to the South Pacific Region by Dumping; and
  - b. Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combatting Pollution Emergencies in the South Pacific Region.

The Apia Convention, which was opened for signing by SPREP member countries in 1976, concentrates on preserving land-based resources in Pacific Island countries. The goals of this Convention are embodied in the SPREP Action Plan, so that SPREP activities are guided by principles in the Convention.

Five SPREP member countries have ratified the Convention: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France and Western Samoa. It came into force on 28 March 1990 with ratification by Australia. The First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the " Apia Convention" was held after the 1991 IGM at Noumea, New Caledonia. Other eligible governments were urged by a resolution from these Parties to accede to or ratify the Convention as soon as possible. Some countries are now working on accession or ratification.

The Government of Western Samoa is the depository for the Instruments of Ratification.

The SPREP Convention and its Protocols was adopted in Noumea on 24 November 1986, and entered into force on 18 August 1990. By this time, ten SPREP member countries had acceded to or ratified this Convention, which aims to protect and manage the natural land and marine resources of the South Pacific, including those resources within the national Exclusive Economic Zones. The articles of this Convention and related Protocols are also incorporated into the SPREP Action Plan.

*The SPREP and Apia Conventions are now in force ... a milestone for regional co-operation and for maintaining the environment of the South Pacific*

The First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the " SPREP Convention" was also held after the 1991 IGM. These Parties are Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Western Samoa. At this meeting, *The Pacific Way: the Report for Pacific Island Countries for UNCED*, was endorsed as an important document that outlined the current state of the environment for the region. It will be distributed at UNCED and widely around the region as vital background information on the Pacific environment.

SPREP is also closely involved with co-ordinating efforts in a number of other international conventions, including the:

1. London Dumping Convention, where SPREP has observer status;
2. Convention on Climate Change, which is now being negotiated for opening for signature at UNCED; and,
3. Convention for the Protection of Biodiversity, which is also now being negotiated for opening for signature at UNCED.

SPREP has given substantial assistance in recent months in co-ordinating Pacific efforts to be heard in the negotiations for these Conventions. The fruits of these efforts remain to be seen at UNCED, and after.



# Relations with Other Organisations

## Donors

Assistance to SPREP from international donor organisations has steadily increased in recent years and is now a significant part of SPREP's annual budget, exceeding contributions by member governments and administrations.

The United Nations Environment Programme, one of SPREP's founding organisations, has continued to provide considerable financial support especially through UNEP's Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre (OCA/PAC). The South Pacific is one of UNEP's Regional Seas areas, with more UNEP support coming from other UNEP units including international law, education and training, and environmental impact assessment.

Another of SPREP's founding supporters is the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. More recently, another United Nations body, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) joined the ranks as one of SPREP's major donor organisations. UNDP gives financial support especially through its Planning and Implementation of Pacific Regional Environment Programme (PMI), which aims to assist the institutional strengthening of SPREP and of

member government's environment sections, especially through the National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) Project.

UNDP is joined by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), AIDAB and the Government of New Zealand in assisting the South Pacific region's input into the major environmental event of this decade, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) being held in Brazil during June. The ADB, through its SPREP / Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) Project is also providing substantial financial assistance to help SPREP build up institutional environmental management capabilities throughout the region.

A number of industrialised countries have combined to provide assistance through the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which aims at protecting biological diversity. Our region's component of this larger global assistance package, the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP), is expected to provide considerable support by establishing a series of large, diverse Conservation Area projects over the next five years. UNDP, the World Bank and UNEP administer the GEF, the latter (UNEP) serving as a technical advisor. AIDAB provides a significant financial contribution to the SPBCP. Other conservation activities in the SPREP Work Programme continue to be supported throughout the year by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

*SPREP:  
A clearing house  
matching  
projects with  
donors*



*SPREP has a number of contracts to implement research projects for South Pacific member countries*



As well as its assistance through the GEF, the Australian government continues as a strong SPREP supporter through its normal member country contribution, and by providing extra-budgetary funds through AIDAB. Included in Australia's extra-budgetary support for 1991-92 was a substantial contribution specifically to assist SPREP to relocate from Noumea, New Caledonia, to Apia, Western Samoa, as well as project assistance. The Governments of New Zealand, France and the United States of America are also strong financial supporters above their normal member government contributions to the programme. Some of this assistance has employed additional personnel to help SPREP undertake its expanding work programme. Financial assistance from New Zealand enabled SPREP to employ a Deputy Director and an Information and Publications Officer. France will provide a Legal Officer.

