



SPREP

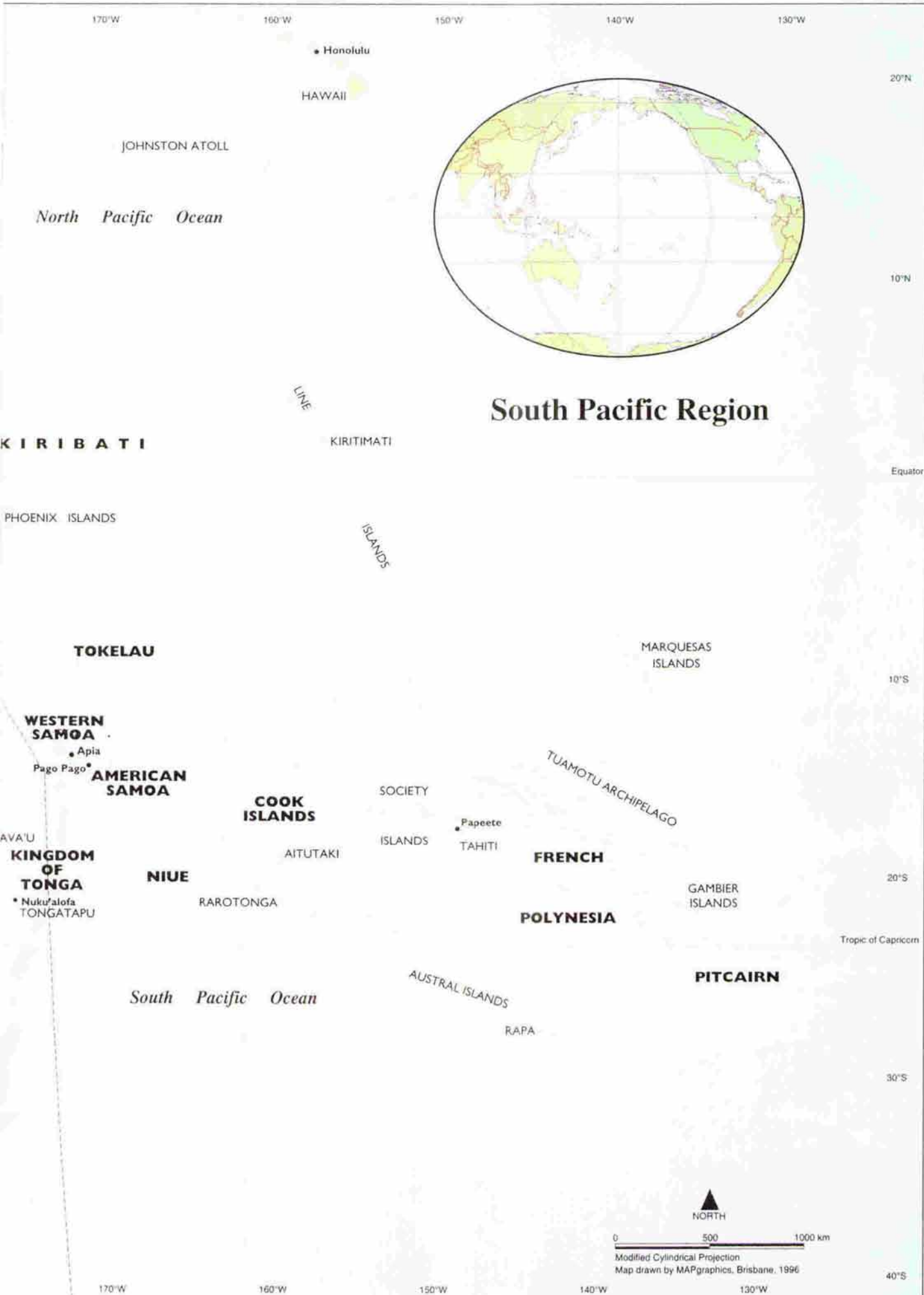
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Annual Report 1996/1997



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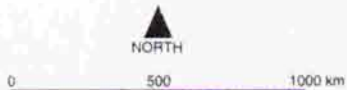




South Pacific Region

South Pacific Ocean

North Pacific Ocean



Modified Cylindrical Projection
Map drawn by MAPgraphics, Brisbane, 1996

SPREP member countries

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

Editor's note:

This annual report covers the 18-month period from 1 June 1996–31 December 1997, to allow future Annual Reports to cover the same period as SPREP's Work Programme and Budget. This change will enable SPREP to report more clearly on projected annual outputs as approved by member countries.

SPREP Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SPREP Annual report : 1996/1997. - Apia :
SPREP, 1998.

72p. : 29 cm

ISBN: 982-04-0178-X

1. South Pacific Regional Environment
Programme (SPREP). I. Title.

341.246

Printed on recycled paper by
Quality Print Limited
Fiji

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Foreword



Tamari'i Tutangata

When I was accorded the privilege of joining the SPREP Secretariat in January 1997 by SPREP members, I knew it was an organisation with a reputation for effectively using the resources entrusted to it by donors and members alike. The ensuing months have added detail to that understanding as well as the realisation that with its rapidly expanding project activities in the five years since the Secretariat moved to Samoa, there was also the need for SPREP's administrative and financial processes to keep pace with such expansion.

In 1996 and 1997, the Secretariat's dedicated team has continued to work to fulfil the mandate of SPREP's member countries, to protect and enhance the Pacific environment and ensure its sustainable development.

In an increasingly demanding work programme, the Secretariat has taken the initiative globally in establishing community-owned conservation areas that promise to survive long-term. Its interactive, participatory approach produced the highly successful Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, where Pacific island facilitators used a practical, solution-oriented approach to draw out the lessons learned from recent conservation initiatives, and to plan the next four years' Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific.

The technical and legal skills of staff continue to support and strengthen the climate change policy and planning capabilities of every member country. The same expertise supported Pacific island countries during the November 1997 Climate Convention negotiations in Kyoto, Japan, where they argued for the strongest possible agreement on greenhouse gas emission reductions.

The ensuing Kyoto Protocol is the first global agreement on specific emission reductions. While it is not as strong as Pacific island countries would wish, it is an important first step in the right direction. It is now essential that major emitters treat ratification of the Protocol as a matter of priority. In the Pacific region, considerable work is also needed to promote effective mechanisms that will allow the Protocol to be implemented, and to develop approaches to adaptation under the Clean Development Mechanism established in the Protocol.

SPREP is a robust and growing organisation which is continually evolving as it tries to adapt its methodologies to meet some of the most pressing regional and global issues of our times. Environmental issues such as climate change, sea-level rise, loss of biodiversity and growing waste management problems are all relatively new to Pacific island countries and there are no ready-made solutions, in either developed or developing worlds. Pacific communities have a long tradition of acting as custodians of their own natural resources, and the Secretariat's work programmes, drawn up in response to requests from member countries, are based strongly on this approach.

SPREP is now in the process of placing less emphasis on Secretariat officers implementing national projects, instead concentrating more resources on capacity building of both government personnel and the wider islands community. This approach is already well-trialled through the work of SPREP's South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) and is continuing with two new programmes, the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP)

Tamari'i Tutangata

Director

Donald Stewart

Acting Director

(1 May 1996 to 14 January 1997)

Deputy Director

(5 January 1992 to 30 April 1996;

15 January 1997 to 5 January 1998)

Dorothy Kamu

Personal Assistant to Director

Apiseta Eti

Personal Assistant to Deputy Director

and the Capacity Building for Environmental Management in the Pacific Programme (CBEMP).

Capacity building and institutional strengthening underpin all SPREP activities. SPREP programmes support country activities at the national and regional levels, devising approaches to specific needs and enabling countries with shared environmental concerns to pool skills, training needs and approaches. Secretariat staff also provide inter-regional support, for example to the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), and support member countries at the global level, in negotiations such as the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

The past year has seen SPREP seek to strengthen our advisory capacity to island countries in negotiations and conferences at the global level. We are grateful to the Government of Denmark for agreeing to fund a new position of International Negotiations Specialist, and to the NZODA for similarly supporting a second Legal Officer post.

There has also been a recent focus on strengthening existing relationships, and in the case of the Asian Development Bank and the US Environment Protection Agency, reviving former associations. SPREP has begun to widen its network of such agencies. The Sixth Conference on Nature Conservation had the largest-ever number of participants, including representatives of a wide variety of environmental and donor agencies working in the Pacific. They asked SPREP to organise a Round Table meeting—the first of its kind—early in 1998, to bring together all the agencies working on biodiversity and nature conservation in the Pacific, with the aim of better coordinating our collective efforts.

Within the Secretariat, 1997 saw a combination of ongoing consolidation and evaluation, and cautious strengthening of existing activities, consistent with the new 1997–2000 SPREP Action Plan as approved by the 9th SPREP Meeting in 1996. These activities have included staff training, internal reviews of the existing staff establishment, implementation of a new personal assessment format, and adaptation to the new situation of having biennial rather than annual Meetings of SPREP member governments.

The Secretariat has commenced evaluation of our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) section, with the intention of presenting appropriate recommendations for consideration to a working group meeting of selected Pacific island national EIA specialists, in April 1998, and to the 10th SPREP Meeting in September 1998.

In the Pacific, more than in most other regions, environment and development are inextricably linked. As economic reforms and development agendas take root in many Pacific island countries, there is an urgent need for the environment to be mainstreamed, becoming an integral part of planning in every Government department, whether that be finance, development planning, agriculture, forestry, fisheries or tourism. Development planning places strong emphasis on the creation of jobs. For those new jobs and investments to be sustainable in the long term, development must be geared to protecting and enhancing the fragile environment that sustains every community of the Pacific.

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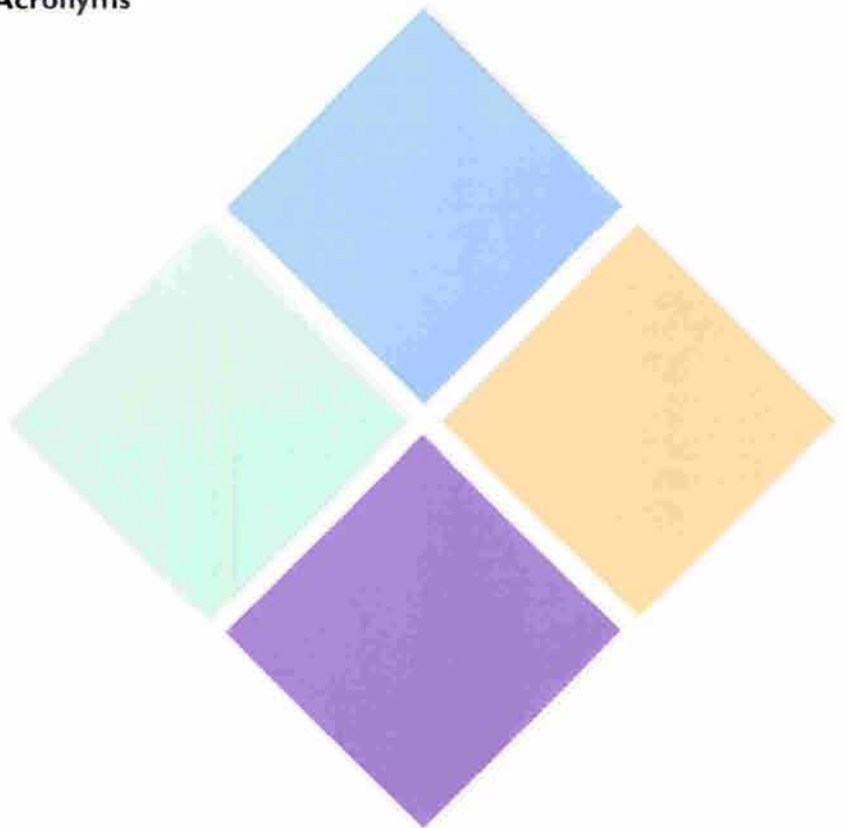
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Introduction

What is SPREP?

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

Its members are the Governments and Administrations of 22 Pacific island countries and four developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific islands region.

SPREP was formally established by the South Pacific Forum and the South Pacific Commission (SPC—now known as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community) in 1980, with funding and technical support primarily from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), supported by SPC members and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

It began operating as a three-person programme within the SPC in Noumea, New Caledonia, with a brief of protecting the Pacific environment. Since then, SPREP has grown into a 60-person regional organisation providing technical support and assistance to Pacific island countries. It is now based in Apia, Samoa.

Member countries' Action Plan priorities

- 1 **biodiversity and natural resource conservation**
- 2 **climate change and integrated coastal management**
- 3 **waste management, pollution prevention and emergencies**
- 4 **environmental management, planning and institutional strengthening**
- 5 **environmental education, information and training**

Who sets SPREP's environmental agenda?

SPREP's objectives and work plans are decided by its member countries and facilitated by the SPREP Secretariat. The member countries' vision for SPREP, as detailed in the 1997–2000 SPREP Action Plan, is of a community of Pacific island countries and territories with the capacity and commitment to implement programmes for environmental management and conservation.

SPREP programmes cover a wide range of detailed environmental issues. They are initiated by requests from member countries, and are designed and implemented following extensive consultation and collaboration with the affected community, country or region.

Who funds SPREP's programmes?

Major donors include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the Canada – South Pacific Ocean Development Program (C–SPOD) and New Zealand Official Development Assistance (NZODA). Other funding comes from member Government contributions, with other donor funds for specific activities from various Governments, international and regional organisations including the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC), Los Alamos National Laboratories, the Danish Government, the European Union, the Japanese Government, the French Government, the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan), UNEP, the United States Government and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

What sort of work does SPREP do?

Recent SPREP achievements include the establishment of 17 community-owned conservation areas in 12 Pacific island countries, with new options like ecotourism and whale watching allowing the communities to still live off their resources without depleting or destroying them.

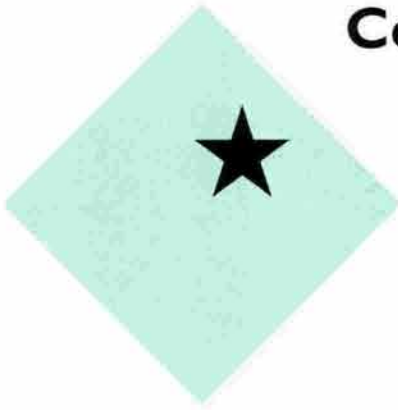
A recent campaign to save turtles from extinction has resulted, in Vanuatu, in villages banning turtle harvesting and setting up a turtle monitoring network. Fiji has extended to the year 2002 a moratorium on turtle harvesting. A Pacific-wide coral reef monitoring network has been established to protect coral reefs.

Climate change is a focus for the Pacific, which stands to suffer more than most countries even though it has contributed little to the problem. SPREP's activities here focus on strengthening member countries' technical and planning capacity, including support for their participation in international negotiations. National weather offices are now connected to sea-level and meteorological monitoring equipment, and supplied with low-resolution satellite weather equipment, to permit better storm and general weather forecasts. Sea-level monitoring stations have been set up in 11 Pacific island countries to help assessment of climate change impacts.

Demonstration projects have targeted solid waste and chemicals management while a new Pacific-wide project is identifying old stocks of persistent organic pollutants and designing clean-up programmes. Other new projects focus on marine pollution from land-based activities, and on raising public awareness of the need to manage and minimise solid waste.

Environmental impact assessments have been carried out in American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu. State of the Environment databases are now set up in most South Pacific Forum countries. SPREP assisted in the establishment of environment units in four countries, directly supporting a position which the Government then took over. It has also assisted in strengthening the environment units of all island member countries in various ways, such as providing volunteers and training. SPREP has established a network of environmental information centres throughout the Pacific. This included providing the Environment Departments of six Pacific island countries with the computers, software and training to set up their own national environmental libraries. These six countries have now compiled computerised records of 10,000 environmental reports and articles.

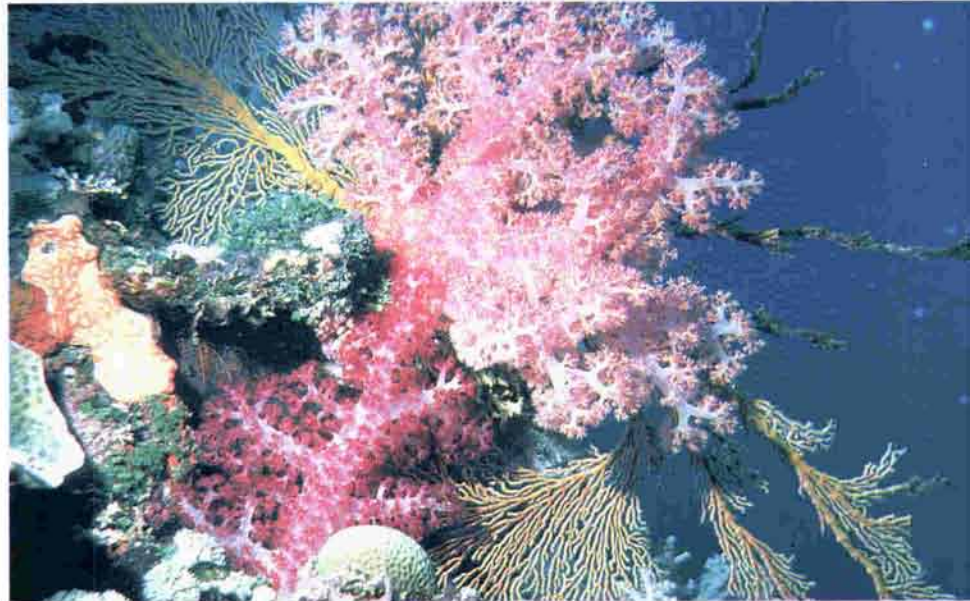
Institutional strengthening forms a crucial part of SPREP programmes. The review of a recently-completed three-year programme concluded it had been successful in strengthening environmental policy and planning, and particularly in boosting wide participation in sustainable development planning. The Capacity 21 programme included training workshops for development bank loans officers and other financial institution staff, and for officials responsible for development of environmental policy and law.



Conservation of Natural Resources

The Division for the Conservation of Natural Resources (CNR) is made up of three distinct but inter-related programme initiatives: the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP); the Natural Resource Conservation Programme; and the Coastal Management and Planning Programme. All three initiatives address Programme Areas 1 and 2 of the SPREP Action Plan 1997–2000: Biodiversity and Natural Resource Conservation, and Climate Change and Integrated Coastal Management.

The Division's activities also cover in part Programme Areas 4 and 5 of the Action Plan: Environmental Management, Planning and Institutional Strengthening, and Environmental Education, Information and Training.



Iosefatu Reti

Head of Division and Project Manager, SPBCP

Lucille Apis-Overhoff

Wetlands and Mangroves Officer

James Aston

Coastal Management Officer

Sue Miller

Programme Officer (Species)

Samuelu Sesega

Programme Officer, SPBCP

Michael McGrath

Programme Officer, SPBCP

Ruta Couper

(Secretary)

Sarona Stanley

(Divisional Assistant)

The objectives of the Division

- ◆ To assist efforts by local communities and governments to protect the biological diversity of the Pacific, for the peoples of the region and the world, for now and the future;
- ◆ To assist in the establishment and initial management of conservation areas by local communities, government agencies and non-governmental organisations;
- ◆ To protect the rich natural heritage of the region by conserving and managing its natural resources and biodiversity on a sustainable basis;
- ◆ To identify and address the most urgent threats to the region's biodiversity and protect the region's plants, animals and ecosystems for future generations;
- ◆ To develop and advocate appropriate funding to support conservation and sustainable resource management activities;
- ◆ To strengthen local expertise and technical ability in planning and carrying out conservation programmes;
- ◆ To strengthen national capabilities to formulate and implement coastal management and planning programmes;

- ◆ To coordinate coastal management and planning activities in the region; and
- ◆ To assist member countries to take all appropriate measures to reduce and control pollution and coastal erosion in the area covered by the SPREP Convention.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Activities undertaken by the Division within each of the three programme areas are summarised below.

IN BRIEF

Pacific islands biodiversity in grave danger

17 Conservation Area Projects now set up in 12 countries

Communities plan, manage and own their Conservation Areas

New options like ecotourism let communities still live off their resources while still protecting them

South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP)

Conservation Area establishment

The biological diversity of Pacific islands is among the most critically threatened in the world. Population pressure, large scale logging, commercial agriculture and associated land clearing have either severely modified or destroyed important habitats and ecosystems resulting in unprecedented loss of biodiversity. These activities have continued in recent years, and indications are that they will continue to pose a major challenge for Pacific island governments and peoples and their environment in the 21st century.

The SPBCP aims to address the above threats to biological diversity through the establishment and management of Con-

servation Areas where important features for the conservation of biodiversity are protected and in which there are agreed criteria which assist local communities to use their natural resources sustainably, in a way that does not destroy them, or exhaust them so they are not available for future generations.

As of December 1997, 17 Conservation Area Projects (CAPs) had been established and supported in 12 participating countries of the Programme. These projects are in Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia (2), Kiribati (2), Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau (2), Samoa (2), Solomon Islands (2), Tonga, Tuvalu,



Inspecting the treasures: CACC members from Palau, FSM and the Marshall Islands take a field trip through the mangroves of Palau's Ngaremeduu CA during their training course.



Participants toss around introductions at the start of the Ecotourism workshop, held in Kosrae FSM in July 1997.

and Vanuatu (2). Nauru and Tokelau have yet to establish CAPs under the Programme.

The strong community focus of the SPBCP makes it ideally suited to the special conditions of land and marine tenure systems in the region. CAPs are planned, managed and owned by local communities, with government agencies and other stakeholders playing a support-

ive role. The success of this approach in conserving biological diversity in the Pacific region is clearly evident in the impressive number of community-based CAPs established since the SPBCP was launched in 1993, the active involvement of local communities in project management and the continuing strong support received from governments and other agencies in and outside the region.

Sustainable income generating activities

An important aspect of CAP development is assistance to local communities in the establishment and management of sustainable income generating activities within the Conservation Areas. The use of CAPs for ecotourism, recreation and other small-scale income generating activities provides alternative and additional benefits to local communities whose access and rights to the resources may have been compromised as a result of CAP establishment.

CAPs in Fiji, Vanuatu and Samoa have already started to earn income from

ecotourism while those in Cook Islands, Kosrae (FSM), Solomon Islands and Tuvalu are developing the necessary infrastructure to cater for tourist visits. Projects in Palau, Tonga, and Kiribati have the potential to support marine related developments such as whale-watching (Tonga), diving and sports fishing (Palau and Kiribati). Other potential income generating activities under consideration include sustainable harvesting of indigenous forest nuts; alley-cropping; agroforestry; and handicrafts.

Training

Training of local communities and conservation officers continued to be an important priority for the programme in 1996 and 1997. A training workshop on

monitoring and evaluation was conducted in November 1996. It was attended by more than 25 participants and representatives from all Conservation Area

Projects supported by the programme. An ecotourism workshop was also held in Kosrae, FSM, in July 1997 and was attended by conservation officers and community representatives from seven Conservation Area Projects under the SPBCP, and others from projects supported by NZODA. Exchange study tours by landowners from a number of projects were also supported as were in-

country training workshops conducted by project personnel themselves. A joint effort between SPREP and the International Centre for Protected Landscapes (ICPL) is also underway to establish a centre within an existing regional institution for the training of Pacific island protected area managers and conservation personnel.

Funding mechanism for biodiversity conservation

Efforts have continued in the development of a Pacific Trust Fund in support of nature conservation in the countries of the region. A concept proposal was developed with the assistance of the Pacific Operations Centre of ESCAP and was discussed by participants at the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas who

expressed support for this initiative by the Secretariat. The concept paper will be revised taking into account the comments of participants at the Conference. A team of three to four experts is expected to be put together in 1998 to prepare in greater detail a Fund document for discussion with potential donors.

IN BRIEF

Pacific approach in Nature Conservation conference

Vanuatu villages ban turtle harvest and set up turtle monitoring network

Whale watching training for operators and guides draws praise

New programme to deal with invasive introduced plants and animals

Natural Resource Conservation Programme (NRCP)

The NRCP aims to protect the rich natural heritage of the South Pacific forever through the conservation and sustainable management of its natural resources and biodiversity for the benefit of the peoples of the South Pacific and the world. In accordance with the SPREP Action Plan the NRCP focuses on threatened species conservation, invasive species issues and the implementation of conventions, agreements and strategies important for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. It covers a wide range of resource conservation issues not dealt with by the SPBCP and is strategically guided by the Action

Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region 1994-1998.

The highlight for NRCP in 1996/97 was the development and highly successful implementation of the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. Led by Pacific island conservationists from around the region this conference focused on drawing out lessons learned from using key conservation tools in the region in the last four years. The conference is profiled in a special feature on page 18.

Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme (RMTCP)

RMTCP activities continued to implement the 1994–96 RMTCP Strategic Plan, developed a new strategy for 1997–2001 and provided support services for in-country research, survey, education and awareness initiatives aimed at turtle conservation and wise use. SPREP also continued to coordinate the regional turtle tagging database and provided educational and awareness materials. This included a re-release of the highly popular “Let Our Turtle Family Live!” video which was updated from the cam-

paign version. Highlights for 1996/97 included a new phase of in-village turtle education programmes led by Wan Smolbag Theatre and the Department of Fisheries in Vanuatu. This partnership has succeeded in establishing a village-based network of turtle monitors and bans on turtle harvest. Also in 1997, the Government of Fiji further extended a moratorium on turtle harvest—until 2002—and adopted a national conservation strategy for turtles developed in partnership with NGOs.

Regional Avifauna Conservation Programme (RACP)

The RACP supported production of a guidebook on the birds of Niue, and a separate report assessing the status of birds, the peka and rodents on Niue. However, lack of funding sources to support requests from SPREP member

countries and territories continued to limit RACP activities. A partnership with Birdlife International (NGO) was developed into a proposal and support from NZODA was secured to increase staff capacity and project support in this area.

Fiji Times cartoon the day after the Fiji Government announced an extension of the moratorium on turtle harvesting.

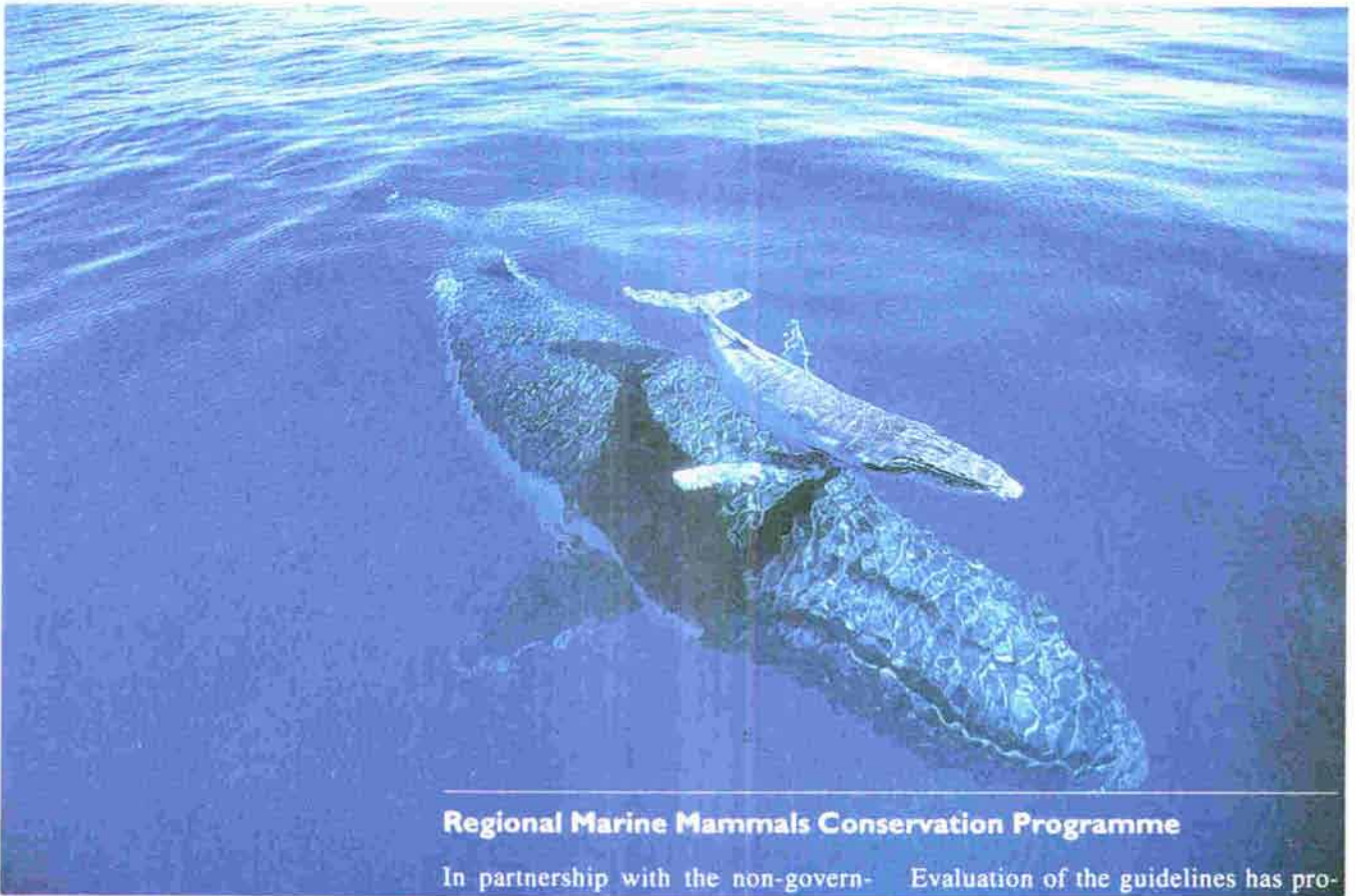
Facilitators bound for the Pohnpei Nature Conservation conference focus on their trainers' advice. From right: facilitators Joe Reti, SPREP and Isoa Korovulavula, South Pacific Action Committee for Human Ecology and the Environment (SPACHEE); and co-trainer Sue Miller, conference coordinator, SPREP.



SPREP, 1997



Reproduced by permission of Fiji Times.



Reproduced courtesy of Ian Marc

Humpback mother and calf off the Vava'u coast in Tonga.

Regional Marine Mammals Conservation Programme

In partnership with the non-governmental organisation Whales Alive, a highly successful sub-regional training workshop for whale watching operators and guides was held in Tonga with participants from American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, and Tonga. SPREP also continued to support whale watching in Tonga with production of a Vision to the Year 2000 for this ecotourism development. As part of the Vision's implementation the Government of Tonga invited SPREP to facilitate the development, trial and evaluation of whale watching guidelines for Tonga, in partnership with the private sector and government agencies.

Evaluation of the guidelines has produced some minor amendments and their further use as a key tool in the development of whale watching has received full endorsement from both the Government and the private sector. Ongoing projects in 1996/97 also included the preparation of a field guide to the marine mammals of the South Pacific and a baseline review of the knowledge and issues for marine mammal conservation and wise use in the Pacific islands region. SPREP continued to meet members' requests for marine mammal policy advice, technical assistance, and information and advice on whaling issues.

Regional Invasive Species Programme

Many native species and conservation values in terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems in the Pacific islands region are under significant threat from a wide range of introduced animal and plant species. The new Regional Invasive Species Programme aims to help SPREP members prevent, eradicate or control non-indigenous species which threaten

native ecosystems, habitats and species in the region. A special Technical Session at the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas focused on developing programme priorities, and resources were secured from NZODA and AusAID to implement the region's recommendations.

Implementation of regional and international conventions, agreements and strategies on biological diversity

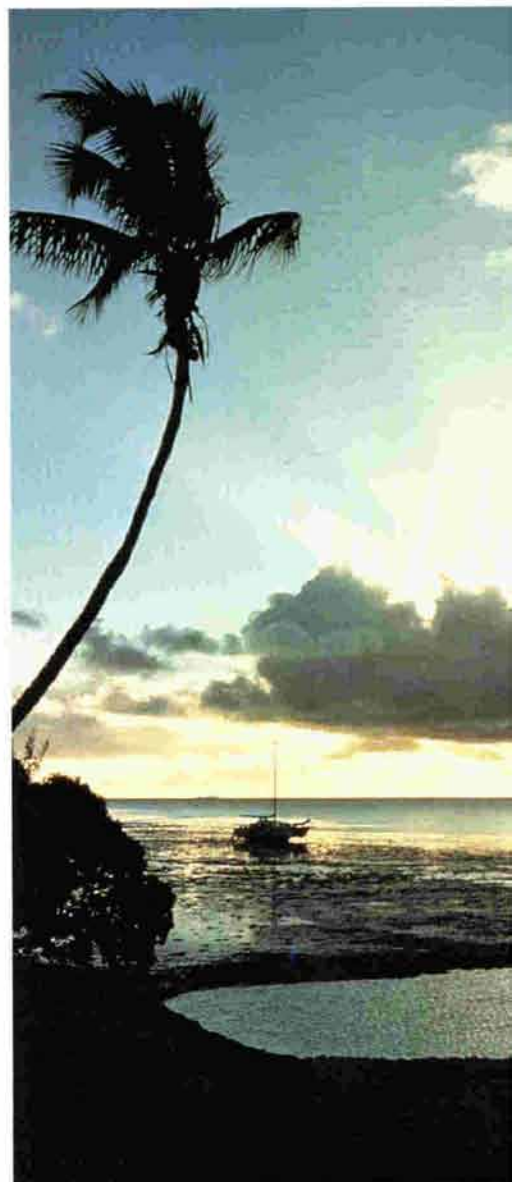
Conventions and Agreements

SPREP continued to provide technical assistance and advice to member countries to enable them to assess, comply with and/or implement their obligations to regional and international conventions. Activities in 1996/97 continued to focus on the Convention on Biological Diversity with support provided to Pacific island delegations at biosafety protocol negotiations, meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and assistance to the Government of Niue for their accession to this convention. SPREP also assisted its members to develop Pacific island regional agendas within initiatives by the World Heritage Convention and CITES Secretariats aimed at promoting the use of these conventions in the region.

Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the South Pacific

The Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (see page 18) was highly successful in bringing together government and NGO conservation workers from around the region to draw from conservation

initiatives of recent years the lessons of what has worked, what has not, and why. The Conference also provided a forum to review the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific islands region, and develop priorities for the coming four years which will be produced as the 1999–2002 Action Strategy.



IN BRIEF

Coral reef campaign wins widespread recognition

Pacific coral reef monitoring network aims to protect reefs

Coastal planning should involve all sectors affecting coastal health

Directories now list all Pacific coastal management agencies



Careful coastal management is particularly important for low-lying atolls like those in Kiribati, where freshwater supplies are often only centimetres above sea level and the highest point on the island can be less than a metre high.

Coastal Management and Planning Programme

This programme assists member countries and territories to manage and plan for the multiple use, ecologically sustainable development and conservation of coastal areas and habitats. In 1996/97 the programme:

- ◆ coordinated the 1997 Pacific Year of the Coral Reef Campaign;
- ◆ facilitated individual coastal management projects; and

- ◆ helped coordinate and implement other SPREP programme areas, especially those relating to the SPREP Action Plan objective of understanding and responding to climate change, particularly through integrated coastal management.

The broad mandate of the coastal management and planning programme covers the following five key areas.

Survey and monitoring of coastal habitats

A national and sub-regional workshop—Train the Trainer in Coastal Reef Survey and Monitoring Techniques—was held in Palau (July 1997) and Yava'u, Tonga (November 1997) respectively, with the assistance of the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS). Training in this area also forms the basis for the estab-

lishment of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) in the Pacific. The GCRMN is designed to assess how, where and why damage is occurring to coral reefs on local, regional and international levels and to determine the best methods of protection. Late in 1996, SPREP became the coordinator for the GCRMN in the Pacific region.