Two non-member countries, Canada and Chile, have consistently supported SPREP in the past four years. The Canadian South Pacific Ocean Development Programme (CSPODP) has significantly contributed to marine related environmental management



*Funding from donors and expertise from research institutions are combined to help save our fragile environment*

*Assistance to SPREP from international donor organisations ... is now a significant part of SPREP's annual budget*

activities. This complemented support from the Canadian-based International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD), especially for marine environmental education and training activities. The Government of Chile in 1991 again channeled its support to its South Pacific neighbours by assisting environmental protection, through SPREP.

More support for SPREP is likely to come for 1991-92 from the European Community (EC) through the Lome IV Convention, and the Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Zusammenarbeit (GTZ - Germany).

### Collaborating Institutions and Consultants

Many regional and international institutions also assist SPREP by direct financial support and by providing technical expertise. These organisations include Greenpeace, the MacArthur Foundation and the Commonwealth Secretariat, the latter through its Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC). In some cases this assistance is as a direct grant, in others as an in-kind contribution to SPREP, or through a sub-contractual or consultancy arrangement.



*Working with organisations and institutions throughout the region*

Since SPREP's beginning, considerable assistance has been given through the region's universities and technical institutions. These organisations formed the Association of South Pacific Environmental Institutions (ASPEI) in 1986, and assisted SPREP through collaborative activities. ASPEI members include the University of the South Pacific (USP), the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG), the Papua New Guinea Institute of Technology (UNITECH), the University of Guam (UoG), the University of Hawaii (UH), the Community College of Micronesia (CCM), the East-West Center (EWC), the Laboratoire d'étude et de surveillance de l'environnement (LESE), Institut français de recherche scientifique pour le développement en coopération (ORSTOM).

Other institutions also provide support. These include Macquarie University, Sydney University, the University of Wollongong and James Cook University in Australia; the University of Auckland in New Zealand, the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) in Suva, and the University française du Pacifique Sud (UFP).



Through memoranda of understanding, SPREP also undertakes collaborative exercises with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the New Zealand Department of Conservation (DOC), the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service (ANPWS), the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service (NSWNPWS), and is now looking at establishing more agreements with other bodies such as the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority.

Many individual consultants also undertake consultancy work for SPREP, particularly in specialist areas not readily available through collaborating institutions.



*SPREP initiates and implements collaborative research with many regional research institutes, including water studies*

# The SPREP Institution

## Headquarters



*SPREP in New Headquarters in Apia, Western Samoa*



In March 1992, the Prime Minister, Hon Tofilau Eti Alesana, formally handed over the SPREP office complex in Apia to the Director of SPREP, Dr Vili Fuavao, on behalf of the Government of Western Samoa. This was the culmination of the combined efforts of the Government and SPREP to establish SPREP's new Headquarters in Western Samoa on time.

In December 1991, Cyclone Val unleashed the greatest destructive forces of nature to have occurred in Western Samoa's living memory. Twelve lives were lost and hundreds of buildings and houses were destroyed or seriously damaged. The SPREP office complex was considerably damaged by water, although structural damage was minimal. Telecommunications to the area were, however, cut off for several weeks. Water and power were also affected. The house earmarked for the newly-appointed Deputy Director (the first SPREP arrival in Apia) was destroyed and several other SPREP-designated staff homes were damaged.

In early January, in the immediate aftermath of this devastation, SPREP management and officials of the Government of Western Samoa met in Apia and decided to adhere to the original timetable for completing SPREP's move from Noumea in the first quarter of 1992. That decision was vindicated when SPREP began operating as a separate, independent organisation in its own headquarters less than three months later.