Integrated coastal management

Funding was actively but unsuccessfully sought during 1996/97 to develop and pilot Integrated Coastal Management appropriate to the Pacific islands region. In the absence of a fully funded Integrated Coastal Management programme which could

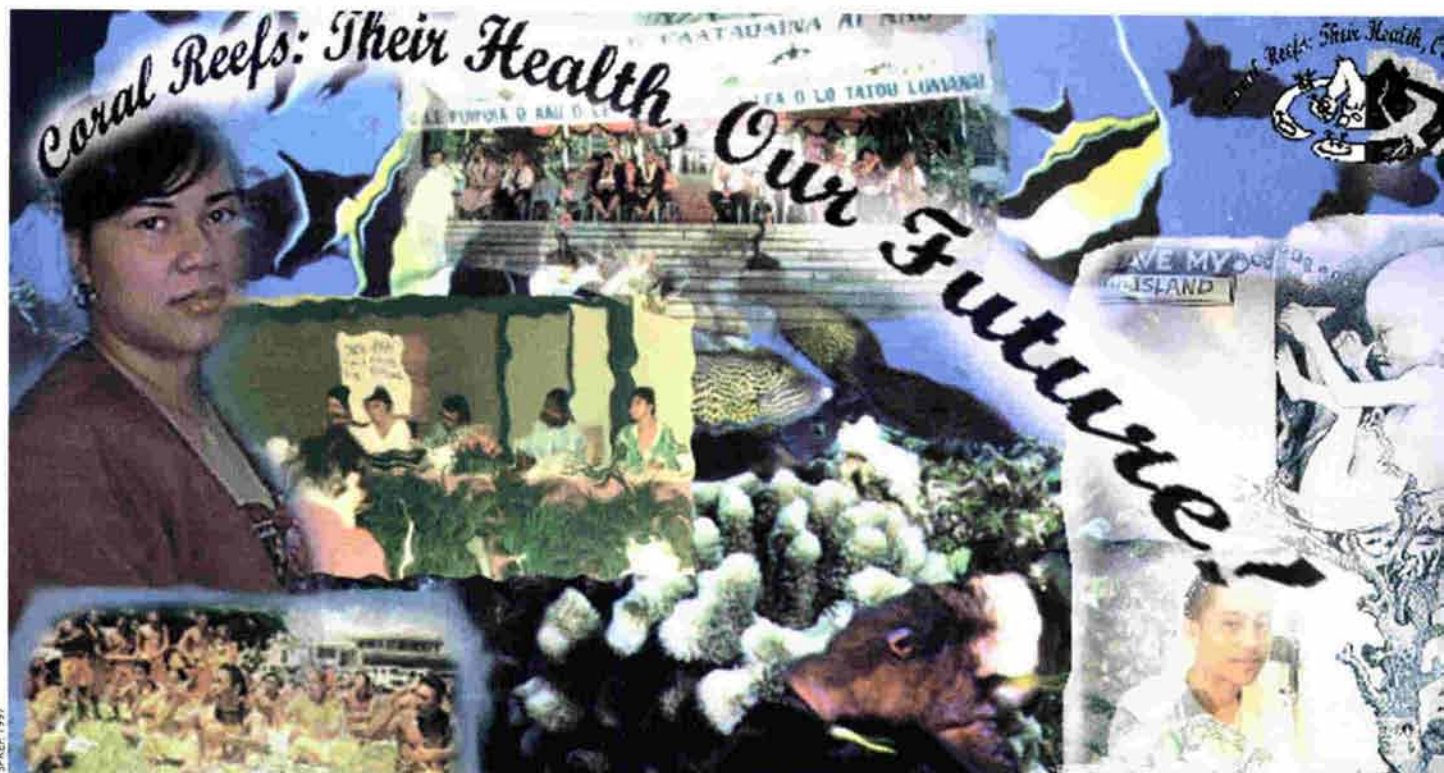
include all the sectors which have an impact on the coastal environment, the Division continued to help develop a targeted and uniquely Pacific approach to solving high-priority coastal problems, at several regional and international meetings, workshops and conferences.

Coastal issues

A wide range of coastal management activities, designed to improve the capacity of Pacific island countries to manage changes and threats to coastal areas and their resources, were carried out during 1996/97 including:

- ◆ A revised and updated directory of agencies involved in coastal management in the Pacific islands region;

- ◆ A revised and updated directory of institutions and courses available in the field of coastal management both within the region and the rim countries.
- ◆ Training in the use of ArcView GIS software to problem-solve and formulate management plans; and to understand changes in patterns of settlement, distribution of



SPREP 1997

Images of a campaign: coordinator Lucille Apis-Overhoff, top left, amid a montage of slogans and events from the 1997 Pacific Year of the Coral Reef campaign.

population, demography and social geography. The training was conducted in collaboration with the Population and Environment Programme and Pacific

Environment Resource Information Center Program at the College of Micronesia, Pohnpei from 9–12 September 1997.

1997 Pacific Year of the Coral Reef Campaign

This highly successful campaign was largely organised by the CNR Division, through its Coastal and Management Planning programme. The 1997 Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign was established to raise public awareness about the plight of coral reefs in the countries and territories of the region. The region-wide campaign was officially launched on 11 February 1997, with 11 Pacific island countries participating. This number increased to 18 as the campaign progressed. Each of the participating countries appointed a national campaign coordinator to lead national efforts to carry out each national campaign plan.

The campaign won regional and international recognition for its innovative awareness-raising activities and informative resource materials which now are being adopted by the Caribbean region as it runs its own coral reef campaign. The Pacific campaign is particularly significant in that it is the first campaign so far initiated world-wide as part of, and as a follow-up to, the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). The campaign however should be considered as only the beginning of what is hoped will be more assertive and continuing efforts by SPREP and its member countries to protect coral reefs for the benefit of present and future generations of the region.

Wetlands and mangroves management

Within the context of the 1997 Pacific Year of the Coral Reef campaign, the Coastal and Management Planning programme was also involved in activities in a number of countries which focused on conservation of mangroves and wetland

areas. Specific activities relating to the implementation of the Regional Wetlands Action Plan adopted by member countries in 1996 have, however, been limited due largely to staff and funding constraints.



Iosefatu Reti

A note from the Head of Division

1997 was yet another successful year for the Conservation of Natural Resources Division. The highlights were the launching of the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef Campaign in which all Pacific island countries were involved in one way or another, and the convening of the Sixth Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Region in Pohnpei, FSM where more than 170 participants from within and outside the region actively participated. In addition to these, a review of the 1994–1998 Action Strategy for Nature Conservation was undertaken in conjunction with the Sixth Conference and a new Action Plan for the period 1999–2002 is now being developed.

Three new Conservation Area Projects were approved for SPBCP support during the year bringing to 17 the number of projects now being sponsored by the Programme in 12 countries. At the request of participating governments, a request seeking UNDP and GEF approval to extend the SPBCP for another three years was submitted through the UNDP Apia Office. A response to the request is still pending.

The development of a Trust Fund for the support of biodiversity conservation in the region is progressing slowly but steadily with the assistance of ESCAP's Pacific Operations Centre. A draft concept paper was discussed at the Pohnpei Conference and comments from participants have been incorporated in the final version which is expected to be completed in May 1998.

Local communities continue to play a key and vital role in the management of community-based conservation areas under the SPBCP. This is most encouraging as these communities are central to the long-term success of such projects. After five years of leading the projects, communities are gaining valuable knowledge, skills and confidence in managing resources under their control and many have entered into partnership arrangements with other organisations and institutions to help and support them in this important task.

The Action Strategy for Nature Conservation which serves as the implementation strategy for Programme I of the SPREP Action Plan continued to guide activities of the Division during this period. The successful achievement of these actions in the past 18 months has been the result of joint efforts by local communities, government agencies, non-governmental organisations, both in and outside the region, with the invaluable support of the donor agencies. Little would have been achieved without this type of collaboration. To all of these groups and others who have been instrumental in raising public awareness and concern about the plight of natural resources in countries of our region, we thank you for your support and look forward to our continuing collaboration in the years ahead.



6th South Pacific Conference
on
 NATURE CONSERVATION
 &
 PROTECTED AREAS

29 September — 3 October 1997
 Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

Interactive Pacific style creates successful conservation conference

A major success for 1997 was the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas held in Pohnpei, FSM from 29 September to 3 October 1997. Held every four years, this conference series is the premier regional and international event for nature conservation in the Pacific.

Organised by SPREP and hosted by the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia the Sixth Conference was the largest in the series to date with more than 170 delegates, including representatives from all 26 SPREP member governments and administrations. Participation from non-governmental organisations was also high with 87 NGO delegates from conservation and development organisations, the private sector and traditional and community leaders involved in conservation.

Partnership and participation were the keys to the success of the Sixth Conference. Planning began a year in advance and a wide range of government and NGO conservation players gave their time and energy to design the conference structure, including its focus on conservation tools. The TOOLS Working Group Sessions allowed all involved to contribute from their direct experience of using these approaches to conservation.

Feedback from delegates indicated that this more interactive conference style was extremely productive and suited the 'Pacific way'. Donor partners, supporting agencies, the host Government of FSM and the team of facilitators all played their part in planning, and in taking part in the conference. Key donor and supporting agencies were NZODA, AusAID, GEF, World Heritage Fund, IUCN, Biodiversity Conservation Network (BCN) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

With donor assistance SPREP was able to support 84 delegates' participation in the conference—roughly half of those attending. The high number of self-funded delegates indicates how important the conference series is in networking and setting/reviewing conservation agendas in the region. The conference also sponsored the participation of seven College of Micronesia students as an opportunity for new conservation workers to learn directly from experience in the region.

The Sixth Conference theme of "TOOLS for Conservation" ensured a practical, solution-orientated approach to draw out lessons learned from conservation initiatives in recent years. TOOLS focused on at the conference were:

- ◆ Protected Areas (marine and community-based conservation areas);
- ◆ Enterprise Development;
- ◆ Conservation Trust Funds; and
- ◆ the use of the World Heritage Convention in the region.

A team of Pacific island facilitators were trained by SPREP to develop and lead working group sessions on key tools. Often working in late evening sessions the team compiled the results of the TOOLS Working Group Sessions and presented the closing Plenary with a draft TOOLBox of the best current advice on using these tools in the region.

At the Sixth Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, government officials and NGOs worked side by side under the leadership and guidance of Pacific island facilitators.



“Congratulations! You really did a fantastic job and your scenario came off brilliantly. The Pacific facilitators were great and it’s marvellous to see the growth and development in experience and confidence that bodes very well for the future of conservation in the Pacific”

Bing Lucas, Vice Chair World Heritage, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

However, this was not all the conference achieved. Special Technical Sessions were held on developing a regional programme to address the problems caused by invasive species and on a proposed regional Conservation Areas Resource Centre in partnership with WCMC and IUCN. IUCN also took the opportunity to hold a Pacific regional meeting of its World Commission on Protected Areas. Lunchtimes were used as a chance to sample local food and listen to more than thirty formal paper presentations in key conference theme areas during the week.

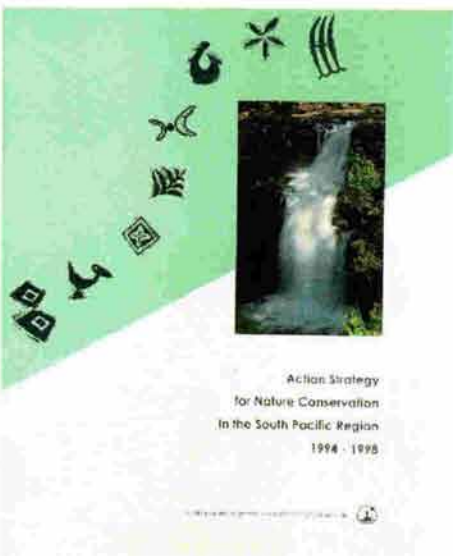
The Sixth Conference also reviewed the 1994–1998 Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific and agreed on a framework and follow up process for a new strategy for 1999–2002. This is a critical document for the region as it forms a succinct strategic assessment for conservation priorities in the coming four years. The strength of the strategy lies in the wide range of input from government and conservation agencies from around the region and internationally and their commitment to its implementation.

The final day of the conference began with a stimulating NGO partnership session followed by the presentation and adoption of the draft TOOLBox by the Conference Plenary. A large range of resolutions were also adopted by the conference. These included resolutions to:

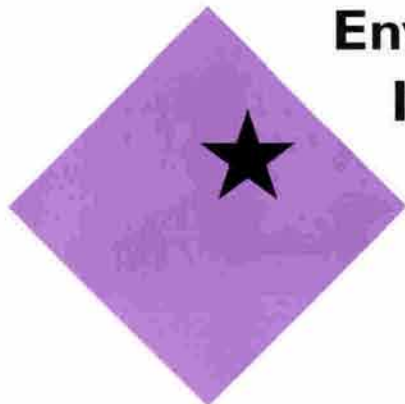
- ◆ Focus on action needed to develop conservation networking
- ◆ Address invasive species problems
- ◆ Alert the region to the problems of the live reef fish trade
- ◆ Meet environment education needs

On the final afternoon the conference programme concluded with a special Micronesian celebration of conservation and culture in the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Palau. Delegates and organisers then celebrated the conference success at a well-earned party which seems to have earned the reputation as the best yet held in Pohnpei.

The Conference Proceedings will be published in three volumes in early 1998. SPREP looks forward to working with government and NGOs in the coming four years to implement conference resolutions and the new Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific islands region. The Seventh Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific islands region will be hosted by the Government of the Solomon Islands in 2002.



Environmental Education, Information and Capacity-building



The SPREP Action Plan Programmes 4 and 5, of strengthening environmental management, planning and institutions, and of developing education, training and information systems are the focus for the Environmental Education, Information and Capacity-building division.

The three other Action Plan programme areas: biodiversity and natural resource conservation; climate change and integrated coastal management; and waste management, pollution prevention and emergencies are also addressed by this division, through its education, information and institutional strengthening functions. The Division is divided into four sections: Environmental Policy/Strategy coordination; Institutional Strengthening and support to countries; Environmental Education and Training; and Information and Computer Technology.

Government officials, NGOs, church ministers, media representatives and educators work on a Samoan glossary of environmental terms.

Neva Wendt

Head of Division

Gisa Salesa-Uesele

Environmental Education Officer

Bernard Moutou

Legal Officer

Satui Bentin

Librarian

Fatu Tauafiafi

Information and Publications Officer

Tiare Turang Holm

Environmental Education Curriculum Development Officer (NZODA Country Attachment trainee)

Alex Williams/Herve Dropsy

Computer Information and Technology Officer

Jan Sinclair

Editorial and Publications Officer

Craig Wilson

Project Manager, CBEMP

Wanda Ieremia/Matilda Tapusoa

Assistant Computer Information and Technology Officer

Susana Kilepoa

(Divisional Assistant)

Merimeto Keil

(Library Assistant)



The objectives of the Division

- ◆ To strengthen the capacity of formal and informal institutions in member countries to achieve sustainable development in a form suited to the Pacific islands;
- ◆ To strengthen national legislation affecting sustainable development;
- ◆ To assist member governments to benefit from membership in regional and international conventions;
- ◆ To increase awareness and understanding of the region's environment and cultural heritage to promote positive community attitudes towards environmental activities and decision-making in the region;
- ◆ To provide specific environmental information in SPREP's mandated role as a regional information clearing-house;
- ◆ To provide computer information technology services to SPREP staff to ensure that the organisation's computing and telecommunications facilities keep pace with its needs; and
- ◆ To provide information to support sustainable development, especially through electronic mail and other communication systems.

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

Activities undertaken by the Division within each of the four areas are summarised below.

IN BRIEF

Capacity 21 project boosts broad participation in sustainable development planning

Policy planning and procedures of development banks and extension services reviewed

Support for development of environmental legislation

Strengthened community and extension service involvement in natural resource monitoring and protection

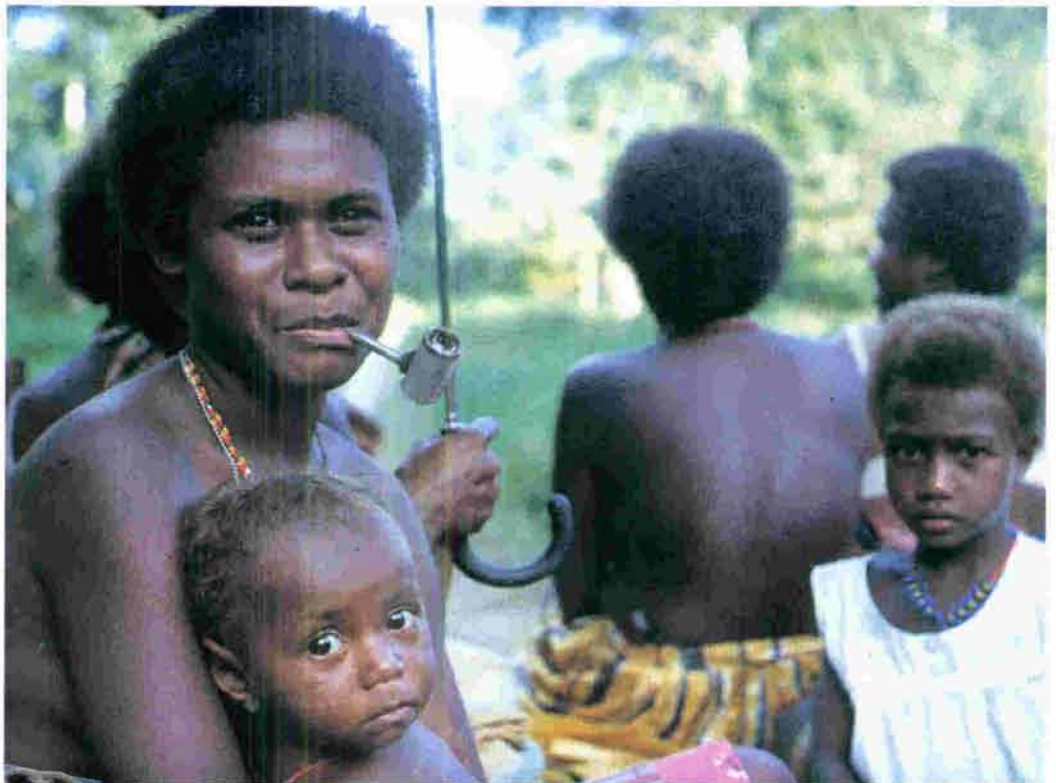
Environmental Policy/Strategy Coordination**Capacity 21 project**

Capacity 21, a three-year SPREP/UNDP project which aimed to strengthen the development of a uniquely Pacific version of sustainability, was completed in August 1997. At the terminal multipartite review meeting, held in November 1997, countries reported that they had seen a positive impact from the programme, particularly in the greater awareness of sustainable development which it had fostered, and in the boost it had given to wide participation in sustainable development planning.

The Capacity 21 project targeted six countries: Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (Melanesia), Federated States of Micronesia and Kiribati (Micronesia) and Cook

Islands and Samoa (Polynesia). A local officer was employed in each sub-region to work with the SPREP-based project manager in implementing the project's activities in their areas. Additional activities in some of the smaller Pacific islands strengthened the capacity of environment units in those countries.

Activities were tailored to suit the specific needs of the individual countries. They ranged from awareness-raising activities for large groups to training workshops for smaller, more specialised groups. They involved several economic sectors of governments, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and a variety of community groups.



In the Pacific it is largely the communities which own and use the resources. Capacity 21 programmes aim to strengthen communities' capacity to better manage their resources.

Photo by John Schenk

Among the activities carried out under the project were:

- ◆ Reviews of policies and procedures of development banks and other lending institutions
- ◆ Reviews of development planning procedures
- ◆ Reviews of extension service programmes, for example, of agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- ◆ Organisation of national and regional sustainable development meetings involving planners and financial institutions
- ◆ A range of training activities that focused on ecologically sustainable development
- ◆ Assistance with development of environmental legislation
- ◆ Assistance with development of national policies on waste management, land use, population and water management
- ◆ Strengthening and encouragement of community and extension service involvement in natural resource monitoring and protection

The terminal review meeting agreed that while the project had successfully met its objectives, Pacific island countries needed further capacity building in environmental management. The meeting noted that individual countries' needs would be better reflected if countries were involved in the design phase of the programme. Accordingly, SPREP has now set up a new programme, Capacity Building for Environmental Management in the Pacific (CBEMP), which will build on previous capacity building projects and which began in December 1997 with a six-month preparatory assistance phase in which countries will be actively involved in deciding their specific priorities.



Government officials from six Pacific island countries join donor agencies in the terminal review of the Capacity 21 project, held in Nadi, 1997

SPREP 1997



Mr Andrew Munro, SPREP's Waste Management and Pollution Prevention Officer speaking at the Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning Meeting, Apia, 1996

SPREP 1997

Capacity Building for Environmental Management in the Pacific (CBEMP)

CBEMP is a SPREP-implemented, UNDP-funded project to assist the 15 eligible Pacific island countries in the management of their natural resources. The main objective under the project is to find ways of weaving together traditional and non-traditional methods of managing

natural resources, developing new, integrated options that will allow both men and women to make a livelihood from their land and ocean resources without destroying or exhausting them so they are no longer available for future generations.

IN BRIEF

SPREP assists establishment of hazardous wastes convention

Legal officer training attachments enhance national skills in environmental law

Small Grants Scheme provides USD 1,000 – 10,000 for capacity building and awareness-raising

National capacity built through Country Attachment scheme and volunteer technical and support programmes

Institutional strengthening and support to conventions

SPREP provides Secretariat services for two regional conventions: the Convention for the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (Apia Convention) and the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (SPREP or Noumea Convention), and two related protocols.

A regional convention aimed at controlling movements of hazardous waste in the region, the Waigani Convention, has been established with the collaborative assistance of SPREP. It was officially opened for signature during the 1995 South Pacific Forum meeting held in Papua New Guinea. SPREP has been designated as the Secretariat for this convention, when it enters into force.

Three countries have so far ratified this convention.

SPREP coordinates Pacific island activities for a number of international conventions, including the:

- ◆ London Convention;
- ◆ Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- ◆ Convention on Biological Diversity;
- ◆ Montreal Protocol;
- ◆ Basel Convention;
- ◆ CITES;
- ◆ Ramsar Convention; and
- ◆ World Heritage Convention.

SPREP is now producing a series of educational pamphlets on these conventions and their significance to the Pacific islands. These also provide information on the consequences and benefits of membership in these international conventions. The legal services sector has also worked with UNEP's Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre on training attachments for legal officers from the region, to enhance national skills in environmental law, and through UNDP/SPREP collaboration to develop legislation and undertake national legal training, especially in association with Capacity 21.

Member country representatives in a joint working group at Sinalei, Samoa, discuss the SPREP Action Plan and the Apia and SPREP Conventions





Tiare Holm (right of picture), an attachment from Palau participating in the Communications workshop conducted by David Lloyd (middle of picture) of Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) at SPREP headquarters. Satui Bentin, SPREP Librarian is the other participant.

Country Attachment scheme

The NZODA/SPREP Country Attachment scheme was utilised, providing support to the SPREP environmental education project and building capacity

in national environmental educators. Palau participated with a country attachment to SPREP.

Volunteers

The Australian Overseas Service Bureau (OSB), SPREP and member governments have worked together to place a number of Australian Volunteers Abroad (AVAs) in countries to provide technical support for environment units. Countries

assisted during this period included Federated States of Micronesia (Yap and Pohnpei), Palau, and Marshall Islands. AVAs also assisted Conservation Area Support Officers in Cook Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu.

Interns

The University of Oregon Micronesia and South Pacific Program also collaborated with SPREP by attaching one vol-

unteer graduate to support the environmental education project.

Small Grants Scheme

Activities funded by this scheme assist member countries and territories with one-off assistance of USD1,000 to

USD10,000 for national capacity building and awareness raising activities.

IN BRIEF

Curriculum development, multi-media and materials production workshops raise environmental awareness

Environmental education programme targets media, NGOs, churches and teachers

Country attachment scheme builds capacity of national environmental educators

Support for Samoan environmental readers and a Samoa Environmental Glossary

Environmental Education

This programme develops a wide range of formal and non-formal curriculum resources and provides training activities for teachers, non-governmental organisa-

tions (NGOs), church leaders and the media, all aimed at raising environmental awareness.

The Environmental Education Programme

This programme continues to run training and production workshops on curriculum development, teacher training, multi-media, public awareness and materials production. This training, funded mostly by AusAID, is aimed at addressing each country's pertinent environmental issues by targeting the population at large through the media, NGOs, chur-

ches and the formal education system. The AusAID/SPREP Environmental Education project continued with curriculum development and training activities conducted in Kiribati, Samoa, Marshall Islands, Yap, Vanuatu. A report on these activities was developed and published.



Tree planting training workshop for Marshall Islands communities.

Photo: SPREP

Other activities

Additional environmental education activities included resource support provided to the Schools of the Pacific area Rainfall Climate Experiment (SPaRCE) curriculum writing workshop, and to the Population education curriculum writing workshop; assistance to the Peace Corps Samoa Environmental Education workshop; the organisation and sponsorship of the Samoa Environment Day Mural Painting contest; preparation of Samoan environmental readers; and the organisation and facilitation

of the Samoa Environmental Glossary workshop.

Also, planning and fundraising commenced for a Pacific Regional Conference for Environment Education and Training, to be held in June/July 1998. This activity is an important follow-up to the first regional environmental educators' conference conducted in 1988 during which the Environmental Education Teachers' Manual—Environmental Education Issues in the Pacific—was developed.

Gisa Salesa-Uesele praises the results of a schools competition to paint environmental murals on four containers outside SPREP headquarters.

Bottom: the winning school receive their award.



Photo: SPREP



Photo: SPREP

Ready to make a radio programme at the end of the media production workshop in Vanuatu

IN BRIEF

Demands for SPREP Library and Information Centre services treble in two years

SPREP provides computers, software and training to set up national environmental libraries

Six countries now have computerised records of 10,000 environmental reports and articles

Corporate database allows easy access to programme and administration information

Growing global interest in environment boosts information requests

SPREP's contacts with indigenous language media improve

SPREP and Forum Secretariat initiate network of Pacific media officers

Information and Computer Technology

This covers diverse activities which include the production of public information and educational material, dissemination of these materials regionally and internationally, promotion of regional activities and awareness through various media, translation of appropriate material into local languages and strengthening the in-house capacity of SPREP staff through training.

This programme also includes SPREP's Library/Information Centre, which provides environmental information for

SPREP and for Pacific island countries, as well as training in library skills for environment units.

The Computer Information Technology section provides technical support in computing, database and website development for the SPREP Secretariat and provided electronic mail facilities through the UNDP/SPC/SPREP Pacific Sustainable Development Networking Programme (PSDN) in Samoa until the end of 1997.

The SPREP Library/Information Centre (SLIC)

This Pacific environmental information centre was established in 1994, and became fully operational by January 1995, with sorting and cataloguing the main initial activities. The collection is now computerised, with nearly 10,000 books and 150 journal titles recorded. The 10,000 records comprise collections of six countries involved in the information collection and sharing exercise, which started mid-1995. The countries involved in this activity from 1995-98 were Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Samoa and Vanuatu.

SLIC has assisted the countries above in the establishment of environment libraries within their Departments of Environment through technical assistance,

provision of computers and software and training of departmental personnel in the collection and management of their libraries, using the software provided.

Demands for SLIC services have trebled over the past two years as its network of environmental information centres expanded and new programmes and projects within the organisation were added. Information and publication requests continue to roll in from member countries as well as SPOCC organisations, and within SPREP itself.

With the re-structuring of SLIC early in 1997, staffing changed from two professional librarians to one librarian and one library assistant, to increase cost efficiency.

Satui Bentin, SPREP librarian, explains the finer points of computer use, putting the finishing touches on a three-year programme training non-librarians from six countries in finding and sharing environmental information.



Photo: SPREP

SPC Noumea's system administrator providing assistance to SPREP's Alex Williams (Computer Information and Technology Officer) on developing the SPREP internet site



Photo: SPREP

Computer Technology

Networks

The improvement of communication and access to information within SPREP has so far been a priority for the Computer/Information Technology section. This year also saw SPREP's communication services extended to the outside world using the Internet technology.

The UNDP-funded Pacific Sustainable Development Networking Programme (PSDN) executed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) with SPREP as the Samoan host, opened the digital door to the world, heralding the potential for Internet connectivity for Samoa. It became rapidly apparent that once UNDP funding stopped at the end of 1996, another solution would have to be implemented. The PSDN network was, however, still maintained during 1997 for the benefit of the local users still connected.

After upgrading its server and network equipment, SPREP's full Internet site

was set up with the cooperation of the SPC system administrator. Development of an intranet web site was also started, to connect SPREP's internal network users with the SPREP web site. Unfortunately the lack of a reliable Internet Service Provider in Samoa did not allow SPREP to benefit fully from its Internet setup, and by March 1998 it was still not possible to establish the SPREP web site on the Internet.

Corporate Database

As SPREP continued to grow, it became obvious that there was a greater need for coordination and better access to corporate information in order to improve the functioning of the organisation. This was addressed by the development of a corporate database which provides SPREP users with ready and easy access to information concerning projects and administration.

Assistant computer information technology position

With the SPREP operations increasingly dependent on computer information systems, the need for assistance to the Computer Specialist and Information

Technology Officer has been recognised and addressed. The position of Assistant Computer Information Technology Officer is now funded by AusAID.



Children's artwork celebrating coral reefs surrounds PYOCR coordinator Lucille Apis-Overhoff during one of many radio interviews arranged by the Information section to highlight the need to protect the reefs.

Information and Publications

The information and publications section coordinates SPREP's publishing functions and its public relations/promotional activities.

Publishing services

The publishing functions of this section include:

- ◆ Editing, proofing and layout of reports and three newsletters each quarter;
- ◆ Coordinating printing of publications with several printing companies in the region;
- ◆ Distributing publications;
- ◆ Designing and producing audio-visual material and other specialised resources such as posters, brochures and stickers;
- ◆ Arranging translation of designated materials to specific languages.

In 1996/97 this section received substantial assistance from:

- ◆ A consultancy funded by the Government of Australia for an editor to work closely with the Information and Publications Officer for one month;
- ◆ Collaboration with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) which allowed one of GBRMPA's officials to run detailed training sessions on communications strategies for SPREP programme officers;
- ◆ A similar arrangement with SPC's Regional Media Centre in Fiji, which released its Graphics Specialist to train designated SPREP support staff in desktop

publishing to assist with pre-publication tasks; and

- ◆ The secondment of an Editorial and Publications Officer, funded by the Commonwealth Secretariat, to increase publishing capacity and media-related activities.

During 1997 a substantial proportion of this sector's time and resources was dedicated to supporting the activities of the 1997 Pacific Year of the Coral Reef campaign.

SPREP publications and other resource materials were distributed widely in the region and sold to a diverse international audience during 1996/97. As a result of a growing global interest in environmental issues, especially climate change, there has been a noticeable increase in requests for information from the Secretariat. Staff with an already demanding workload still manage to succeed in meeting these requests.

Public and Media Relations

To raise awareness of SPREP's activities, the public relations section:

- ◆ Increased SPREP's media contacts network particularly the indigenous language press, permitting environmental information to be presented in the vernacular to a wide audience.
- ◆ Participated in the Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) Indigenous Language Press workshop
- ◆ Successfully lobbied for funding of regional media training workshops
- ◆ Trained SPREP staff in communications and presentation skills

SPREP programme staff learn the intricacies of using PowerPoint software to enhance their presentation skills.



Participating in the PINA organised Indigenous Language Press Workshop in Vanuatu, 1996. (Opening the workshop is British High Commissioner, Mr Jim Daley.)





l-r: Mark Borg of UNDP-Suva, Conrad Mills and Ian Rolls of SPC, Ulafala Aiavao of the Forum Secretariat and Yaminiasi Gaunavou in the first meeting of PROMO, at the Forum Secretariat.



Neva Wendt

Pacific Regional Organisations Media Officers' group (PROMO)

SPREP also initiated, with the Forum Secretariat, formation of a network of media officers from various SPOCC organisations. The Pacific Regional Organisations Media Officers (PROMO) group, was formalised in December 1997. It aims to centralise media networks of SPOCC organisations, stand-

ardise publishing software used in the region, centralise training activities to avoid duplication, and provide support and an inventory of available expertise within each organisation.

Funding the work and services performed by this sector for all programme areas of the Secretariat has come through NZODA and AusAID contribution.

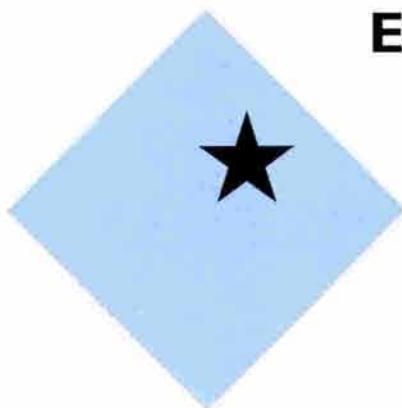
A note from the Head of Division

1996/97 has been a period of consolidation and strengthening of the service functions of the Division, especially in the Information and Computer Technology sectors. With Commonwealth Secretariat support, we have secured an additional staff member in the Publications/Editorial sector to strengthen SPREP's publication production and public relations capacity—a service function to assist all SPREP programme areas. Work has continued on developing email, Web site and database facilities for the organisation and this work is serving to streamline SPREP's work and improve day-to-day communications. Training for member countries in environmental library development and clearing-house functions has also been undertaken with a strong emphasis on national capacity building—helping the Environment Unit staff in several member countries to disseminate environmental information to a wider audience.

Environmental education work of the division has been strengthened through the training attachment to SPREP of an officer from the Palau Environmental Quality Protection Board to serve as Environmental Education (Curriculum Development) Officer and to assist in building support for a major regional Environmental Education Conference to be held mid-1998. Environmental Education activities focused specifically at the national level through teacher training and community awareness training activities, aimed at broadcasters and church leaders; and technical assistance to education departments to integrate environmental content into existing curricula.

Legal support for member countries with development of national legislation and with meeting obligations under international conventions has been augmented by our continuing work with the legal section of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which was further strengthened early in 1998 with the addition of a second Legal Officer made possible with funding from New Zealand. The Legal sector of the Division has also provided institutional strengthening through the Capacity 21 Project. Capacity 21, which drew to an end in August 1997, was instrumental in raising awareness of sustainable development and especially in working closely with national planners and with financial institutions, to ensure that they incorporate sustainable development principles in their work. Continuing capacity building activities will be undertaken through another UNDP-funded/SPREP-executed programme which commenced in December 1997—Capacity Building for Environmental Management in the Pacific (CBEMP). This programme is currently in its early stages of in-depth country consultation to gauge specific capacity building needs prior to proceeding to the implementation stage of this three-year project of national capacity building support.

Environmental Management and Planning



The Division of Environmental Management and Planning includes programme initiatives focused on climate change, environmental assessment, sustainable development and waste management. Climate change activities are driven by Programme 2 of SPREP's Action Plan which requires SPREP to assist countries to develop skills in climate and sea-level impacts prediction and in adaptation planning; to enhance skills and cooperation among meteorological services; and to implement their Climate Convention commitments.

Waste management activities address Programme 3 of the Action Plan, specifically the objective of minimising pollution and wastes and improving preparedness for pollution emergencies, while Programme 4 related to planning and management approaches for sustainable development is being met through the support for policy development, advice during international environment negotiations, training in environmental assessment tools and the development of State of the Environment databases.

WMO Secretary-General Professor Obasi talks to the Samoan media, flanked by SPREP director Tamari'i Tutangata (left) and climatology/meteorology officer Penehuro Lefale

Gerald Miles

Head of Division

Chalapan Kaluwin

Climate Change Officer

Bismarck Crawley

Environmental Information Data-analyst Officer

Petelo Ioane

Assistant GIS Officer

Penehuro Lefale

Climatology/ Meteorology Officer

Wayne King

Project Manager PICCAP

Graham Sem

Scientific Adviser PICCAP/
CC:TRAIN

Komeri Onorio

Environmental Impact Assessment Officer

Taiamoni Pifeleti

Population and Environment Officer

Olivia Partsch

Divisional Assistant

Tumema Fuimaono

Divisional Assistant



Photos: SPREP

The objectives of the Division

- ◆ To assist member countries to understand and avoid or mitigate the potentially adverse effects of global climate change and to contribute to international efforts to limit human-induced climate change;
- ◆ To provide the tools and techniques, including EIA, to assist countries further assess their national state of the environment and that of the region;
- ◆ To assess the impacts of human activities on the region's ecosystems and the effects of these impacts on the quality of the human environment;
- ◆ To develop and coordinate implementation of a comprehensive framework of action to manage wastes and prevent pollution in the region;
- ◆ To carry out training activities related to waste management and pollution emergencies;
- ◆ To prepare national waste management strategies and assess the size of the region's waste problem; and

- ◆ To assist countries in understanding and responding to significant regional and global environment concerns (e.g. population) and related agreements (e.g. Agenda 21 and the Barbados Programme of Action).

PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Activities undertaken by the Division within each of the three programme areas are summarised below.

IN BRIEF

Strengthened capacity to record and analyse changes in climate and sea level

Connection of weather offices to monitoring equipment measurements improves forecasting

Better storm and general weather forecasts with satellite weather pictures

Five high-tech monitoring stations will help international and regional climate change predictions

Sea-level monitoring stations in 11 Pacific countries help assessment of climate change impacts

Study of climate change effects on taro and coconut crops under way

Policy planning begins for climate change impacts on water supply, coastal management and energy

PICCAP strengthens capacity to meet international climate change convention requirements

Climate Change

This programme focuses on assisting countries to understand the science and likely impacts of climate change, and formulate appropriate response strategies to mitigate and reduce the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise, paying particular attention to integrated coastal management. Short-term weather patterns and longer-term climate trends have a large influence on the Pacific environment. Cyclones, storm surges, tsunamis, flooding, droughts and other extreme weather have an events impact directly or indirectly on all sectors of Pacific society. Economic and environmental sectors which include water supply, agriculture, forestry and fisheries are critically dependent on weather and climate patterns.

changes in climate and sea levels, assessing likely impacts of these changes, and developing appropriate policies to mitigate or reduce the effects of climate change. Few Pacific island national meteorological services are yet self-sufficient but all provide valuable meteorological data and information both nationally, and to the international meteorological community.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) plays an important part in actions to reduce the impacts of climate change. A further aspect of SPREP's climate change activities involves assisting Pacific island countries which are Parties to the UNFCCC to ensure that they are able to meet the Convention's obligations and reporting requirements. This work is carried out under the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP).