To achieve this satisfying state of affairs, the Government of Western Samoa gave the highest priority to renovate the SPREP office complex again and to restore essential services, particularly telecommunications for which special facilities were made available. SPREP wishes to record its deep appreciation to the Prime Minister, his Cabinet and officials and the people of Western Samoa for their commitment and assistance during this difficult period.

The SPREP complex itself consists of two single-storey office blocks situated on 2.3 hectares of land at Vaitele, a light-industrial area 5 kilometres from the Apia town centre. Although the complex is in good repair, there is already evidence that SPREP's physical space requirements will soon render the existing buildings too small for its office accommodation. The Government of Western Samoa had generously offered to the 1991 IGM an alternative site for a permanent headquarters complex. The SPREP IGM in September will further consider this matter.

Thirteen private houses were rented by SPREP to accommodate expatriate professional staff. This is a temporary arrangement, pending an envisaged change in policy which will enable expatriate staff to arrange their housing according to their own needs.



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## Staffing

In 1991/92 SPREP underwent considerable staff expansion. This expansion is continuing.

Since the IGM in July 1991, staff from within and outside the region were recruited and appointed to newly-established positions of Deputy Director, Finance Manager, Information and Publications Officer, Project Officer (Environment Education), Environment Contaminants Officer, Environment Impact Assessment Officer, Project Officer (Biodiversity Conservation) and Environment Information Data Analyst, while a UN Volunteer performs the duties of Computer Services Manager. All but two of these personnel were recruited directly to Apia and commenced duties early this year. They were the first contingent of SPREP staff to arrive in Apia.

They were shortly joined by professional staff relocating from Noumea: the Director, two Team Leaders for the National Environment Management Strategies (NEMS) and the Regional Environmental Technical Assistance (RETA) projects, the Climate Change Officer, the Project Officer (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development - UNCED) and the Project Officer (Scientist), as well as the Finance Manager and the Environment Impact Assessment Officer, two new posts first recruited in Noumea. A Legal Officer is expected to begin in July, and a Finance Adviser is being recruited.

An unfortunate, yet unavoidable, side-

effect of the move from Noumea was the loss to SPREP of all its support staff, some of whom had served with credit for many years and who supported the day-to-day running of the organisation. They are sorely missed.

A vigorous recruitment campaign in Western Samoa at the start of 1992 resulted in 14 local personnel appointed to support positions. Training programmes are now being developed for these administrative and finance staff.

Because of these developments, SPREP now has 15 professional staff, 9 of whom joined since the last IGM. Only three of the current professional officers were with SPREP in 1990. A Corporate Plan, to be considered by the IGM in September, will define work responsibilities. SPREP appreciates the assistance of Mr Savenace Siwatibau in drafting the Corporate Plan.

A review of staff salaries and terms and conditions of service was completed in late May to be considered by an IGM subcommittee in July after receiving feedback from member countries, with the assistance of Mr Rod Tinning from AIDAB. This aims to give SPREP an appropriate salaries system and staff regulations, replacing the rules and regulations of the South Pacific Commission. These will be in line with SPREP's new identity as an autonomous organisation. SPREP gratefully acknowledges the assistance of AIDAB with this exercise.

A list of staff and their designations appears in Annex 1.

*A committed, professional staff, serving the Pacific Island countries*



## Financial Report

During the year, SPREP's activities expanded dramatically, as projects initiated in previous years began, and the impact of projects that started in late 1990 were felt. These projects include : AIDAB assistance to fund the Climate Change Officer; AIDAB assistance towards various coastal and marine activities projects; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) funded project to coordinate National Environment Management Strategies; Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded special regional technical assistance project (RETA); ADB and UNDP funded project to co-ordinate and assist member governments to prepare national reports and regional input to the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED); and many other project activities undertaken by the Secretariat.

Because of this expansion, and the Secretariat's continued efforts to seek funding to support the SPREP Action Plan, funding provided to SPREP during

the year was more than double the funding received in 1990. A summary of donor funding received is shown at the bottom of the page.