SPREP's climate monitoring programme concentrates on strengthening the capacity of Pacific island countries in weather forecasting, recording and analysing



Low-lying islands like Nauru have an acute interest in future sea-level rise



Nauru's harbour sea wall protects SPREP's tide gauge, set in front of the harbour buildings. An earlier NOAA gauge rests on the outer sea wall.

Climate change and sea-level rise

Climate change and sea-level rise activities focus on interactions between ocean and atmosphere and their impacts on climate, sea-level change and short-term weather forecasting. Activities so far have concentrated on strengthening Pacific island countries' capacity to record and analyse changes in climate and sea level. SPREP activities include training in monitoring of climate and sea-level changes, and provision of technical assistance and support to national weather

services, and to member countries at international meetings.

Participation as lead authors in the various Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that examine the science and impacts of climate change and policy responses for the region are also an important part of the programme activities.

Strengthening meteorological service capacity

The Pacific region's economic well-being is heavily dependent on weather and climate. Pacific island countries need accurate meteorological data and weather services if they are to prepare for, and respond to, the adverse impacts of severe weather and climate events; to make the best use of favourable weather conditions; and to use known atmospheric science to meet their own particular needs.

SPREP's meteorological and climatological activities aim to assist all SPREP member countries with the collection and analysis of meteorological information, to improve understanding and services that are essential for their safety, security

and general well-being. Current programme activities include:

- ◆ strengthening the forecasting capacity of Pacific island countries by installing real-time displays which connect the national meteorological services with instantaneous readings from monitoring stations collecting meteorological and oceanographic data
- ◆ a joint SPREP/World Meteorological Organization (WMO) project to supply the meteorological services of eight Pacific island countries — Cook Islands, Federated States of

Micronesia, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu — with low-resolution satellite equipment, enabling them to receive satellite weather pictures to assist with their forecasting services. Staff have been trained in use and maintenance of this equipment. A further system has been installed in the SPREP office, and Tuvalu has also been

provided with a system, under the EU Cyclone Warning Upgrade System Project implemented by the Forum Secretariat. The system provides a very useful tool for Pacific island weather services in locating and tracking severe storms, as well as improving the accuracy of day-to-day weather forecasts throughout the region.

Collaboration on global climate change research: the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement programme

International organisations, the United States Government and Pacific island countries' national weather services are collaborating in a major research project which aims to improve understanding of how clouds reflect and absorb heat. The United States Department of Energy (US DoE) Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Program (ARM) in the Tropical Western Pacific is being developed and implemented jointly by SPREP and the University of California, Los Alamos, New Mexico, under the auspices of the

US Global Change Research Program, with a significant level of cooperation from Pacific island countries.

Understanding the role of clouds in the Earth's atmosphere, particularly the ways they affect the energy balance between incoming solar radiation and heat re-radiated from the Earth's surface back into space is crucial to improving general circulation models used for climate research and ultimately impacts related to climate change. To assist in the hunt for

Los Alamos come to the Pacific: the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Team from the Los Alamos Laboratories in New Mexico assembles for the opening of the Pacific's first Atmospheric Radiation and Cloud Station, at Manus, Papua New Guinea.



clues on how cloud processes affect climate, the ARM programme is installing five Atmospheric Radiation and Cloud Stations (ARCS), across the tropical Pacific. These stations measure cloud properties, including height, thickness, and moisture content; area of cloud coverage; solar and terrestrial radiation; and standard meteorological parameters such as wind, temperature, humidity, and barometric pressure.

The first ARCS was installed in Manus, Papua New Guinea jointly with the PNG National Weather Service. A further four ARCS will be established in the tropical western Pacific by 2002, including Nauru

(August 1998), Kiribati (1999) and most likely the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu. The Pacific monitoring stations will become part of a larger data-gathering network that includes stations in the US Southern Great Plains, and in Alaska.

The ARM programme includes an extensive education enrichment programme. Data gathered by the ARM programme ultimately will help scientists predict how much the Earth's climate might change, how fast the change could occur and, more importantly for the SPREP region, what the regional effects of that change might be.

Regional and International Meteorological Cooperation

The region's national meteorological services receive active collaboration and support from SPREP, jointly with WMO, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, New Zealand MetService, the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US National Weather Service in Honolulu and other regional programmes.

In May 1997, SPREP convened the Third Meeting of the SPREP Working Group on Climate, held in Rarotonga. This working group advises SPREP of proposed regional climate programmes.

Since 1993 SPREP has been instrumental in organising the annual meeting of regional meteorological service directors from all SPREP member countries, to allow them to discuss and develop joint projects and activities to improve their service to the public. At the 4th Regional Meteorological Service Directors' Meeting, held in Apia in July 1997, directors reviewed the status of implementation of SPREP's regional meteorological and climate programmes and discussed new projects and initiatives proposed for the next four years.



Photos: SPREP

Talking about the weather isn't just a conversational gambit when the heads of the Pacific's weather services get together: serious discussions about weather and climate during the Fourth Regional Meteorological Service Directors' Meeting.



SPREP's Dr Chalapan Kaluwin explains sea level and climate change monitoring programmes to the WMO delegation.

SPREP entered a formal working relationship with WMO in 1994. Since then, a number of joint programme activities between the two organisations have been implemented in the region. A WMO delegation headed by WMO Secretary-General Professor G.O.P. Obasi which visited SPREP and Samoa in January 1997 highlighted WMO's increasing interest in working closely with regional organisations such as SPREP to assist and strengthen the work of the region's weather services. SPREP and

WMO are about to finalise the establishment of the WMO Sub-Regional Office for the South West Pacific within SPREP's headquarters in Apia, Samoa. This will enhance further collaboration and assist in further strengthening of Pacific island countries' weather services.

SPREP also collaborates closely with the EU-funded Cyclone Warning Upgrade System Project, implemented by the Forum Secretariat.

Impacts of climate change

The impacts and consequences of climate change on the people, economies, environment and societies of this region have continued to be a priority for SPREP and are addressed by other regional and international organisations and institutions, and on bilateral or multilateral arrangements in collaboration with SPREP.

Programme activities for 1996/97 included:

- ◆ The Australian Government-funded South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project. This project assists Pacific island countries in assessing the potential impacts of climate and sea-level changes, and also facilitates
- implementation of adaptation options in the region. Sea-level change monitoring stations have been installed in 11 countries, which supply oceanographic, sea-level and weather data to member governments and international organisations. Options for ensuring security of water supply, including management planning and investigation of appropriate water storage facilities, have been developed. A study of the impacts of climate change on two key Pacific island crops — taro and coconuts — is under way.
- ◆ The Japanese Government-funded project which provided assistance

to Fiji, Marshall Islands, Samoa and Tuvalu to enable development of an integrated coastal zone management programme through assessing the impacts of sea-level rise and developing vulnerability assessment methodologies.

- ◆ Studies of the impacts of climate change on environmental and economic sectors and their vulnerability to these impacts, funded by the Governments of Australia, Japan and United States of America and carried out in Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu. The studies included testing the IPCC Common Methodology for sea-level rise impacts on the islands. Similar studies are planned for Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu with financial assistance from the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- ◆ Facilitation of and participation in the IPCC Working Group II workshop, held in Kiribati, which assessed the impacts of climate change on small island states.
- ◆ Preliminary planning for policy responses to climate change in the economic and environmental sectors such as impacts on water supply, coastal protection, energy and coastal management planning, in Fiji, Marshall Islands, Samoa and Tuvalu. Funding for these activities was provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Governments of Australia and Japan.

Climate change policy

The Third Conference of the Parties (COP3) to UNFCCC, held in Kyoto, Japan in December 1997, concluded a series of international and regional meetings which began in March 1995. In the lead-up to COP3, the SPREP Secretariat played an active role in providing tech-

nical and scientific advice for its Pacific island member countries at UNFCCC subsidiary meetings: the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate; the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA); and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Parties to the Climate Convention gather in Kyoto to discuss specific greenhouse gas emission reductions



Photo: SPREP



Rock Islands, in Palau's Ngeremeduu Bay Conservation Area, are among many low-lying Pacific islands which Pacific leaders invoke when telling international gatherings of the region's particular vulnerability to climate change and sea level rise.



Many delegates used the floors at Kyoto to snatch forty winks during the marathon negotiating sessions. SPREP's Penehuro Lefale kept working even at floor level.

Implementing UNFCCC commitments

The Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) was established with three main aims:

- ◆ to enable implementation of the UNFCCC through financial and technical support from the GEF and UNDP;
- ◆ to build, strengthen and enhance national capacities to undertake responses to climate change under the framework of the UNFCCC;
- ◆ to assist participating countries in the development of policies and programmes which enable implementation of the UNFCCC, and in turn mitigate and reduce climate change and sea-level rise effects.

Each country that has ratified the UNFCCC is required under Article 12 of the Convention to report on its national circumstances in the context of climate change. PICCAP has six main objectives

in its programme of support for Pacific island countries:

- ◆ compiling national greenhouse gas inventories
- ◆ evaluating and assessing mitigation options
- ◆ developing vulnerability assessments
- ◆ evaluating and assessing adaptation options
- ◆ developing national communications
- ◆ developing national implementation strategies

A number of public awareness seminars and workshops have been carried out in relation to climate change, and will comprise an important activity under PICCAP. Both regional and national training workshops will be held to build capacity of Pacific island countries to meet their UNFCCC commitments.

IN BRIEF

Environmental assessments benefit from extra detail supplied by Geographical Information System

Environmental impact assessments carried out in American Samoa, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Tonga and Vanuatu

State of the Environment databases set up in most Pacific island countries

Asian Development Bank funds development of environmental statistics in Samoa and Vanuatu

SPREP project coordinates gathering of Pacific environmental data for global report

Review of EIA programme will produce a framework for further strengthening EIA capacity in the Pacific

Environmental assessment and reporting

This programme seeks to establish a sound basis for environmental assessment and State of the Environment reporting in the region, including assisting governments periodically to assess their environment and building capacity to identify and address environmental impacts of development.

The Pacific Environment and Natural Resource Information Centre (PENRIC), based in SPREP, is part of a global network organised by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which

aims to strengthen systems for State of the Environment reporting. It provides SPREP with Geographical Information System (GIS) capabilities for environmental assessment.

During 1996/97, PENRIC supported biodiversity conservation and population issue activities. Particular emphasis was placed on environmental impact assessment (EIA) activities, with EIA projects carried out in American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.

Geographical Information System (GIS)

In September 1997 the PENRIC conducted a workshop for the Micronesian sub-region, held in Pohnpei, FSM, on utilising GIS for population and coastal zone management. This workshop was a joint venture between the centre, (funded by UNEP), the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (funded by CIDA) and the United Nations Fund for Pop-

ulation Activities (UNFPA)'s Population and Environment project. Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Northern Mariana Islands and Palau participated in the workshop, which was well-received. Plans are now under way to conduct similar workshops in the Polynesian and Melanesian sub-regions.



The Vanuatu workshop on Training the Trainers in Environmental Impact Assessment techniques included field trips and hands-on work.

State of the Environment (SoE) databases

In response to Agenda 21, which highlighted the importance of accurate and accessible environmental information for effective decision-making, PENRIC in collaboration with UNEP's Environmental Assessment Project for Asia and the Pacific (EAP-AP) has set up State of the Environment databases in most Forum countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga,

Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau will be included in the next phase. PENRIC has conducted a follow-up visit to install and assess the status of the database for future activities and support. It is hoped that by the year 2000 PENRIC will have established a system for producing annual SoE reports with emphasis on cost-effective and robust approaches to data compilation and analysis.

Development of Environmental Statistics

The Asian Development Bank's interest in developing a Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES): Regional Environmental Technical Assistance (RETA 5555) was welcomed by the Pacific island countries identified for the project. The SoE

database developed in these countries — Samoa and Vanuatu — with support from SPREP was seen by ADB and SPREP as a good starting point. Frameworks developed for these countries will be assessed in a workshop in May 1998.

American Samoa Land Information System (ASLIS)

Following a request from the Government of American Samoa, SPREP supported the establishment of a GIS facility for the territory. SPREP set up the system and conducted GIS training in ARC/INFO software for Lands and Survey

Division staff who were identified to run the system. The exercise included assessing American Samoa's GIS needs across the territory, compiling data and converting it from existing sources to be used as the basis for future GIS coverage.



SPREP's Dr Taiamoni Pifeleti discusses ways of raising awareness about population issues, at a Population and Environment workshop in Vanuatu.

IN BRIEF

Integration of population and environment policy strengthened by SPREP project

National in-service training workshops on population and environment held for primary teachers

Community development training manual produced, on integrating population and environmental planning

Strategic Action Plan for international waters in the Pacific endorsed by South Pacific Forum

Support and technical advice provided to Pacific island delegations at international environment negotiations

Sustainable Development Policy

This programme promotes sustainable development in the wake of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

assists member countries to develop and implement sustainable development policies at national and regional levels, and supports their participation in relevant international negotiations.

The Population and Environment project

This project which addressed the integration of population issues with environmental management was completed in 1997. The activities included:

- ◆ Technical advice concerning integrated national population and environment policy;
- ◆ National in-service training workshops for primary teachers;
- ◆ Public awareness campaigns;
- ◆ A curriculum writing workshop for Micronesia;
- ◆ A regional GIS workshop for Polynesia, to introduce the software package POPMAP as a planning tool;

- ◆ Production of a community development training manual on participatory approaches to integrated population and environment planning. This is intended as a handbook for training trainers at the community level;
- ◆ A socio-economic review of a proposed tuna cannery.

The project specifically helped identify ways to integrate population considerations within a wide range of SPREP activities. Expertise in the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) and UNFPA Pacific Office will be used to provide technical advice in this area.

Follow-up to Barbados and UNCED

To follow up Barbados and UNCED, support continued to be provided to countries during sessions of the UN Commission on Sustainable Develop-

ment and the Global Environment Facility. During 1997, SPREP also provided briefings for the Pacific island delegations to the Special Session of the UN



General Assembly on Sustainable Development (Earth Summit +5). This support is coordinated with that provided by SPREP in relation to the UNFCCC and

Convention on Biological Diversity negotiations. The implementation of international environment agreements will continue to require considerable attention.

Linking environment and development

Work commenced with the Forum Secretariat to identify significant trade and environment linkages. Training material to assist countries mobilise financial resources for environmental investments was also completed with the

assistance of National Centre for Development Studies (NCDS) of the National University of Australia, the University of the South Pacific, and the Maruia Society.



Strategic Action Programme for International Waters of the Pacific Islands Region (SAP)

The proposal for development of the Strategic Action Programme for Interna-

tional Waters of the Pacific Islands Region (SAP) was approved by UNDP on 19 April 1997. SAP forms the final component of the Pacific Strategy for the Global Environment Facility (GEF), drafted by the GEF Training and Scoping Workshop in August 1995.

The Chief Technical Adviser commenced work on April 22, 1997. Participating countries were asked to establish a National Task Force (NTF) and nominate Task Force Coordinators (TFCs). A Regional Task Force (RTF) to oversee preparation of the SAP was established, comprising one representative each from Fiji, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, with additional members from SPC, the South Pacific Forum (SPF), SPREP, the three GEF Implementing Agencies (UNDP, UNEP, World Bank), two NGOs (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy) and one private sector representative (Fiji Dive Operators Association, recommended by the Tourism Council of the South Pacific). ADB and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) also participated.

The start of Samoa's contribution to a strategic action plan for the Pacific's international waters. Above 1: SPREP's Iosefatu Reti opens Samoa's first National Task Force meeting. 2: The National Task Force members down to business.



Photo courtesy of the Tourism Council of the South Pacific

From the Pacific, a view of its international waters

The RTF met in June 1997 in Apia. It considered draft regional reviews, draft guidelines for national consultations, and draft terms of reference for the TFCs. The TFCs met in Apia in July 1997 to receive a briefing on GEF, the SAP preparation process and objectives and suggested methodology for national consultations.

The SAP was prepared in accordance with the results of the national consultations. The draft SAP was reviewed and approved by the RTF and the TFCs at a joint meeting held in Apia in September 1997. The SAP was reviewed and subsequently endorsed by the Heads of Government of the South Pacific Forum at their 28th meeting in Rarotonga on 15–19 September 1997.

IN BRIEF

Demonstration projects target solid waste management and chemicals management

Persistent organic pollutants project aims to identify old stocks and design clean-up plans

Marine pollution project focuses on land-based pollution sources

Inter-agency cooperation strengthens Pacific capacity to regulate hazardous and radioactive wastes

Review of strategy for preventing sea-based pollution commences

Pollution Prevention and Waste Management

This programme assists countries in preventing, reducing and managing pollution and wastes, including the development and maintenance of national and regional pollution emergency response and planning capabilities.

Implementation of the South Pacific Regional Waste Minimization, Management and Pollution Prevention Programme commenced in 1995. The programme has two components—terrestrial and marine. The terrestrial component targets solid waste management and minimisation, chemicals management, waste water management and land use planning. Implementation of the programme to date has concentrated on demonstration projects under this component. Funding has now been secured to implement other items of both the terrestrial component and the marine component. In addition the programme

provides technical support in response to country requests for assistance with waste management and pollution prevention activities and pollution emergencies. The EU-funded Regional Waste Education and Awareness Programme which will commence in 1998 will assist the goal of effective waste management by upgrading public knowledge and awareness of the problems of solid waste.

The marine component was drafted with the assistance of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and targets international marine conventions and marine pollution response capabilities. The Commonwealth Secretariat is funding the position of Marine Pollution Officer to oversee implementation of this component and funding assistance is also anticipated from both the IMO and the Canada - South Pacific Ocean Development Program (C-SPOD).



Disposal of solid waste is becoming an increasingly murky problem for many Pacific island countries.



These drums of pesticide were left for ten years in an increasingly derelict shed in one Pacific island country. Local people used the pesticides to poison fish, boasting they only needed a little to kill the fish. The drums leaked outside the shed. The extent of contamination of groundwater and food production has not been determined. Eventually a joint SPREP/WHO clean-up operation safely sealed the drums. They are still awaiting removal.

Chemicals management

Implementation of the Agenda 21 derived National Chemicals Profiles projects is also being undertaken. This project is supported by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Environment Australia. In addition, the region is being kept informed of other projects of UNEP Chemicals center. These include the international negotiating meetings for the proposed Prior Informed Consent convention and preliminary work to the forthcoming international negotiating meetings for the proposed Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) con-

vention. These are helping to better equip countries to undertake the complex tasks associated with environmentally appropriate chemicals management.

Phase I of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) funded Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Pacific Island Countries project has also commenced. The long-term aims of the project are to both rid the region of stocks of unwanted and waste chemicals including PCBs and to remediate chemical contaminated sites.