The summary of SPREP Income and Expenditure provides an overview of the activities carried out during the year, and shows the extent of funding provided and related expenditure in these areas. Again, because the working currency used for the year was the CFP, the receipts and expenditure are estimates of US dollar amounts, while the amounts shown as Unspent Balance 31.12.91 are the actual CFP amounts on hand at 31 December 1991 converted at the prevailing US dollar exchange rate at that date.

Some activities in the summary indicate funding deficits at 31 December. Many are temporary shortfalls in funding and have been corrected with donors providing reimbursements for these in early 1992. With the setting up of the Secretariat's own finance section at the beginning of 1992, it is not expected that such deficits will occur in future. The voluntary nature of government contributions to SPREP will, however, continue to hamper the effective management of the Secretariat's administrative activities, due to difficulties in determining what funding will be provided by members.

The deficit shown under SPREP Administration is due to currency exchange variations. SPREP's policy on foreign exchange transactions is currently being reviewed to deal with this situation in the future.

Given the rate of growth experienced by SPREP, one of the priorities of the Secretariat is to develop and strengthen its new Finance section, to enable SPREP to effectively manage and control its financing and accounting in support of its Action Plan.

Funding by donor	USD
AIDAB	948,325
UNDP	702,275
ADB	640,767
UNEP	454,254
NZ	260,177
ICOD	88,798
USA	88,395
ANPWS	24,339
France	23,199
Miscellaneous funding	10,712
	3,241,241
<b>Members contributions :</b>	
Member & XB contributions	398,743
	3,639,984

[As the working currency used during 1991 was the CFP (Pacific Franc) the amounts above are estimates of the US dollar funding received.]

## SUMMARY OF SPREP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1991

Programme Activities	Donor	balance b/f 1990	inter account transfers	1991 Receipts	1991 Expenditure	Unspent bal. at 31.12.91
<b>NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>						
Miscellaneous funding	Chile	9,868		49	(adjustment)	9,917
<b>PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT &amp; SPECIES CONSERVATION</b>						
Integrated Development Plan		(10,239)	10,239			
AIDAB Projects	AIDAB	34,723	57,385	26,913	32,688	86,333
Reg. Ecosystems Classification	USAID			9,666	15,804	(6,138)
ANPWS Turtle Expert	ANPWS			24,339	24,899	(560)
Reg. Ecosystems Classification	NAT. CONS.			16,908	6,531	10,377
ICOD Projects	ICOD	47,002		44,433	104,085	(12,650)
Geographical Info Systems	UNEP				74	(74)
Parks Conference follow-up	CITES	33,469			5,701	27,768
<b>COASTAL AND MARINE ACTIVITIES</b>						
Majuro Atoll Erosion Control	AIDAB		37,895	188	(adjustment)	28,083
Coastal Management & Planning	AIDAB			242,886		242,886
SPREP/SOPAC Dredging Assessment	AIDAB				37,079	(37,079)
Fish Processing Impacts	AIDAB				27	(27)
Coastal Resource Management	ICOD	106,707	(32,205)	44,218	35,114	83,606
<b>SPREP POL</b>						
SPREP POL	UNEP	(1,236)	1,236			
<b>LAND &amp; FRESH WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION</b>						
SPREP Projects	SPREP	(4,698)	4,698			
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>						
Marine Env. Teacher Trg	ICOD		30,083		8,091	21,992
AIDAB Projects	AIDAB	145,536	(102,817)	26,542	8,248	61,015
Palau Environmental Video	EWC				2,617	(2,617)
Palau Environmental Poster	EWC		867	4	(adjustment)	871
Marine Env. Educ. Mats. Pdn	ICOD		29,712	147	(adjustment)	29,859
Improved Env. Educ. Trg & Info	UNEP		21,451		15,142	6,309
Coral Reef Handbook	WWF				1,276	(1,276)
Wan Smolbag Theatre Group	WWF				2,634	(2,634)
Coastal Zone Protection Kits	ICOD		3,358		3,358	
<b>ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION</b>						
Environmental Information	BDDP	(7,809)	(6,160)	7,851	126	(6,444)
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b>						
NCS - Vanuatu	AIDAB		161,434		86,172	75,262
Env. Impact Assessment - Tonga	UNEP	255,952	(161,434)		(7,116)	101,634
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE &amp; SEA LEVEL RISE</b>						
Marshalls Sea Level Rise	USA			62,797	10,325	52,472
Climate Change Officer	AIDAB	453		433,177	118,471	315,159
Int. Nogo. on Climate Change	NZ				18,061	(18,061)
<b>MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING COURSES</b>						
Head 4010 - b/f		(61,893)	61,893			
Third Steering Committee	AIDAB		2,412	12	(adjustment)	2,424
5th Consultative Meeting	UNEP		1,216		1,216	
IGM Mtg on SPREP Action Plan	AIDAB		(6,887)	82,776		
	FRANCE			23,199		
	UNDP			85,328		
	SPREP			2,138	135,252	31,302
Biological Diversity Meeting	UNEP		11,728		15,060	(3,332)
Working Grps on SPREP Action Plan	AIDAB			26,423		
	NZ			18,501		
	USAID			15,932	57,525	3,331
Bio-diversity Convention	UNEP			16,243	7,540	8,703
ICSP Regional Tourism Seminar	AIDAB			19,489	4,793	14,696

SUMMARY OF SPREP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1991

Programme Activities	Donor	balance b/f 1990	inter account transfers	1991 Receipts	1991 Expenditure	Unspent bal. at 31.12.91
<b>SPREP ADMINISTRATION</b>						
Members Contributions	AMSAM	475,459	(98,526)	3,116		
	AUST			80,394		
	COOK IS			3,641		
	FSM			6,361		
	FIJI			6,894		
	FRANCE			54,131		
	FR POLY			7,018		
	GUAM			17,106		
	RMI			3,730		
	NC			7,018		
	NZ			19,926		
	NIUE			2,598		
	PALAU			3,743		
	SOLOMONS			7,511		
	TOKELAU			7,579		
	TONGA			3,507		
	TUVALU			1,798		
	USAID			101,437		
	W SAMOA			6,557		
Extra-budgetary contributions	AIDAB	(336,477)	(27,578)	62,659		
	NZ			3,430		
	MISC			6,589	475,189	(63,568)
<b>XB SPREP ADMINISTRATION</b>						
Administration Costs	AIDAB			26,156		
	NZ			200,457		
	MISC			7,061	44,624	189,050
<b>NETWORKING INFORMATION &amp; FINANCE SYSTEM</b>						
Networking Info & Finance	AIDAB			46,867	4,944	41,923
<b>RELOCATION COSTS</b>						
Relocation Costs	NZ			17,863		
	UNDP			1,613	10,621	8,855
<b>POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE &amp; PLANNING</b>						
Pacific Oil Spill Workshop	AIDAB	749			413	336
<b>REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (RETA)</b>						
RETA Project	ADB	228,556		213,907	256,952	185,511
UNCED Project	ADB			426,860	325,818	101,042
<b>PACIFIC MULTI ISLAND</b>						
Planning & Imp. of Pacific Regional Environment Programme	UNDP			615,334	508,320	107,014
<b>REGIONAL SEAS PROGRAMME</b>						
UNEP Support to SPREP	UNEP			438,011	279,813	158,198
<b>UNCED - OTHER DONORS</b>						
UNCED	AIDAB			36,896		
	G'PEACE			257	33,839	3,314
Bio-diversity Conservation	UNDP				54,732	(54,732)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>USD</b>	<b>916,122</b>		<b>3,639,984</b>	<b>2,746,056</b>	<b>1,810,050</b>



# The Future

*Exciting times  
with the  
environment  
firmly in the  
world spotlight*

1992 will continue to be a year of institution strengthening for SPREP. As outlined in the Foreword, SPREP is currently undergoing four separate, but related exercises aimed at enhancing its capacity to serve its members.