Marine pollution from land-based activities

The Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) was signed in December, 1995 and implementation is expected to commence in the region in 1998. The GPA is being coordinated by UNEP with the involvement of many other international organisations and SPREP will be involved in its implementation in the South Pacific

region. The GPA recognises that the majority of marine pollution is derived from the land and targets many land-based pollutants including sewage, sedimentation, non-degradable solid wastes and persistent organic pollutants. It promises to be of great benefit in combating pollution of the South Pacific ocean.

Hazardous wastes in the Pacific

The Waigani Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region was signed in Port Moresby in 1995. It will come into force upon ratification or accession by ten countries, with the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji and Papua New Guinea having ratified at the end of 1997. Upon entry into force, SPREP will act as the Secretariat. The Convention, which relates to the Basel

Convention, was drafted in response to a perception that the increasing generation of hazardous and radioactive wastes world wide posed a threat to the human health and environment of the South Pacific region, and addresses these issues. To assist its implementation, SPREP has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. This ensures cooperation between the Secretariats of the two Conventions and allows SPREP to utilise many of the resources of the Basel Secretariat.



Gerald Miles

A note from the Head of Division

This past year has seen the Environmental Management and Planning Division increase its efforts to address the waste management and climate change priorities outlined in the Action Plan. New projects have commenced to address persistent organic pollutants, waste awareness and climate change obligations. Staffing levels have therefore increased. At the same time, the projects addressing population linkages and EIA have been completed. The linkages between population and environment, rather than being dealt with under a specific project, will now be integrated within the range of SPREP countries and the role for SPREP in building EIA capacity in the region is now under review. The results of this review will be presented to the forthcoming SPREP Meeting. So the Division has expanded in areas where there is a clear need in the region and is attempting to take stock in areas where we need to ensure that we are investing wisely in capacity building that will be most beneficial at a national level. Linking the region to international environmental negotiations has also continued. The Division will continue to provide technical advice and briefing for key negotiations, namely those related to climate change, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and GEF. In the future, support in relation to the international control of persistent organic pollutants will also be provided.

As I mentioned in the 1995/96 Annual Report, there is a very real need, as the region implements its economic reform and development agenda, to integrate at an early stage the environmental dimensions of any new investment. The sustainable development of the region will depend greatly on the ability in SPREP and its member countries to ensure that environmental considerations become an integral part of what is still largely sector-based development in the region. To do this we have been working actively with other regional organisations and through our SPREP Focal Points with other line ministries at the national level. We hope to ensure that agricultural development recognises, for example, impacts related to pollution from pesticides, and that tourism development benefits from and has a role to play in protecting the environment. The Division's staff I believe have excellent skills and experience and the necessary motivation to effectively build national capacity in this area. We are all looking forward to a challenging and successful year ahead.

Finance and Administration


Ray Wright

Head of Division and Finance Manager

Daniel Devoe

Accountant

Malama Hadley

Administration Officer

Luapene Lefau

Assistant Accountant

Asofa Fereti

Senior Accounts Clerk

Juliana Mikaele

Accounts Clerk

Puni Chong Wong

Accounts Clerk

Mafuli Matalavea

Accounts Clerk

Lupe Silulu

Registry Clerk

Quandovita Tuala

Registry Assistant

The Finance and Administration division comprises two units.

Finance: This unit's goals are to monitor, control and implement SPREP's financial obligations and needs according to SPREP's Financial Regulations, as well as the financial requirements of each individual donor, member countries and internationally accepted accounting principles.

Administration: This unit is responsible for providing core administration services and assisting management in monitoring and implementing obligations and requirements in SPREP's Staff Regulations and its internal policies and administrative procedures.

The objectives of the Division

- ◆ To provide financial and administrative support and advice to management and staff, according to SPREP's regulations, local conditions and the SPREP work programme;
- ◆ To safeguard SPREP's financial resources by adopting sound financial and accounting principles and practices;
- ◆ To provide financial information to member countries and donor organisations on the funds provided to SPREP;
- ◆ To ensure that SPREP's Staff Regulations and internal policies are applied appropriately; and
- ◆ To provide adequate security and appropriate insurance cover for all SPREP assets and property.

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

Activities undertaken by the Division within each of the two areas are summarised below.

Finance and Administration

Systems have been established to meet these objectives. These were monitored and refined during the year. Services provided by the Division include:

- ◆ payment of commitments entered into by SPREP;
- ◆ payment of staff payroll and staff entitlements;
- ◆ provision of monthly and periodical reports to staff and management;
- ◆ provision of financial and administrative assistance to management;
- ◆ liaison with donors on financial matters;
- ◆ provision of financial reports to donors;
- ◆ preparation of annual financial statements;
- ◆ coordination and compilation of annual work programme and budget working papers and other papers required for the SPREP Budget and Work Programme Sub-committee.

Raju Pillai from DATEC (Fiji) Ltd trains SPREP programme staff in the new AccPac software that gives them ready access to finance and budget information.



Tiana Tuipoloa
Temporary Assistant

Faaafu T. Yoshida
Office Assistant

Saunoa Mata'u
Conference Assistant

Monica Tupa'i
Receptionist

Aso Sione
Handyman

Faamanu Fonoti
Driver

Albert Williams
Driver

Tologauvale Leaula
Teaperson/Clerk

Amosa Tootoo
Cleaner

Mapusone Peseta
Cleaner

Esera Rusia
Gardener

Elia Hunt
Night Watchman

Improvements to systems and resources included:

- ◆ a complete upgrade of SPREP's existing financial systems;
- ◆ completion of an administrative procedures manual; and
- ◆ refurbishing general office space. A review of SPREP staff salaries and conditions of service is scheduled

during 1998, and is due for commencement from 1 January 1999. It will be presented to the Tenth SPREP Meeting. It is envisaged this review will also address the issue of staff requirements of the organisation.

Administration services addressed are listed below:

- ◆ provision of travel and related services to staff;
- ◆ supply and monitoring of stationery requirements;
- ◆ maintaining an effective registry system;
- ◆ maintaining office equipment, furniture and fittings, buildings and grounds in good order; and
- ◆ facilitating improvements to SPREP offices.

The Division will continue to monitor its systems in the coming year, and will continue to implement changes wherever necessary.

A note from the Head of Division

From the end of February 1997 when I took up the position as HOD of the Finance and Administration Division, the dedication of staff in the Division was obvious. As SPREP continues progressively to expand its activities and programmes, it has been a challenge for me and the Division to provide the support to Management and the other Divisions. Demands on the Division's services, from staff and management, saw us always committed to a full work schedule.

I am very pleased with the manner and dedication in which staff in the Division worked throughout the year. In a working environment where pressure and urgency are constantly with us, staff were committed and dedicated to the tasks at hand, often going far beyond what I would normally expect from staff, in order to complete their assigned tasks. The Division is very fortunate to have staff of such high quality, dedication and calibre. As Head of the Division, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every individual member for the fine work and effort they put into their respective jobs during this period.

The coming year looks to be another busy one—a year for consolidating and improving the procedures and systems that have been implemented, to ensure that work flows smoothly through the organisation.



Ray Wright

List of Country Activities

June 1996 – December 1997



American Samoa

- ◆ Provided training of Fagatele Bay Marine Sanctuary staff in whale watching tourism at Whale Watching Operator and Guides Training Workshop (August 1996, Vava'u Tonga)
- ◆ Funded participant to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM).
- ◆ Funded participant to Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported national activities relating to PYOCR including
 - American Samoa's campaign launch, slogan and logo competition, Flag Day Float competition, television and radio programmes, and coral reef school camp-outs
- ◆ Provided environmental information on nuclear waste, based on library requests
- ◆ Established the American Samoa Land Information System (ASLIS) with the Lands and Survey division. Conducted Geographical Information System (GIS) training.
- ◆ Assessed GIS information and expertise in American Samoa
- ◆ Provided ongoing assistance to the National Weather Service (training, assistance, support)
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning Meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Cook Islands

- ◆ Continued support for the establishment and management of the Takitumu Conservation Area Project (CAP) on Rarotonga
- ◆ Ongoing funding support for Takitumu Conservation Area Support Officer
- ◆ Supported a study tour by Takitumu landowners and members of Conservation Area Coordinating Committee to Fiji and Samoa CAPs
- ◆ Funded two participants to the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia, Samoa and the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meeting in Apia, November 1996; funded one government representative to the SPBCP Multipartite Review
 - Meeting in Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
- ◆ Funded two participants to the Ecotourism Workshop in Kosrae, FSM, July 1997
- ◆ Provided an Australian Volunteer Abroad (AVA) to assist Takitumu community in management of their CAP
- ◆ Continued support for the rat eradication programme
- ◆ Funded participant to Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported crown-of-thorns clean-up by reef user community
- ◆ Provided support for educational reef flat walks
- ◆ Provided training of government nominated private sector tourist operator in whale watching tourism at Whale Watching Operator and Guides Training Workshop, August 1996 Vava'u Tonga
- ◆ Funded two participants to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Cook Islands delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session

- ◆ Trained Conservation Department staff in library software and library management skills and provided computer and software for Conservation Department library
- ◆ Commenced United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) project Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals
- ◆ Provided assistance to establish aluminium cans recycling project undertaken by Catholic Church
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) in Cook Islands.
- ◆ Trained three people (surveyor, hydrologist and meteorologist) at National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia, under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP)
- ◆ Provided technical presentation and display on SPSL&CMP to senior Government Ministers and officials of the Cook Islands and South Pacific Forum Island leaders during the Forum meeting in Rarotonga
- ◆ Followed up establishment of the State of the Environment (SoE) database with the Environment Department
- ◆ Finalised study on Land Resource Inventory and Geographical Information System (GIS) coverages for the island of Atiu
- ◆ Assisted with provision of equipment (hard/software) to the Meteorological Service. Trained Meteorological Service staff and funded Director's participation at the Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional Meteorological Service Directors in Apia
- ◆ Held the third SPREP Working Group on Climate Change meeting in Rarotonga in May 1997
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Assisted Environmental Education training for NGOs, churches and teachers
- ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funding to Taporoporoanga Ipukarea Society for printing of bilingual Environmental Reader
- ◆ Provided assistance through Capacity 21 for outer islands natural resource monitoring
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning Meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Terminal Multipartite Review Meeting, November 1997
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Development Bank Loans Officers Workshop on Environment and Sustainable Development, Pohnpei, FSM, November 1996



Federated States of Micronesia

- ◆ Continued financial and technical support for the Pohnpei Watershed Management Project under the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP)
- ◆ Funded three participants to the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia and SPBCP Multipartite Review Meeting, Apia, November 1996
- ◆ Ongoing funding support for the Conservation Area Support Officers at Pohnpei and Utwa-walung CAPs; continued funding and technical support for establishment and management of Utwa-Walung CAP
- ◆ Provided partial support for US volunteer to assist development of Utwa-Walung CAP
- ◆ Conducted a sub-regional training workshop on ecotourism in Kosrae in July 1997
- ◆ Funded one participant to the SPBCP Multipartite Review Meeting in Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
- ◆ Funded resource surveys in Pohnpei Watershed Management project

- ◆ Conducted first phase of the SPREP/Australian Initiative for Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Coastal Management
- ◆ Conducted a sub-regional (Micronesia) training workshop on Utilising the Geographical Information System (GIS) for Population and Coastal Zone Management at Community College of Micronesia, Pohnpei
- ◆ Funded participants to Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported poster and slogan competition, school colouring competition, and public awareness workshops in relation to PYOCR
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to FSM delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Funded wide participation of FSM government and non-governmental organisation (NGO) delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Conducted assessment on need for National Environmental Resource Centre (proposal with FSM)
- ◆ Provided assistance to lagoon water quality monitoring project in Chuuk
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) in FSM; Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by President, PICCAP coordinator appointed, country team nominations submitted
- ◆ Provided three weeks' training for two people (meteorologist and climate change officer) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at National Tidal Facility, Flinders University, Australia
- ◆ Raised awareness of climate vulnerability assessment and climate change in Pohnpei within government and with the island communities. Identified potential people to carry out climate change projects in FSM outer islands
- ◆ Invited three FSM participants (government/schools/private) to confidence-building in climate change issues and adaptation planning, at Kiribati
- ◆ Conducted a training workshop on Utilising the Geographical Information System (GIS) for Population and Coastal Zone Management for the Micronesian sub-region: FSM, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau
- ◆ Revised GIS layer for FSM that came out of the Watershed Management Project. This data set is now available for use upon approval from FSM
- ◆ Provided low-resolution satellite equipment to the FSM Weather Service. On-site equipment installation and staff training provided by consultant
- ◆ Conducted assessment of possible need for an environmental resource centre
- ◆ Convened the Capacity 21 FSM National Workshop on Sustainable Development and Planning
- ◆ Held the Capacity 21 sub-regional training workshop for Development Bank Loans Officers, on Environment and Sustainable Development and funded extensive FSM State participation
- ◆ Convened a meeting with the Yap branch of the FSM Development Bank and the Yap Business Forum to outline the proceedings and contents of the Capacity 21 Development Bank Loans Officers Workshop
- ◆ Provided salary and technical support for Capacity 21 Programme Officer (Micronesia)
- ◆ Provided assistance to Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap States for Capacity 21 Sustainable Development community awareness raising activities (including poster, essay competitions)
- ◆ Provided Australian Volunteer Abroad (AVA) technical support to Yap State in conjunction with Australian Overseas Service Bureau
- ◆ Provided assistance for Yap State Outer Islands Water Quality Workshops under Small Grants Scheme
- ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funds to Marine and Environmental research institute, Pohnpei, for community-based water quality monitoring in Pohnpei State

- ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funds to Yap State for production of an environmental education video
- ◆ Funded four participants (State and National) to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning Meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Fiji

- ◆ Continued financial and technical support for the Koroyanitu Conservation Area Project (CAP) in Western Viti Levu and funding support for the Koroyanitu Conservation Area Support Officer
- ◆ Funded one participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia, 1996
- ◆ Supported vegetation survey of Koroyanitu CAP
- ◆ Supported study tour by Koroyanitu landowners to Vanuatu
- ◆ Supported participant from Native Lands Trust Board (NLTB) to Heads of Forestry meeting in Vanuatu
- ◆ Funded travel cost of Suva-based participant to the SPBCP Multipartite Review Meeting in November 1997
- ◆ Funded two participants to the Ecotourism Workshop in Kosrae in July 1997
- ◆ Funded a participant to attend a course on Integrated Coastal Management in the Netherlands
- ◆ Supported workshop on community-based management of marine reserves
- ◆ Met costs of local participants attending Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported a one-day Coral Reef Awareness Workshop for Great Council of Chiefs
- ◆ Supported a Schools oratory competition and debate on coral reef conservation
- ◆ Provided training of private sector tourist operator at Whale Watching Operator and Guides Training Workshop, held at Vava'u Tonga in August 1996
- ◆ Funded participatory development and implementation of Fiji's Sea Turtle Conservation Strategy, including provision of technical advice
- ◆ Worked with Fijian government and non-governmental organisation (NGO) members of Turtle Working Group to extend the moratorium on commercial harvest of turtles
- ◆ Funded Koro and Udu turtle foraging ground assessments by the Ministry of Fisheries
- ◆ Trained Ministry of Fisheries Turtle Officer in turtle survey and assessment techniques, in partnership with Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Fiji delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Funded Fiji government and NGO delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Trained Department of Environment staff in use of library software, and library management skills
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Commenced United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals project
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) in Fiji.
- ◆ Completed Phase IV of Vulnerability Assessment and Integrated Coastal Management Study in Fiji islands, SPREP/Japan-funded project

- ◆ Funded three-week training attachment for three people (meteorologist, environmentalist and surveyor) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP), at the National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Provided ongoing support to Fiji Meteorological Service through joint regional meteorological/ climate projects
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development in Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Provided Small Grant Scheme funds to a USP assisted study on community utilisation of mangrove resources



French Polynesia

- ◆ Funded participation of two staff (Director and Deputy Director) from Meteorological Service in Papeete, to attend the Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional Meteorological Service Directors in Apia, and the Third SPREP Working Group on Climate Change Meeting, held in Rarotonga



Guam

- ◆ Funded participant to Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported a Coral Reef Monitoring and Research workshop
- ◆ Supported the development of a Coral Reef policy
- ◆ Funded Guam delegate to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Invited one participant to act as resource person at a sub-regional training workshop on Utilising the Geographical Information System (GIS) for Population and Coastal Zone Management, held in Pohnpei, FSM
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996



Kiribati

- ◆ Continued technical and financial support for the North Tarawa Marine Conservation Area (CAP), and funding support for the Conservation Area Support Officer
- ◆ Provided financial support for the development of the Cook Islet Conservation Area on Christmas (Kiritimati) Island
- ◆ Supported the participation of government officials at South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Supported the participation of government official at South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meeting, November 1997
- ◆ Conducted first and second phases of the SPREP/Australian Initiative for Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation for Atoll Nations
- ◆ Funded participant to Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting in Nadi, Fiji, July 1996
- ◆ Supported coral bleaching survey
- ◆ Supported string band and poster design competition in relation to PYOCR campaign
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice to Kiribati delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Provided follow-up advice to meet country requests on these international agreements
- ◆ Funded Kiribati delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided training on library software and library management skills and provided computer equipment and software for Ministry of Environment and Social Development (MESD) library
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Commenced United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals project
- ◆ Provided assistance to Kiribati Environmental Education project undertaken by the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP). Coordinator appointed, country team established, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Minister
- ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (meteorologist, surveyor, environmental planner) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at the National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Installed real-time displays giving the Kiribati Meteorological Services instantaneous readings of oceanographic and meteorological equipment, under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP)
- ◆ Negotiated with the government on setting up the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) project in Christmas (Kiritimati) Island
- ◆ Funded two participants to attend a sub-regional training workshop on Utilising the Geographical Information System (GIS) for Population and Coastal Zone Management
- ◆ Revised GIS database for Kiribati and added more information layers for Tarawa
- ◆ Provided funding for meteorological service staff and environmental staff to attend SPREP meteorological service meetings (the Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional

- ◆ Meteorological Service Directors in Apia and the Third Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Meeting in Noumea)
- ◆ US DoE Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) project funded
- ◆ Consulted Government on location of next ARM Cloud Atmosphere Radiation Testbed (CART)
- ◆ Commissioned a local consultant to review the Kiribati Extension Service training activities under Capacity 21
- ◆ Held two Capacity 21 training workshops on sustainable development for the Marine Resources Extension Service and Agriculture Extension Service
- ◆ Assisted, through Capacity 21 and in collaboration with UNEP, the development of the Kiribati Environment Bill and associated public meetings including Parliamentary Briefing Sessions
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Terminal Multipartite Review Meeting, Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
- ◆ Funded Development Bank representative to sub-regional Development Bank Workshop on Environment and Sustainable Development in Pohnpei, FSM, October 1996
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996