First is the urgent task of concluding a Treaty formally establishing SPREP as an autonomous entity, separate from the SPC. All Forum countries, formally or informally, along with France and the United Kingdom, have shown they are ready to complete negotiations on a draft document which was distributed in September 1991. Advice was recently received from Washington DC that the US Government is ready to begin preliminary discussions on a Treaty.

At this stage, it is possible that the SPREP IGM Legal Working Group will meet soon, attempting to finalise a document for consideration and for possible opening for signature at the IGM in September.



*... and we must  
work together  
to stop this  
happening  
in the future*

With SPREP's new independence, the Secretariat sees a need to amalgamate its numerous activities - which include various components of the Action Plan, the current Work Programme and sundry projects arising from individual members' requests - into an integrated Work Programme and Budget reflecting the priorities of member governments. These must be aligned to realistic income and expenditure forecasts for both members' (core budget) and donors' (extra budget) contributions.

This is essential if SPREP is to plan its future activities soundly and methodically, and if it is to be effective in its mandate to "assist South Pacific countries and territories protect and improve their shared environment and manage their resources to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations". Proposals to work towards this are now being developed by the Secretariat for presentation to the IGM in September.

Corporate planning is another important tool for institution building. A draft Corporate Plan, prepared in the first half of last year, was almost at once overtaken by the decision to set up SPREP as an autonomous organisation in Western Samoa. The Plan is now being re-written and will be presented to the IGM in September. It will deal with SPREP's objectives and strategies, its organisational structure, its Work Programme and Budget processes, and its management, staffing and finance.

The Corporate Plan will provide a firm focus for each of these areas and, subject to regular reviews, should lay the groundwork for ensuring

consistent, effective management of the organisation and implementation of its programmes for the rest of the decade.

The final building block relates to staff salaries and terms and conditions of service. A recent review, sponsored by AIDAB, recommended that SPREP immediately move towards implementing staff salaries and conditions similar to those already operating in most other regional organisations, particularly the Forum Fisheries Agency, SOPAC and the Forum Secretariat. There are obvious advantages in standardising staff salaries and conditions as much as possible, taking into account local factors and conditions.

The SPREP Review is now being considered by all member governments and territories before final consideration by a subcommittee (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France and Western Samoa), authorised by the Special Session of the IGM in October 1991 to approve the new system.

With these structures in place, SPREP will be better positioned to embark on its new future, to which it looks forward with conviction. It is determined that the confidence of its

member governments and administrations, which took the momentous decision to relocate the Programme to Western Samoa as an independent entity, will be fully justified in terms of a more effective organisation, dedicated to serving the environmental needs of member governments.

A major addition to the Work Programme, which will influence many other programme areas, is the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme, a multi-million US dollar project to help establish and manage conservation areas. Local communities will be closely involved with managing these areas, which does not exclude all economic use of natural resources, but rather encourages sustainable use by these communities. It will be funded by the Global Environment Facility, which was established with contributions from many donors including UNDP, AIDAB, the World Bank, and many governments.

At last, in 1992, after 10 years, SPREP has come of age. Thank you to all those responsible.

*SPREP is currently undergoing four important exercises aimed at enhancing its capacity to serve its members.*





# Annexes

## Annex I: SPREP Staff in 1992

Dr Vili A. Fuavao, PhD	Director
Mr Don Stewart	Deputy Director
Mr Paul Holthus	Project Officer (Scientist)
Ms Gisa Salesa-Uesele	Project Officer (Environmental Education)
Ms Adrienne Farago	Project Officer (Biological Diversity Conservation)
Mugatelele Mr Iosefatu Reti	Team Leader (PA/SPBCP)
Mr Chalapan Kaluwin	Climate Change Officer
Mr Komeri Onorio	Environmental Impact Assessment Officer
Mr Laisiasa Corerega Tulega	Environmental Contaminants Officer
Mr Wes Ward	Information and Publications Officer
Mr Dave Sheppard	Team Leader/Regional Environmental Technical Assistance (RETA)
Ms Neva Wendt	Team Leader/National Environmental Technical Assistance (NEMS)
Mr Gerald Miles	Project Officer/Pacific Preparation for UNCED
Mr Bismark Crawley	Environment Information Data Analyst Officer
Mr Craig Hansford	UN/Volunteer - Computer Specialist
Mr Nuku Jones	Finance Manager
Ms Helen Petaia	Senior Accounts Clerk
Mr Ueligitone Sasagi	Administrative Officer
Mrs Malama Hadley	Personal Assistant to Director
Ms Dorothy Kamu	Personal Assistant to Deputy Director
Ms Lupe Silulu	Registry Clerk
Ms Apiseta Eti	Registry Assistant
(vacant)	Secretary
Mrs Loise Moala	Secretary to SPBCP
Ms Saunoo Matau	Office Assistant
Ms Katalina Ilalio	Office Assistant
Ms Faatupu Poihega	Office Assistant
Ms Monica Tupai	Receptionist
Mr Fa'amanu Fonoti	Driver/Handyman
Ms Tologauvale Leaula	Cleaner/Teaperson
Mr Esera Lusua	Gardener

### SPREP Staff

Front Row (l to r): Apiseta Eti, Monica Tupai, Saunoo Matau, Mugatelele Iosefatu Reti, Dr. Vili Fuavao, Don Stewart, Dorothy Kamu, Helen Petaia, Tolo Leaula, Lupe Silulu.

Back Row (l to r): Loise Moala, Fa'amanu Fonoti, David Sheppard, Paul Holthus, Ueligitone Sasagi, Craig Hansford, Wes Ward, Gerald Miles, Nuku Jones, Komeri Onorio, Neva Wendt, Adrienne Farago.

Absent: Liasiasa Tulega, Malama Hadley, Katalina Ilalio, Gisa Salesa-Uesele, Esera Lusua.