Marshall Islands

- ◆ Provided financial and technical support for the development of the Jaluit Atoll Conservation Area
- ◆ Supported government participant at South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Supported government participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meeting held in Apia in November 1996
- ◆ Conducted first phase and a phase three project of the SPREP/ Australian Initiative for Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Assessment and Adaptation for Atoll Nations
- ◆ Assisted with the inauguration of the three-year UNDP-funded Majuro Coastal Zone Management Project
- ◆ Funded a participant to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting in Nadi, Fiji, July 1996
- ◆ Supported the Coral Reef Clean-Up by diving clubs
- ◆ Supported the Battle of the Bands in relation to PYOCR
- ◆ Supported the production of public displays on coral reefs
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Marshall Islands delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Funded Marshall Islands delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided computer equipment and software for Republic of the Marshall Islands Environment Protection Agency (RMIEPA) library and trained EPA staff in library software and library management skills
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP), appointed coordinator and country team

- ◆ Provided three weeks' training attachment for three people (coastal planner, surveyor, meteorologist) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at the National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Installed real-time display under SPSL&CMP to connect RMI Weather Services office with instantaneous readings from instruments monitoring sea-level trends, tides and meteorological parameters
- ◆ Organised a training programme for coastal managers for atoll states of Kiribati, RMI, FSM and Tuvalu to plan for climate change impacts and development issues. Funded by SPREP/DEST (Australia)
- ◆ Funded participation of RMI Weather Services director at Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional Meteorological Service Directors
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Financially supported, in collaboration with Australia's Overseas Service Bureau (OSB) an Australian Volunteer Abroad (AVA) attached to the RMIEPA
- ◆ Funded a participant to the Capacity 21 Development Bank Loans Officers workshop on Environment and Sustainable Development in Pohnpei, FSM, November 1996
- ◆ Funded a participant to the Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Produced Environmental Education curriculum material in association with Education Department
- ◆ Ran Environmental Awareness workshop for NGOs and churches, October/November 1996



Nauru

- ◆ Supported government participant to attend the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Supported government participant to attend the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meeting in Nadi, Fiji (November 1997)
- ◆ Supported a Coral Reef Workshop
- ◆ Supported art and essay competitions on coral reefs
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Nauru delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Funded Nauru delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Funded assistance for the development of national marine environmental legislation
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP)
- ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (coastal manager, surveyor, meteorologist) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at National Tidal Facility, Flinders University, Australia
- ◆ Installed real-time display under SPSL&CMP to connect designated weather office with instantaneous readings from instruments monitoring sea-level trends, tides and meteorological parameters

- ◆ Compiled a Geographical Information System (GIS) database for Nauru, including conservation area, landuse, roads, airport, reef
- ◆ US DoE Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) Cloud Atmosphere Radiation Testbed (CART) established
- ◆ ARM project funded training of two people in meteorological observation
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Financially supported participant at Capacity 21 Terminal Multipartite Review meeting, Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
- ◆ Financially supported production of Nauru State of the Environment Report



New Caledonia

- ◆ SPREP/ORSTOM (L' Institut Français de Recherche Scientifique pour le Développement en Coopération) coordinated and ran the SPREP Third Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise Conference in Noumea. All SPREP member countries invited. France/Australia/ US the main sponsors for this meeting
- ◆ El Niño project between SPREP and ORSTOM for 1997/1998 tracking migratory fish movements in El Nino years
- ◆ Funded participation of Director of Meteorological Service at Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional Meteorological Service Directors in Apia
- ◆ Assisted Director of Meteorological Service to the People's Republic of China Study Tour (organised jointly by the People's Republic of China, SPREP and World Meteorological Organization (WMO))



Niue

- ◆ Continued financial and technical support for the Huvalu Forest Conservation Area
- ◆ Conducted a forest survey of the Huvalu Conservation Area Project (CAP)
- ◆ Funding support for the Huvalu Conservation Area Support Officer
- ◆ Provided financial support for the coconut crab resource survey at Huvalu CAP
- ◆ Funded a participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Project (SPBCP) Project
- ◆ Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Supported government participant to attend the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa (November 1996) and Nadi, Fiji (November 1997)
- ◆ Funded a participant to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported coral reef campaign activities including coral reef stamp production, national logo
- ◆ competition, exhibitions at village shows, and float competitions
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Niue delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on

Climate Change: and the UN General Assembly Special Session

- ◆ Provided training of government nominated private sector tourist operator in whale watching tourism at Whale Watching Operator and Guides Training Workshop, August 1996 Vava'u Tonga
- ◆ Funded and provided technical support for a Guide to Niue's Birds and an assessment of peka, rats and avifauna issues
- ◆ Funded Niue's delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided environmental information through library requests
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation

in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific

- ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (meteorologist, hydrologist, telecommunications specialist) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at the National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Consultation and assessment of the State of the Environment (SoE) database. Set-up and installation of SoE database with the Environment Department
- ◆ Provided low-resolution satellite equipment to Meteorological Service. On-site training of meteorological service staff undertaken

- ◆ Funded and organised participation of the Meteorological Service Director in various technical and training meetings (joint efforts with World Meteorological Organisation (WMO))
- ◆ Provided Small Grant Scheme funds for Department of Community Affairs for World Environment Day activities June 1997
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Northern Mariana Islands

- ◆ Supported a public murals, bus shelters murals and rubbish bin painting competition, and library exhibits as part of the national campaign on coral reefs
- ◆ Supported a Coral Reef Monitoring and Research Workshop
- ◆ Funded Northern Mariana's delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Conducted sub-regional workshop in Saipan to train trainers in EIA techniques



Palau

- ◆ Continued financial and technical support for the management of the Ngeremduu Bay Conservation Area with the Bureau of Natural Resources and Development, and ongoing funding for the Ngeremeduu CA Support Officer
- ◆ Provided financial support for the development of the Rock Island Conservation Area proposal with the Palau Conservation Society
- ◆ Funded a participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project
- ◆ Supported government participant to attend the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia.
- ◆ Supported government participant to attend the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite

Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa (November 1996) and Nadi, Fiji (November 1997)

- ◆ Funded and organised workshop on Coral Reef Survey and Monitoring Methods with the Australian Institute of Marine Science and the Palau Bureau of Natural Resources and Development.
- ◆ Funded a government participant to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Funded essay and poster contest, travelling theatre (skits) and coral outreach programmes as part of the PYOCR national campaign
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and financial assistance to Palau delegations attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session

- ◆ Funded and provided technical advice to Palau Conservation Society's 1997 Dugong Conservation Campaign
- ◆ Funded Palau's delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM).
- ◆ Funded two participants to attend a Micronesian sub-regional workshop on Utilising the Geographical Information System (GIS) for Population and Coastal Zone Management held in Pohnpei, FSM
- ◆ Funded participation of Officer-in-Charge of Bureau of Weather Services to Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional Meteorological Service Directors in Apia

- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Financially assisted, in collaboration with Australia's Overseas Service Bureau, the placement of an Australian Volunteer Abroad (AVA) in the Bureau of Natural Resources and Development
- ◆ Attached to SPREP as a trainee under SPREP's NZODA-funded Country Attachment Scheme, an officer from the Palau Environmental Quality Protection Board (EQPB)
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Papua New Guinea

- ◆ Supported the development of a Marine Awareness and Education resource kit for schools
- ◆ Supported a Coral Reef Monitoring and Survey Techniques training workshop
- ◆ Funded participants to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Supported an underwater photo competition
- ◆ Encouraged involvement of PNG Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project Officer in South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review meeting
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to PNG delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Provided follow-up advice to meet country requests on these international agreements
- ◆ Funded PNG's delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic

Action Programme for
International Waters in the Pacific

- ◆ Trained three people for three weeks (meteorologist, hydrologist and environmental planner) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at the National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Officially opened the first Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) project in the Pacific in Manus, PNG
- ◆ Installed real-time display under SPSL&CMP to connect National Weather Service office with instantaneous readings from instruments monitoring sea-level trends, tides and meteorological parameters
- ◆ Consulted on a UNDP/Government of Papua New Guinea programme undertaking the same activities as those carried out under the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP)
- ◆ Provided low-resolution satellite equipment to National Weather Service, Port Moresby
- ◆ Ongoing technical and financial support to National Weather Service, Manus (ARM project) including training
- ◆ Funded participation of Director of National Weather Service to various technical/familiarisation meetings/tours (eg China tour last year)
- ◆ Ongoing support to existing World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)/SPREP projects to strengthen National Weather Service
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996



Samoa

- ◆ Ongoing financial and technical support for the Saanapu/Sataoa Conservation Area Project
- ◆ Ongoing financial and technical support for the Uafato Conservation Area Project
- ◆ Ongoing funding support for Conservation Area Support Officers for Saanapu/Sataoa and Uafato CAPs
- ◆ Support for the local celebrations of World Biodiversity Day in 1997.
- ◆ Conducted mangrove crab survey at Saanapu/Sataoa Conservation Area Project (CAP).
- ◆ Conducted ifilele (*Instia bijuga*) survey at Uafato CAP.
- ◆ Financial support for the construction of a water supply system for the Uafato village under the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP).
- ◆ Provided training for conservation officers during the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia.
- ◆ Provided training for local communities in sustainable agriculture and fisheries practices.
- ◆ Funded participants to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa 1996 and Nadi, Fiji, 1997
- ◆ Funded a participant to attend the Pacific Basin Coastal Management Conference in American Samoa.
- ◆ Provided support for National Schools Quiz competition on TV, Coral Caravan (a travelling library), site visits by schools to degraded coral reef sites and pristine areas as part of the national campaign for coral reef conservation.
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Samoa's delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Provided funding and technical advice for Visitor's Bureau/ Department of Environment and

- Conservation (DEC)'s Auala village turtle conservation project (1996).
- ◆ Provided technical advice for Samoa's International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)/ World Bank Marine Protected Area Proposal development (1997).
 - ◆ Funded Samoa's delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
 - ◆ Organised UNEP-funded assistance for the drafting of a new Environment Bill
 - ◆ Provided training in library software and library skills for Environment Unit staff
 - ◆ Ongoing assistance in cataloguing DEC library
 - ◆ Information provision through library requests from DEC, schools.
 - ◆ Provided several school briefings on SPREP projects and general environmental awareness
 - ◆ Convened a sub-regional workshop in Apia to train trainers in EIA techniques
 - ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
 - ◆ Began United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) project: Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals
 - ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP)
 - ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (surveyor, meteorologist, geoscientist) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
 - ◆ Organised a Regional Teachers' Curriculum Workshop for Forum countries, to develop curriculum modules for high schools to deal with climate change and sea level rise under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP)
 - ◆ Assisted in the formulation of a framework for the development of environment statistics, funded by Asian Development Bank
 - ◆ General support for the State of the Environment (SoE) database housed in the Statistics Department
 - ◆ Provision of backup support and maintenance for low-resolution satellite equipment
 - ◆ Organised and purchased computers for the Apia Observatory (joint SPREP/World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) project)
 - ◆ Assisted Director of Apia Observatory to participate at various technical meetings
 - ◆ National Weather Service/SPREP jointly hosted Fourth SPREP Meeting of Regional Meteorological Service Directors in Apia
 - ◆ Convened the Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning Meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, June 1996
 - ◆ Convened Samoan National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS) Task Force Policy Development Committee meetings to finalise the draft policies on Land Use, Water, Population and Waste Management, under Capacity 21
 - ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Development Bank Loans Officers workshop on Environment and Sustainable Development, Pohnpei, FSM, November 1996
 - ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funding to Alafua Methodist Youth Group for an Independence Day float with an environmental theme, June, 1997
 - ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funding to Western Samoa Teachers' College relating to SPREP/Samoa Environmental Education collaboration reflected in the Commemorative Album of Education, March 1997
 - ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funding to Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries and Meteorology for environmental awareness display at Samoa's Agriculture Show, August 1997
 - ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Terminal Multipartite Review meeting, Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
 - ◆ Organised schools murals competition on environmental theme, during Samoa Environment Week 1997
 - ◆ In association with O le Siosiomaga Society, produced the Samoan Glossary of Environmental Terms
 - ◆ Arranged regular briefings on environmental issues for Samoan media



Solomon Islands

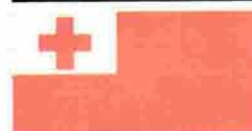
- ◆ Ongoing financial and technical support for the Komarindi Conservation Area Project (CAP)
- ◆ Ongoing financial and technical support for the Arnavon Marine Conservation Area Project (CAP)
- ◆ Ongoing funding support for the Conservation Area Support Officer, Arnavon
- ◆ Funded study tour by Arnavon Conservation Area Coordinating Committee members to Vanuatu
- ◆ Supported a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) workshop for local communities and conservation officials
- ◆ Supported participation of four officials to Ecotourism Workshop in Kosrae
- ◆ Supported participation of two conservation area officers at Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Funded the participation of a government official to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa, November 1996 and Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
- ◆ Funded a training attachment by the Komarindi conservation officer to Queensland Australia
- ◆ Funded participants to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning workshop
- ◆ Supported monthly talkback shows on radio, coral reef quiz, and national essay competition as part of coral reef campaign
- ◆ Produced a video of the Arnavon CAP
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Solomon Islands delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Specifically resourced Solomon Islands to attend CITES Tenth Conference of the Parties in Africa (June 1997) to assess benefits of joining this convention
- ◆ Continued to fund and support turtle conservation and monitoring in the Arnavon Marine Conservation Area (1996)
- ◆ Funded government and NGO delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided information for coral reef campaign, through library requests
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Began United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) project: Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP)
- ◆ Trained three people for three weeks (teacher, meteorologist, oceanographer) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Installed real-time display under SPSL&CMP to connect Meteorological Service office with instantaneous readings from instruments monitoring sea-level trends, tides and meteorological parameters
- ◆ Consulted on the SoE Database. Assessment report put together. Installed and set up database with the Environment Department
- ◆ Funded participation of Meteorological Service staff in various meetings and trainings (World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), SPREP, etc)
- ◆ Provided ongoing support for equipment and telecom links at Meteorological Service
- ◆ Convened Capacity 21 workshops on Community Resource Management in Central Province, Malaita Province and Temotu Province
- ◆ Funded preparation of a series of Traditional Medicine information leaflets under Capacity 21
- ◆ Commissioned a local consultant under Capacity 21 to review the Solomon Islands Extension Service training activities

- ◆ Convened a training workshop for the Solomon Islands Extension Service
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Development Bank Loans Officers workshop on Environment and Sustainable Development, Pohnpei, FSM, November 1996
- ◆ Funded government and NGO participants to the Capacity 21 Terminal Multipartite Review meeting in Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Tokelau

- ◆ Provided ongoing support for equipment and telecom links at National Weather Service
- ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme assistance for improved sanitation through the construction of a pig-pen on Nukunono
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Tonga

- ◆ Continued financial and technical support for the Ha'apai Marine Conservation Area Project (CAP)
- ◆ Conducted a biodiversity survey on part of Ha'apai CAP
- ◆ Provided ongoing support for the Conservation Area Support Officer
- ◆ Produced a community-based Conservation Action Plan for the Ha'apai CAP
- ◆ Funded two participants to the Ecotourism Workshop in Kosrae
- ◆ Funded a participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Funded a government official to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa (November 1996) and Nadi, Fiji (November, 1997)
- ◆ Conducted a sub-regional Train the Trainer Coral Reef Survey and Monitoring workshop in Vava'u
- ◆ Produced a video on the Ha'apai CAP
- ◆ Funded a participant to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Provided support for the production of a slide show on coral reefs and artwork competition as part of PYOCR national campaign
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Tonga's delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Funded Tonga Wildlife Centre's translocation assessment of the malau (threatened megapode species) and associated bird species work
- ◆ Provided training, resources, information and advice, including facilitation of guidelines for tourist operations, for the development of whale watching tourism in Tonga (1996, 1997)
- ◆ Funded Tongan delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected

Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)

- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Began United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) project: Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals
- ◆ Assisted a Tonga Trust Pesticide Awareness project
- ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (surveyor, environmental planner, meteorologist) under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP) at the National Tidal Facility at University of Flinders, Australia
- ◆ Installed real-time display under SPSL&CMP to connect Meteorological Service office with instantaneous readings from instruments monitoring sea-level trends, tides and meteorological parameters
- ◆ Installed low-resolution satellite equipment at Tonga Meteorological Service
- ◆ Consulted on the State of the Environment (SoE) database. Installed and set up database for the Environment Department
- ◆ Provided ongoing technical and training support to Meteorological Service, for example providing maintenance of satellite equipment, assisting staff to participate at SPREP/World Meteorological Organization (WMO) meetings
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme assistance to Environment Department for rubbish removal in mangrove area near Nuku'alofa



Tuvalu

- ◆ Ongoing financial and technical support for the Funafuti Marine Park.
- ◆ Conducted a scuba-diving course for conservation officers and other government officials
- ◆ Supported biodiversity survey of the Funafuti Marine Park.
- ◆ Funded a participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia.
- ◆ Funded two participants to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa (November 1996) and Nadi, Fiji (November 1997)
- ◆ Conducted first phase of the SPREP/Australian Initiative for Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation for Atoll Nations
- ◆ Provided advice and funding to investigate impacts of ship groundings on tropical reefs of Tuvalu.
- ◆ Funded participant to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning workshop.
- ◆ Provided funding support for public awareness workshops, essay and song competitions and radio programmes as part of national campaign for coral reef conservation.
- ◆ Confirmed support for coconut crab survey of Funafuti Conservation Area.
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Tuvalu's delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Funded Tuvalu delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)

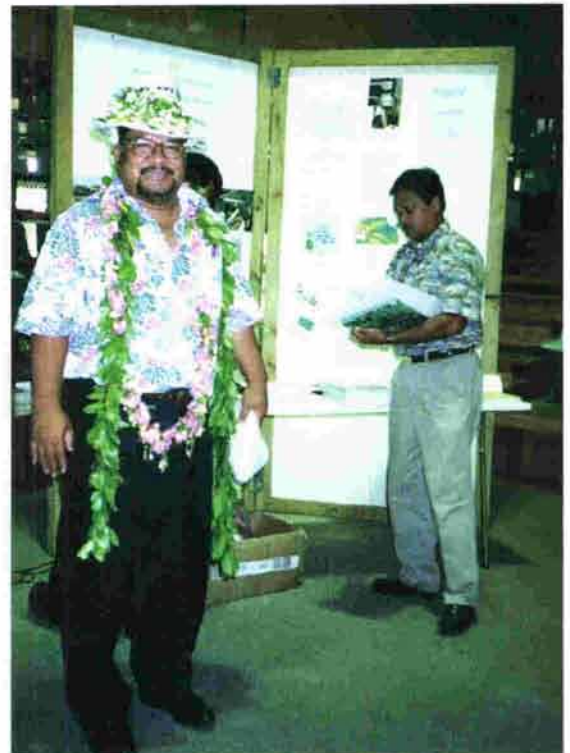
- ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
- ◆ Undertook joint project with South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) to prepare Tuvalu's Solid Waste Management Plan
- ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP). PICCAP coordinator appointed. Country team formed.
- ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (meteorologist, environmental planner, surveyor) at National Tidal Facility, University of Flinders, Australia, under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP)
- ◆ Completed Phase IV of Vulnerability Assessments and Integrated Coastal Management Project (SPREP/Japan funded)
- ◆ Identified resource person from Tuvalu to assist in the development of coastal manager training in Marshall Islands
- ◆ Installed real-time display under SPSL&CMP to connect Meteorological Services office with instantaneous readings from instruments monitoring sea-level trends, tides and meteorological parameters
- ◆ Consulted on the State of the Environment (SoE) database. Designed and set up SoE database for Environment Department
- ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
- ◆ Provided Small Grants Scheme funding for National Environment Week awareness raising activities
- ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Vanuatu