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## Annex 2: Acronyms

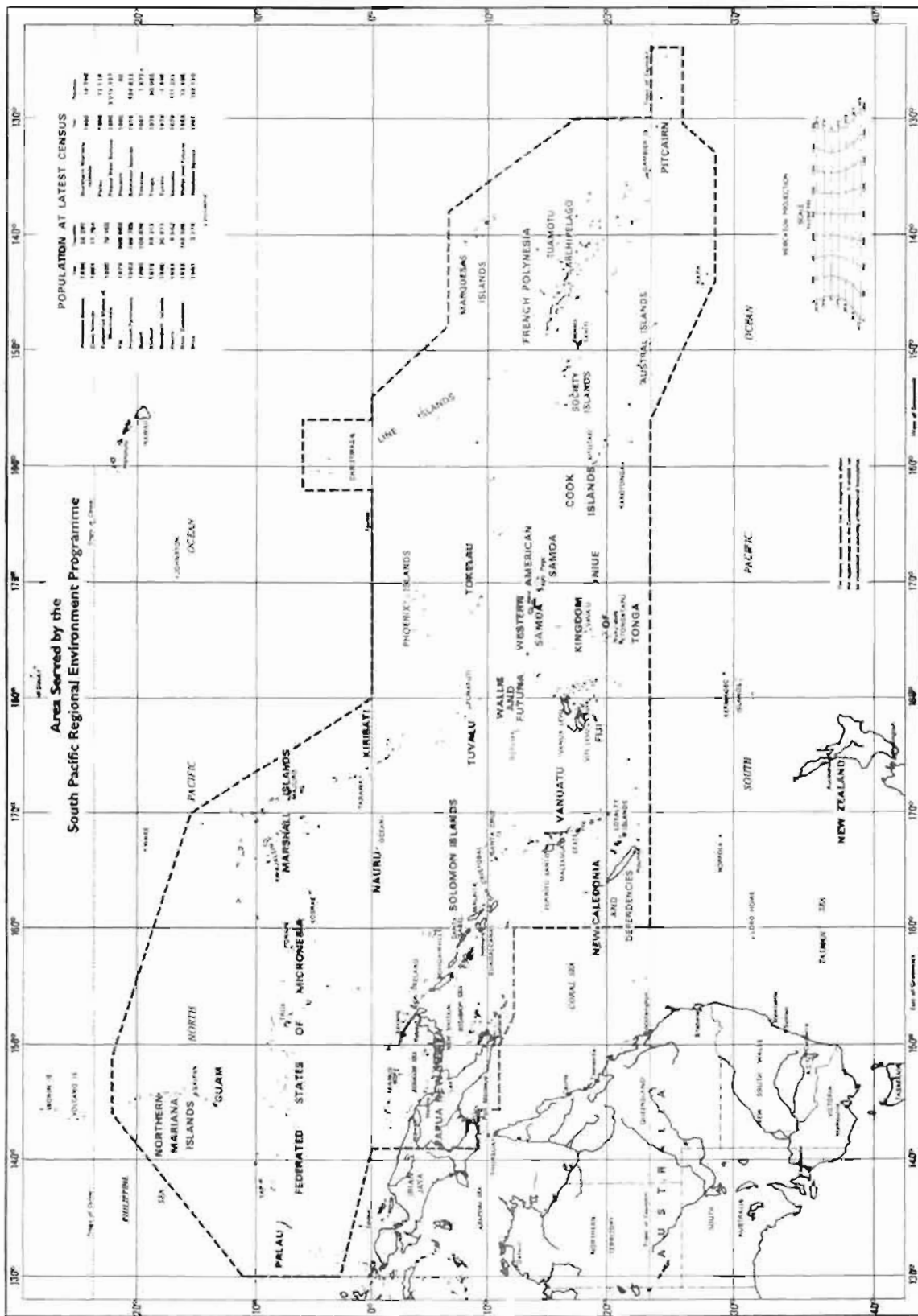
ADB	Asian Development Bank	PIDP	Pacific Islands Development Programme (EWC)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	PNG	Papua New Guinea
CNMI	Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands	SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
EC	European Community	SPC	South Pacific Commission
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	UH	University of Hawaii
EWC	East West Center	UN	United Nations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN)	UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UN)
FFA	Forum Fisheries Agency	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme (UN)
FS	Forum Secretariat	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (UN)
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia	Unesco	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
GEF	Global Environment Facility	UNITECH	University of Technology (PNG)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change	UoG	University of Guam
IUCN	World Conservation Union	UPNG	University of Papua New Guinea
LDC	Less Developed Country	USA	United States of America
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategies	USP	University of the South Pacific
NGO	Non-government Organisation	WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
PEACESAT	Pan-Pacific Education and Communication Experiments by Satellite	WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

*To Make  
this report a  
little easier  
to read*

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## Annex 3: SPREP Member Countries

American Samoa	Palau
Australia	Papua New Guinea
Cook Islands	Pitcairn
Federated States of Micronesia	Solomon Islands
Fiji	Tokelau
France	Tonga
French Polynesia	Tuvalu
Guam	United States of America
Kiribati	Vanuatu
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Wallis and Futuna
Nauru	Western Samoa
New Caledonia	
New Zealand	
Niue	
Northern Marianas Islands	



**Area Served by the  
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme**

**POPULATION AT LATEST CENSUS**

Country	Population	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Population Density (per km <sup>2</sup> )
Philippines	58,291,000	342,900	170
Northern Mariana Islands	11,700	462	25
Guam	168,000	310	542
Palau	16,000	460	35
Federated States of Micronesia	187,000	702,000	0.27
Marshall Islands	187,000	182,000	1.03
Kiribati	100,000	825,000	0.12
Nauru	10,000	210	48
Solomon Islands	1,000,000	284,000	3.5
Tuvalu	10,000	260	38
Tokelau	1,000	15	67
Western American Samoa	100,000	171	585
Samoa	100,000	297	337
Kingdom of Tonga	100,000	750	133
New Caledonia	100,000	18,610	5.4
Vanuatu	100,000	30,513	3.3
Fiji	1,000,000	183,622	5.4
Cook Islands	100,000	235	425
Niue	100,000	260	38
French Polynesia	1,000,000	1,300,000	0.77
Tuamotu	100,000	1,300,000	0.08
Pitcairn	100,000	470	213



Scale  
1000 Kilometers  
600 Miles