- ◆ Ongoing financial and technical support for the Vatthe Conservation Area Project (CAP) in Santos
- ◆ Financial support for ecotourism development at Vatthe
- ◆ Ongoing funding for Conservation Area Support Officer
- ◆ Funding for marketing and promotion of Vatthe CAP
- ◆ Funded participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in Apia
- ◆ Funded participant to the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) Multipartite Review Meetings in Apia, Samoa (November 1996) and Nadi, Fiji (November 1997)
- ◆ Funded participant to the Ecotourism Workshop in Kosrae
- ◆ Funded participant to the Pacific Year of the Coral Reef (PYOCR) campaign planning meeting
- ◆ Provided financial support for National Coral Reef campaign activities such as a travelling play about coral reefs, a poster competition on the problems of reef litter, and coral reef exhibits
- ◆ Reproduced Big Bay CA video
- ◆ Provided technical and policy advice and follow-up assistance to Vanuatu's delegation attending international environment negotiations and meetings such as: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention); Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); the World Heritage Convention; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and the UN General Assembly Special Session
- ◆ Funded Vanuatu's CITES awareness and information project (1997)
- ◆ Funded and provided technical and training support for Wan Smolbag Theatre and Ministry of Fisheries village-based turtle conservation initiative (1996, 1997)
- ◆ Funded Vanuatu's delegates to the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (September 1997, Pohnpei, FSM)
- ◆ Provided computer equipment and software for Environment Unit

- library and trained Environment Unit staff in library software and library skills
- ◆ Assisted and provided information on various environmental issues, through library requests
 - ◆ Provided assistance to coordinate national input for and participation in the development of a Strategic Action Programme for International Waters in the Pacific
 - ◆ Undertook United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) project Preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals
 - ◆ Established Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP). Formed National Climate Change Committee
 - ◆ Provided three weeks' training for three people (surveyor, meteorologist, oceanographer) at National Tidal Facility at Flinders University in Australia, under the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (SPSL&CMP)
 - ◆ Supported the formulation for the Statistics Department of a Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics project funded by Asia Development Bank (Regional Environmental Technical Assistance (Reta 5555) project)
 - ◆ Consulted the Environment Department to assess the status of the State of the Environment (SoE) database
 - ◆ Provided low-resolution satellite equipment to the Meteorological Service. Assistance included installation, training and maintenance
- ◆ Funded participation of Meteorological Service staff at SPREP, World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), technical and training meetings
 - ◆ Funded and technically supported the Capacity 21 Programme Officer (Melanesia) to undertake a variety of national capacity building and awareness raising activities on sustainable development
 - ◆ Organised National Environment Week exhibition on sustainable development
 - ◆ Convened two Environmental Education workshops for churches (Port Vila and Espiritu Santo) in August 1996
 - ◆ Convened Environmental Education Media Training and Production workshop, September 1996
 - ◆ Convened Environmental Education Resource Development workshop and produced three posters and school environmental awareness material in Bislama, Port Vila, October 1996
 - ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional Heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
 - ◆ Commissioned a local consultant under Capacity 21, to prepare a sustainable development information package which was translated into Bislama and French
 - ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Development Bank Loans Officers Workshop on Environment and Sustainable Development, Pohnpei, FSM, November 1996
 - ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Regional heads of Planning meeting on Sustainable Development, Apia, Samoa, June 1996
 - ◆ Funded participant to Capacity 21 Terminal Multipartite Review meeting, Nadi, Fiji, November 1997
 - ◆ Supported participation by two officials in a sub-regional workshop to train trainers in EIA techniques



Tuvalu and Nauru have been two of the most outspoken Pacific island countries at international negotiations discussing climate change, and sea-level rise. Here, Prime Minister of Tuvalu, the Hon. Bikenibeu Paeniu inspect SPREP's sea level and climate change project display during the 1997 South Pacific Forum meeting in Rarotonga.

1996/97 Funding and Expenditure

SPREP Funding 1996

A total of USD8,286,732 was available to SPREP during 1996. This included USD2,767,759 in funds carried forward from 1995. Actual funding of USD5,518,973 was received in 1996. Of the total unspent funds of USD2,950,731 in 1996, USD2,788,719 was intended for projects in 1997.

SPREP Funding 1997

A total of USD7,774,286 was available to SPREP in 1997. This included funds of USD2,950,731 carried forward from 1996. Actual funding of USD4,823,555 was received in 1997. Of the total unspent funds of USD1,922,587 in 1997, USD1,760,575 is intended to be spent on projects in 1998.

Funding Sources

Funding for 1996/97

The following table is an overview of the available funding in 1996/97, classified by function.

Function	1996 (USD)	1997 (USD)
Project Implementation	7,231,416	6,713,953
Project Management	305,177	432,633
Primary Function	750,139	627,700
Total	8,286,732	7,774,286

The major source of total funding came from donors including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Canada – South Pacific Ocean Development Program (C-SPOD) and New Zealand Overseas Development Assistance (NZODA).

Member Governments also contributed funds, with other donor funds for specific activities coming from various Govern-

ments and international and regional organisations including the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, Danish Government, European Commission, French Government, Los Alamos National Laboratories, Republic of China (Taiwan), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United States Government, World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

SPREP Expenditure

Total expenditure by the Secretariat, to carry out SPREP's work programme, amounted to USD5,454,812 in 1996 and USD5,933,139 in 1997. The following table provides an overview of this expenditure.

Expenditure in 1996/97

Function	1996 (USD)	1997(USD)
Project Implementation		
<i>Conservation of Natural Resources</i>	1,576,558	2,079,818
<i>Environmental Management and Planning</i>	1,468,876	1,737,396
<i>Environmental Education, Information and Capacity-building</i>	950,880	832,694
<i>Other Project Implementation</i>	446,488	384,268
Total Project Implementation Expenditure	4,442,802	5,034,176
Project Management Expenditure	364,829	389,318
Primary Function Expenditure (Note 1)	647,181	509,645
Total Expenditure	5,454,812	5,933,139

Note 1: Primary function expenditure for 1996 includes USD104,171 expenditures paid for unfunded Project Implementation costs.

Relations with other organisations

Donors

Contributions from international donor organisations are a significant part of SPREP's annual budget, as are contributions from member and non-member governments.

A major contributor is UNDP, which substantially assisted with the institutional strengthening of SPREP in its first years in Apia, through the Planning and Implementation of Pacific Regional Environment Programme. During the same period, UNDP provided similar support through SPREP to environment units of member governments via the National Environmental Management Strategies Project.

Continuing this tradition of support, the Administrator of UNDP and the Director of SPREP signed an agreement for SPREP to implement the Capacity 21 project in Barbados in 1994. The project was established to follow up and implement decisions of the 1992 Earth Summit.

The Global Environment Facility, administered jointly by the World Bank, UNEP and UNDP, co-funds the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme, SPREP's largest single project, with Australia.

Australia and New Zealand as member governments continued to contribute generously towards a wide range of programme activities, as well as making voluntary member contributions towards the Secretariat's operating costs in the Primary Function. Some of the extra-budgetary assistance funded vital programme staff positions. France and the United States also contributed to specific projects.

UNFPA provided assistance to SPREP, funding a project aimed at integrating population and environment issues.

Canada, Japan and Denmark, all non-member Governments, continued to contribute towards projects in coastal management, marine turtle conservation and climate change impacts.

Funding was also received from the Republic of China (Taiwan), the Commonwealth Secretariat through the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, the United Kingdom's Darwin Initiative, the US Department of Energy through the University of California Los Alamos National Laboratories and the World Meteorological Organization.

UNEP continued to support a number of projects within SPREP, including the PENRIC project, which is now into its sixth year. This project provided SPREP with GIS capabilities for environmental assessment. UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific jointly funded a Waste Management workshop in May 1997 and has also contributed in environmental law as well as education initiatives at the tertiary level through NETTLAP.

Collaborating institutions

As well as these donor governments and organisations, many regional and international institutions assist SPREP by providing technical expertise, in-kind contributions or sub-contracting and consultancy arrangements.

SPREP has collaborated with regional institutes and technical agencies for a long time. These include the Universities of the South Pacific, Papua New Guinea, Guam and Hawaii, the Community College of Micronesia, the East-West Center in Honolulu, the Laboratoire d'étude et de surveillance de l'environnement in Tahiti, ORSTOM and the Université Française du Pacifique Sud in Nouméa.

Other collaborative partners include the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, University of Wollongong, James Cook University and the Australian Institute of Marine Science, in Australia, and the University of Auckland and Waikato University in New Zealand.

SPREP works closely with other regional intergovernmental organisations in the South Pacific Organisations Coordinating Committee (SPOCC), including the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) in Noumea and the Forum Secretariat in Suva, as well as the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) in Suva, the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) in Honiara, the Tourism Council of the South Pacific (TCSP) in Suva, and the Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) in Honolulu.

Other collaborating partners are the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), Whales Alive, the Foundation of International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD) and the United States Environment Protection Agency (US EPA).

Through memoranda of understanding, SPREP undertakes joint projects with several international, governmental and non-governmental organisations, including the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in Geneva, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Honolulu, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) in Cambridge, the International Centre for Protected Landscapes (ICPL) in Wales, the Australian Overseas Service Bureau, Canada – South Pacific Ocean Development Program (C-SPOD), the Department of Conservation in New Zealand and the Australian Nature Conservation Agency.

The Secretariats of the World Heritage Convention (WHC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) work closely with SPREP to assist Pacific island countries in implementing these conventions.

Individual Pacific island countries have assisted SPREP's programmes and training by willingly hosting both regional and sub-regional meetings. In addition, many skilled individuals from the region undertake consultancy work for SPREP in specialist areas not readily available in the Secretariat.

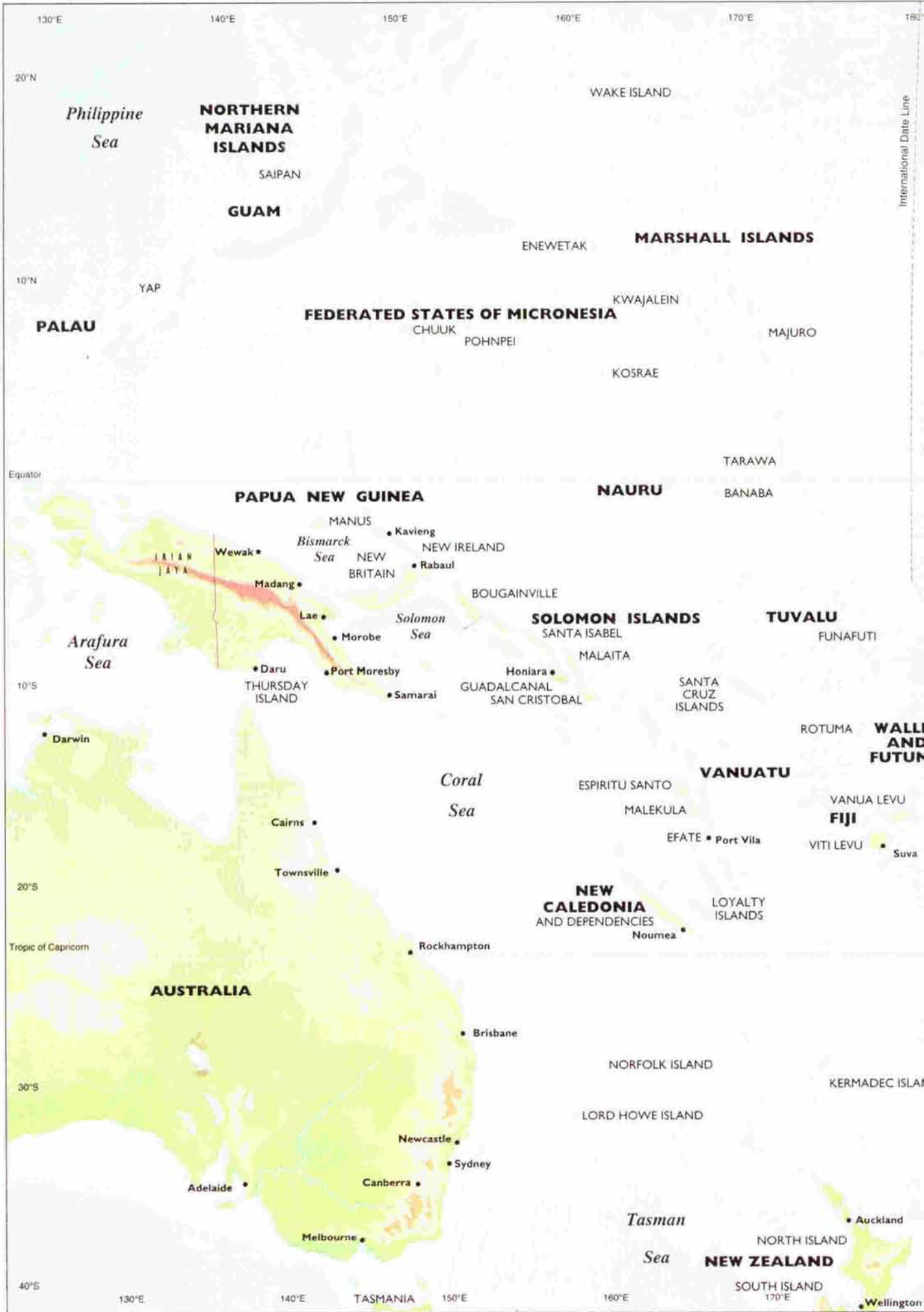
SPREP thanks all its collaborating institutions and consultants for their efforts and assistance during the year.

Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIMS	Australian Institute of Marine Science
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
ARCS	Atmospheric Radiation and Cloud Station
ARM	Atmospheric Radiation Measurement
ASLIS	American Samoa Land Information System
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
AVA	Australian Volunteers Abroad
BCN	Biodiversity Conservation Network
CA	Conservation Area
CACC	Conservation Area Coordinating Committee
CAP	Conservation Area Project
CART	Cloud Atmosphere Radiation Testbed
CASO	Conservation Area Support Officer
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBEMP	Capacity Building for Environmental Management in the Pacific
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CNR	Conservation of Natural Resources Division
COP	Conference of the Parties
C-SPOD	Canada South Pacific Ocean Development Program
DEST	Department of Environment, Sports and Territories (Australia)
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPA	Environment Protection Agency
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EU	European Union
FDES (RETA 5555)	Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics: Regional Environmental Technical Assistance
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility

GIS	Geographical Information System
GPA	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities
HOD	Head of Division
ICPL	International Centre for Protected Landscapes
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCDS	National Centre for Development Studies, Australian National University
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategies
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NLTB	Native Lands Trust Board
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (United States)
NRCP	Natural Resource Conservation Programme
NTF	National Task Force
NWS	National Weather Service
NZODA	New Zealand Official Development Assistance
ORSTOM	L'Institut Français de Recherche Scientifique pour le Développement en Coopération
OSB	Overseas Service Bureau (Australia)
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
PENRIC	Pacific Environment and Natural Resource Information Centre
PICCAP	Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme
PIDP	Pacific Islands Development Program
PINA	Pacific Islands News Association
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PROMO	Pacific Regional Organisations Media Officers
PSDN	Pacific Sustainable Development Networking Programme
PYOOCR	Pacific Year of the Coral Reef campaign
RACP	Regional Avifauna Conservation Programme

RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
RMTCP	Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme
RTF	Regional Task Force
SAP	Strategic Action Plan for International Waters in the Pacific Region
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice
SLIC	SPREP Library and Information Centre
SoE	State of the Environment
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
SPaRCE	Schools of the Pacific area Rainfall Climate Experiment
SPBCP	South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SF	South Pacific Forum
SPOCC	South Pacific Organisations Coordinating Committee
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SPSL&CMP	South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project
TFC	Task Force Coordinator
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP EAP-AP	UNEP's Environmental Assessment Project for Asia and the Pacific
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
USD	United States dollars
USP	University of the South Pacific
VSO	Volunteer Service Overseas (United Kingdom)
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature



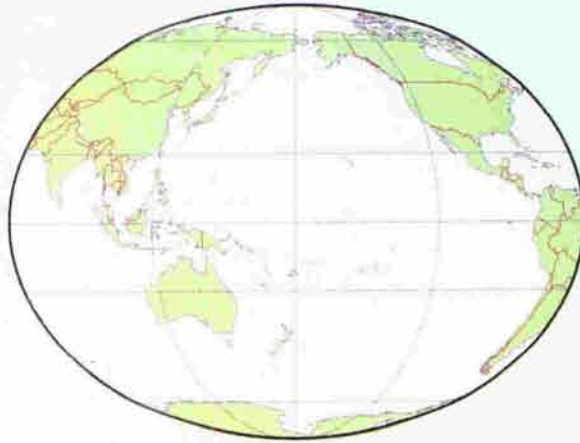
170°W 160°W 150°W 140°W 130°W

Honolulu

HAWAII

JOHNSTON ATOLL

North Pacific Ocean



20°N

10°N

South Pacific Region

LINE

KIRITIMATI

Equator

IRIBATI

HOENIX ISLANDS

ISLANDS

TOKELAU

MARQUESAS ISLANDS

10°S

WESTERN SAMOA

Apia

Pago Pago

AMERICAN SAMOA

TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

COOK ISLANDS

SOCIETY ISLANDS

Papeete

TAHITI

FRENCH

20°S

VA'U

KINGDOM OF TONGA

Nuku'alofa TONGATAPU

NIUE

AITUTAKI

RAROTONGA

POLYNESIA

GAMBIER ISLANDS

Tropic of Capricorn

South Pacific Ocean

AUSTRAL ISLANDS

PITCAIRN

RAPA

30°S



NORTH

0 500 1000 km

Modified Cylindrical Projection
Map drawn by MAPgraphics, Brisbane, 1996

40°S

170°W

160°W

150°W

140°W

130°W



SPREP

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme