



South Pacific Regional Environment Programme



United Nations Development Programme
Global Environment Facility



AUSTRALIAN
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE
BUREAU

**South Pacific
Biodiversity
Conservation
Programme (SPBCP)
RAS/91/G31/E/1G/99**

Project Document

Prepared by SPREP

May 1993
Apia, Western Samoa

A project of the Governments of the South Pacific Islands Region

Copyright ©
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, 1994

The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
authorises the reproduction of this material, whole or in part,
in any form provided appropriate acknowledgement is given.

Original Text: English

Published in November 1994
by:

South Pacific Regional
Environment Programme
P.O. Box 240
Apia, Western Samoa

Printed by:
Commercial Printers
Apia, Western Samoa



P50/94 - 2C

Printed with financial assistance from the
Global Environment Facility.



Layout: Wesley Ward, SPREP

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Global Environment Facility

A Project of the Governments of the Pacific Islands Region

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Title: South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP)
Number: RAS/91/G31/D/IG/99
Duration: Five years
Project Site: Apia, Western Samoa
GEF Administration: UNDP
PPRR: UNDP, Apia
Sector (and Subsector): 200 Natural Resources/Environment (Biodiversity)
Executing Agency: South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Estimated Starting Date: February 1992
GEF Inputs: through UNDP US\$ 10,000,000
Phase I: US\$4,562,215
(including PA)
Phase II: US\$5,437,785
(funds to be released subject to satisfactory review of Phase I)
other sources total includes A\$5m AIDAB co-financing
Regional Input: SPREP US\$ 546,000 (in kind)
Government US\$ 150,000 (in kind)

<i>On behalf of:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>	<i>Name and title:</i>
Executing Agency:		28/4/93	Dr Vili A. Fuavao Director, SPREP
UNDP:		23/4/93	Mr Herbert Behrstock Chief, EAPAC/UNDP RBAP/UNDP

Published in Apia, Western Samoa
November 1994

SPREP
Information

Brief Project Description:

This project intends to protect biological diversity within a number of Pacific Islands by facilitating the establishment of a series of large, diverse Conservation Area Projects or CAPs (terrestrial, marine and combined) in which there are agreed criteria for development based on long-term ecological sustainability. Emphasis is on assisting local partnerships to develop sustainable management structures for biodiversity conservation. Ancillary activities, linked to specific CAPs where possible, include information dissemination, training attachments, species protection and action-oriented conservation policy analysis.

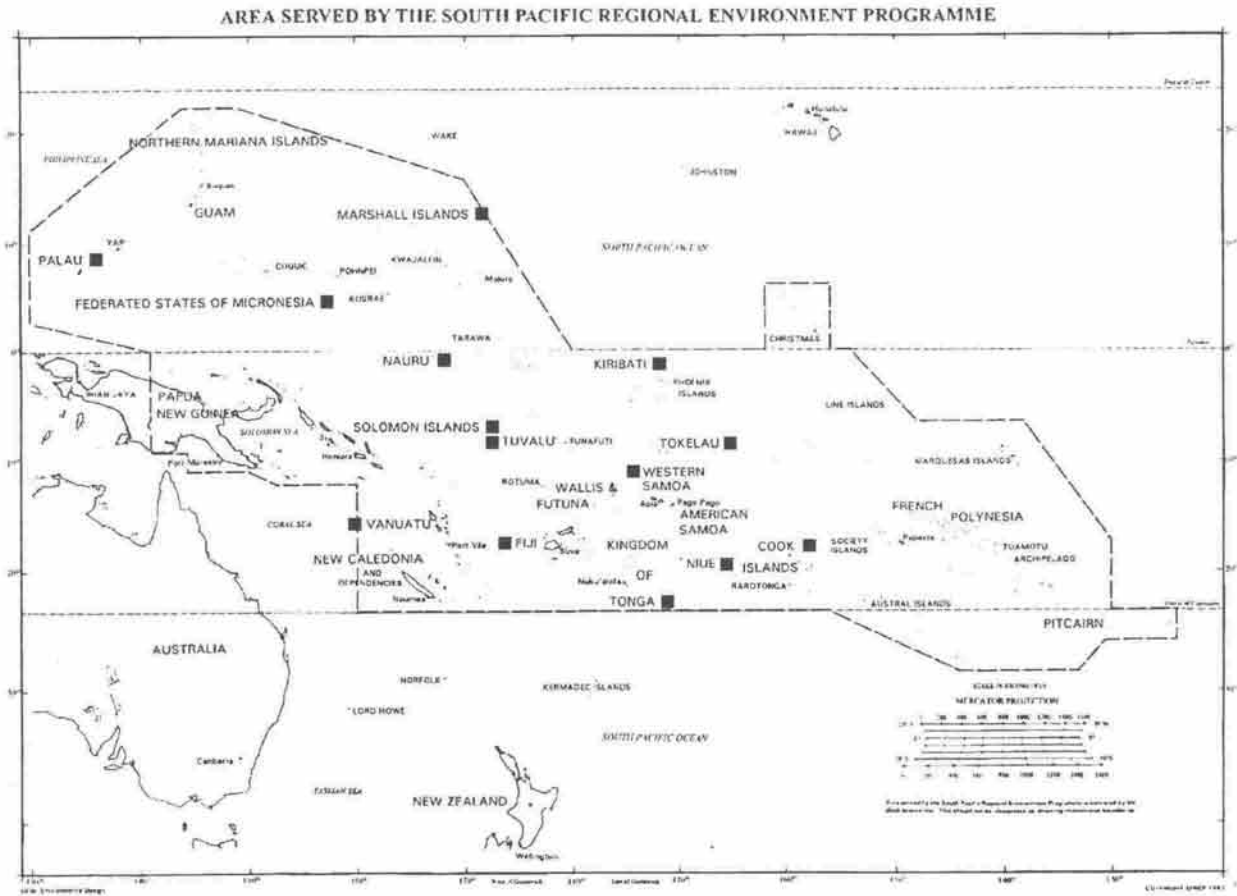
The emphasis is on facilitating local communities, NGOs and government agencies to establish together viable management systems for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. The lead facilitating role for each CAP will be held by an agency of national, provincial or local government, a land-holding group or local community, a local or international conservation NGO, or a consortium of the above. There will be a bias toward facilitating models which achieve concrete outputs and which are likely to be replicable in other areas within the region. These models will have been well tested and documented by the end of the programme.

National coverage of the SPBCP

The following fourteen Pacific Island countries are eligible for direct support from the SPBCP: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Western Samoa. It is hoped that all will participate in and benefit from the project.

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is excluded because it is the recipient of a separate GEF biodiversity allocation. GEF funds will not be used directly to support activities in American Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, the Northern Mariana Islands, Pitcairn, and Wallis and Futuna. However, these SPREP members and PNG can participate in SPBCP activities if financed from other sources or through exchanges of services. The SPBCP will keep informed of the PNG GEF programme, and exchange information and coordinate as appropriate.

Fig 1: Map of the Pacific Islands, and coverage by the SPBCP.



Note:

- Indicates country is directly eligible for support from SPBCP.

Contents

Brief Project Description:.....	iii
The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme: A Summary.....	1
Section A: Context of the Project.....	2
1. Background and descriptions of the subsector	2
2. Host (regional) strategy.....	5
3. Prior and on -going assistance	7
4. Institutional framework for the subsector	11
Section B: Project Justification.....	12
1. The problem to be addressed.....	12
2. The present situation.....	13
3. Expected end-of-project situation	14
4. Target beneficiaries	15
5. Project strategy and institutional arrangements	15
6. Reasons for assistance from the GEF.....	21
7. Special considerations	22
8. Coordination arrangements	23
9. Counterpart support capacity	24
Section C: Development Objective.....	24
Section D: Immediate Objectives, Outputs and Activities	24
1. Immediate Programme Objectives	24
2. Planned Programme Outputs	25
3. Detailed Programme Activities.....	26
4. Criteria for Success.....	29
Section E: Inputs	30
Section F: Risks	32
1. Inadequate access to communally-owned land which would benefit from CA status	32
2. Insufficient support from governments.....	33
3. Insufficient activities within the participating countries	33
4. SPREP may be unable to effectively use the GEF support.....	33
5. The success of the SPBCP may be short term only	33
6. Insufficient or inappropriate biodiversity research and education of prospective biodiversity specialists.....	34

The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme:

A Summary

The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) is a five year endeavour to facilitate identification, establishment and initial management of a series of in-country Conservation Area Projects (CAPs). For the purposes of the SPBCP, a "Conservation Area" is a large, diverse area which contains important features for the conservation of the biological diversity of the region or country, and in which there are agreed criteria for development based, on long-term ecological sustainability.

The proposed Conservation Areas are terrestrial and/or marine resource management schemes incorporating development activities which respect and enhance the natural environment, while providing for the economic well-being of the local resource owners and communities. The distinction from a national park or reserve is the SPBCP's acceptance of the need for communities to continue to use their natural environment for their subsistence and economic well-being.

In most Pacific island countries the ownership of land, natural resources and, in some cases, marine areas, rests with families, clans or villages under a variety of customary tenure systems. Because of this, the intimate involvement of local land and resource owning groups in the planning, establishment and management of Conservation Areas is fundamental to the long-term success of the SPBCP.

While the primary goal of the programme is the conservation of biodiversity, a major focus of each CA project will be improvement of the economic and social well-being of local communities through sustainable development. There will be a range of ancillary or supportive activities related to individual CAs - to support protection of rare or threatened species, improve the local awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation, and develop educational and training activities and materials.

The project's initial efforts will be concentrated on establishing a few model CAs to gain experience in this innovative approach and establish the CA methodologies which will be applied to other CAs.

The SPBCP will use GEF financial support for the following activities:

1. Project management

- (a) Programme Manager for 48 months, to manage the SPBCP overall under the SPREP umbrella; coordinate consultancies, organise support for individual CA projects; support project staff; supervise all reporting;
- (b) two Programme Officers (Conservation Areas) for 45 months: assistance to Programme Manager with technical management of SPBCP and support for CA projects;
- (c) Programme Officer (Species Protection): 50% funding for 48 months: responsible for species protection and other biodiversity work coordination by SPREP.

2. Support to facilitate in -country Conservation Area projects

- (a) CA Project Support Officers (CASO); to work with local groups and government agencies within countries to establish and manage CAPs;
- (b) identification of candidate CA projects and development of country-specific and site-specific strategies for the establishment of CAPs;
- (c) CA coordination groups responsible for local participation and Conservation Area planning, securing endorsement of government and local land-owning groups;
- (d) support for biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource use and community development activities within CAs;
- (e) support for information and education activities to improve awareness and involvement among local communities working on CAPs;

-
- (f) training and workshop activities for Pacific Island nationals working on CA projects.

3. *Regional activities*

- (a) support to establish and maintain databases and organise information, at local CAP, national and regional levels, on biodiversity,

its use and conservation; collaboration with environment and development organisations, and dissemination of SPBCP findings to guide policies and programmes in the region:

- (b) implementation of species protection strategies, particularly for marine mammal, turtles and bird species.

Section A: Context of the Project

1. Background and descriptions¹ of the sub-sector

Background. The limited land and coastal marine areas of South Pacific² island countries are under pressure from growing populations and rising material expectations. The natural resources upon which these countries depend are sensitive to ecological disturbance and are easily degraded. Poor natural resource management and poorly-planned or executed development activities are depleting the limited renewable natural resource base. Increasingly, sustainable resource management is recognised by Pacific islanders as integral to their long-term economic development. To varying degrees, governments have institutionalised their role in environmental planning and management with supporting legislation and regulations, but implementation is often ineffective.

Attempts to protect areas of important biological diversity through nature reserves and parks have generally been unsatisfactory. Alienation of land and resources in protected areas without recognition of or negotiation with, local land and resource owners has led to conflict with the people whose support is essential if such areas are to succeed. Where protected areas have been established, they often encompass too small an area to be ecologically viable over the long term. Furthermore, their management is dependent on continual donor aid which, if terminated and in the absence of local support, results in the effective collapse of the protected area.

Many South Pacific people rely heavily on the biological resources of the natural environment to supplement their subsistence or semi-subsistence lifestyles.

Most of the land, some near shore marine areas and the rights to harvest certain types of resources are held in customary ownership by indigenous people. Government power over land allocation or alienation is restricted in all but a few countries; this severely limits the ability of government to establish areas for the conservation of biodiversity. Conversely, the close participation, commitment and cooperation of local communities and landowning groups is essential if biodiversity conservation objectives are to be realised.

The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) recognises this and will achieve biological diversity conservation goals by facilitating the involvement of local communities, NGOs and government agencies in the establishment and management of a series of Conservation Area Projects which incorporate community development based on the ecologically sustainable use of natural resources.

For the purpose of the SPBCP, biological diversity is defined as "the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems."

¹ This section incorporates material from two reviews carried out for the PA Team: 1) "An Overview of the Terrestrial Biodiversity of Pacific Islands" (David Given, April 1992); and ii) "Marine Biological Diversity in the Central/South Pacific Realm with Emphasis on the Small Island States" (Paul Holthus, SPREP, February 1992).

² "South Pacific" is a term often used for the Pacific Island countries and territories, including those islands north of the Equator. South Pacific, Pacific Island Countries, Oceania and PICs are used interchangeably in this document.

Biodiversity in the Pacific Islands

The Pacific Ocean encompasses one-third of the globe -- as much as the Indian, Atlantic and Arctic Oceans combined -- and is the planet's largest single geographical feature. Globally, the tropics harbour a major proportion of the planet's terrestrial and marine biological diversity. The tropical insular South Pacific region is notable for its high levels of species diversity and endemism and the Pacific islands are thought to contain the world's highest proportion of endemic species³ per unit of land area or human inhabitant. Species diversity is highest on the larger continental high islands of the western Pacific but high levels of endemism occur throughout the region due to the isolated evolution of island species. The region is also home to the most extensive reef systems in the world and to vast and complex marine ecosystems.

Five of the countries participating in the SPBCP are particularly important for their wealth of biodiversity: Fiji, Palau, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia are of particular conservation importance also; the former has a separate, GEF project concerned with establishing a couple of pilot Integrated Conservation and Development schemes (ICADs); the latter is in need of major support for conservation initiatives. New Caledonia is identified as a "critical centre" of species diversity because of its very high levels of plant endemism (79.5% of known flowering plants) and marine biodiversity.

The biological diversity of islands is among the most critically threatened in the world. In the space of a few months, isolated and endemic species can be, and are being, lost through the destruction of habitat or through the introduction of predators and competing alien species. It is estimated⁴ that about 75% of mammal and bird species which have become extinct in recent history were island-dwelling species. The terrestrial biodiversity review commissioned for the SPBCP cites birds "as an outstanding example of depletion resulting from the impact of human actions on Pacific island environments.

Worldwide, the largest number of documented extinctions (28 between 1600 - 1899 and 23 this century) has occurred on islands of Oceania which now has more threatened species (110) than any other." It has been estimated⁵ that there are roughly 7 times more endangered bird species *per capita* in the South Pacific than in the Caribbean, 50 times more than in South America, and a hundred times more than in North America or Africa.

Other island animal and plant taxa also tend to be far more endangered than those which are continental. The result is a relatively large number of endangered (and extinct) species in a region where the scientific and financial resources available to deal with the problems are very limited. These considerations argue for a high priority for biodiversity conservation in the South Pacific.

Virtually all of the islands in the South Pacific region are entirely coastal in character. That is, all parts of the island influence or are influenced by processes and activities occurring on coastal lands and in near shore waters. The damage or destruction of productive coastal resources and fisheries is a universal problem in the region where coral reefs are being destroyed by construction, dredging, pollution, siltation, and dynamiting or poisoning for fish. Mangroves and seagrass beds are often killed and dredged or silted over. Modern boats and fishing techniques combined with increased fishing pressure have driven some coastal species (such as giant clams), dugongs and sea turtles to extinction in local areas, and left others seriously depleted.

The establishment of the 200-mile exclusive economic zones (EEZ) under the Law of the Sea Convention has brought most of the ocean area in the region under national jurisdictions. This however, is accompanied by an enormous responsibility for a small number of people to also manage the biological diversity of these huge ocean areas which are also of international significance. To date, a systematic determination of which aspects of marine biological diversity or which kinds of sites of the habitat which support marine biodiversity of international importance has not been carried out.

³ The source is "Profitable Environmental Protection" (USAID Pacific Islands regional project 879-0023; August 1991).

⁴ McNeely, J. et al, "Conserving the World's Biodiversity" (IUCN, World Resources Institute, Conservation International and World Bank; 1990) page 41.

⁵ Dahl, L. Arthur, "Oceania's Most Pressing Environmental Concerns" (In AMBIO, Volume XIII No. 5-6, 1984, pp. 296-301).

An international panel of marine scientists and conservationists in 1989 selected the "Seven Underwater Wonders of the World"⁶ which included the marine area of Belau (Palau) and had considered nominations for Enewetak Atoll (Marshall Islands), Bismark Sea (PNG) and Truk Lagoon (Federated States of Micronesia). In 1974, an international comparative study of coral reef research sites⁷ selected the following coral reefs areas from the Pacific as important for research: the Caroline Islands (Palau and FSM), the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Fiji and American Samoa. For both of these studies, biological diversity was quantitatively considered and was only one of many selection criteria.

Human Impacts on regional biodiversity

Human colonisation of the Pacific islands has resulted in radical changes to the biodiversity of the region. Pre-European cultures were undoubtedly responsible for the introduction of alien species and the alteration to patterns of biodiversity such as the development of grass and fernlands on drier leeward slopes of some islands. On most islands, however, there seems to have existed a fairly stable pre-European equilibrium which was maintained both by natural regulation of human populations and by less destructive utilisation of the natural resources. The maintenance of the health of the communities was dependent on the maintenance of biodiversity not only in the crops grown but also in the plants and animals available for foraging from the wild.

European colonisation brought rapid changes. The widespread introduction of coconut plantations with the early European contact reduced much of the terrestrial biodiversity of many Pacific islands. Many accidental and intentional introductions of animals and plants have wreaked havoc on indigenous species. The colonisation was based on exploitation at an unprecedented scale of the natural resources-land, forests, fisheries of the Pacific islands. The pattern continues: today the biological resources of the South Pacific are under increasing pressure from rapidly expanding human populations and the effects of resource exploitation and unsustainable development.

Large scale forest logging, commercial agriculture, associated land clearing, and fires have severely modified or destroyed important habitats and ecosystems with a resultant loss of biodiversity. Increasing human populations have meant an intensification of shifting agriculture in many countries and the depletion of marginal forest lands and other habitats. Mining has occurred on a large scale on some islands -- notably New Caledonia and the phosphate - rich islands of Nauru and Banaba where whole ecosystems have been destroyed.

Land degradation associated with the above activities has accelerated soil erosion, leading to the siltation of waterways and near shore marine areas, and degraded freshwater, lagoon and coral reef ecosystems. Inshore marine ecosystems throughout the region have also suffered from dredging for construction materials and there has been widespread damage to mangrove ecosystems from urban development.

The loss of ecosystems and habitats has had a serious impact on individual species. This is exacerbated by the over-harvesting of wildlife and commercially valuable species, especially marine species. For smaller islands, such as the atolls, up to 70% of the indigenous plant species are in danger of extinctions⁸. The species loss which has occurred, and is still occurring, makes action to conserve the remaining biological diversity of the South Pacific region urgent.

Biodiversity and sustainable development

The problem of conserving biological diversity cannot be separated from the larger issues of social and economic development. The people of the South Pacific rely heavily on the living natural resources of their small island countries, including the surrounding ocean, for subsistence and for their economic, social and cultural well-being.

⁶ Anon, 1989. Seven Wonders of the World. In Reef Encounter p. 19 (Newsletter of the International Society of Reef Studies) No. 6.

⁷ Dahl, A.L., I.G. MacIntyre and A. Antonius. 1974. A comparative survey of coral reef research sites, pp 37-120. In Sachet M.H. and A.L. Dahl (eds), Comparative Investigations of Tropical Reef Ecosystems: Background for an Integrated Coral Reef Programme. Atoll Research Bull. 172.

⁸ Thaman, R., "Vegetation of Nauru and the Gilber Islands: Case Studies of Poverty, Degradation, Disturbance, and Displacement" (to be published, Pacific Science, Vol 46, 1992).

The culture of island societies is inextricably linked to the diversity of their natural plant and animal species. This close affinity with the natural environment is reflected in the use of many of the living natural resources for artisanal economic and medicinal purposes: trees alone serve at least twelve distinct ecological functions and have over seventy cultural uses⁹.

The coastal areas of islands in the South Pacific are the location of the vast majority of human habitation, the focus of subsistence and commercial agricultural and fisheries activities and the target of most economic development. This combination of factors is increasingly resulting in coastal habitats and the biological diversity they support being destroyed and degraded. In addition, coastal marine areas of the region now face the threat of sea level rise due to global warming.

These problems are widespread and in some areas urgent, as the potential for sustainable development of coastal areas and resources and the conservation of marine biological diversity is being permanently lost or compromised. The SPBCP offers an opportunity for much of the destruction, degradation, and depletion of coastal habitats, biodiversity and values to be avoided, reduced or mitigated through land and coastal management and planning.

Biodiversity conservation is fundamental to environmentally sustainable development. The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) is designed to promote biodiversity conservation in the Pacific Islands. Although it is clear that population planning and systematic surveys of the biological diversity in the region are important considerations in promoting sustainable development, the SPBCP will focus on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development through the establishment of a number of Conservation Area Projects (CAPs).

Unfortunately, many current development options are not sustainable in the long term because they severely endanger biodiversity, both regionally and locally. Many examples can be found in urban, industrial, agricultural, forestry, fisheries, mining and tourism development. Reasons for the neglect of biodiversity conservation include: 1) lack of

incentives for the conservation of biodiversity as an integral part of the development process; and 2) lack of regional and government commitment to, or infrastructure for the promotion of the conservation of biodiversity. Additional factors include increasing population and increasing poverty (in both cash and subsistence terms) which both place increasing pressures on scarce biological resources and important ecosystems, particularly in rapidly expanding urban areas.

For most Pacific Island societies, biodiversity is not just a matter of scientific, economic, recreational or ecological value. It is a capital inheritance, passed on by past generations to current and future generations, as a basis for "sustainable development". Sustainable development, in this context, is seen as the management or use of this biodiversity inheritance (ecosystems and their component plants and animals) for the sustainable provision of both the subsistence (non-cash) and commercial (cash) needs of Pacific Island countries and their resident communities, while at the same time protecting or enhancing rare, endangered and culturally and economically valuable ecosystems and biodiversity and sustainable resource-use systems for the benefit of future generations.

Biodiversity conservation is, thus, seen as perhaps the most important basis for the development and survival (i.e. sustainability) of Pacific societies.

2. Host (regional) strategy

The governments of South Pacific island states have addressed their environmental management concerns by creating the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP). SPREP was inaugurated in 1982 at the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific held in Rarotonga, the Cook Islands. The conference followed consultations among island governments, the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation (since renamed the Forum Secretariat), the South Pacific Commission (SPC), UNEP and ESCAP.

⁹ Thaman, R. and Clarke W., 1987.

Following a 1990 decision to separate from the SPC, SPREP is in the process of formally establishing itself as an independent regional Intergovernmental Agency working directly on behalf of the twenty-two island governments and administrations of the region. SPREP is recognised regionally and internationally as the key environmental agency of the countries of the Pacific Islands. It is funded from voluntary contributions of member Governments¹⁰ plus contributions from ADB, UNDP and others.

SPREP's 1991 - 1995 Action Plan¹¹, a regional strategy identifying various priorities for environmental assessment, environmental management and law, species protection and protected areas provides the framework for environmentally-sound planning and management for the region. In addition to the broad mandate of the Action Plan, SPREP has a more specific responsibility for the conservation of biodiversity in the region through its role as implementing agency for the "Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific Region"¹² which was endorsed by governments at SPREP's September 1990 Inter-Governmental Meeting.

The Convention on Biological Diversity

At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro (June, 1992), eight Pacific Island States¹³ which are also participants in the SPBCP signed the Convention on Biological Diversity. The fundamental principle of the Convention is that States have the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (Article 3).

Articles 6 and 8 of the Convention include requirements for contracting parties to:

- "develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes..." [Article 6(a)]:

- "establish a system of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity" [Article 8(a)];
- "develop, where necessary, guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity" [Article 8(b)];
- "regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity the apt whether within or outside protected areas, with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use" [Article 8(c)];
- "cooperate in providing financial and other support for in-situ conservation ... particularly to developing countries" [Article 8(m)];
- "promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas with a view to furthering protection of these areas" [Article 8(e)];
- "endeavour to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present use and the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components" [Article 8(i)];
- "... respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with for the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilisation of such knowledge, innovations and practice" [Article 8(j)]; and
- "develop or maintain necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations" [Article 8(k)].

¹⁰ The twenty-two island members are listed in Annex 7. In addition, Australia, France, New Zealand and the USA are members.

¹¹ The "1991-1995 Action Plan for Managing the Environment of the South Pacific Region" was approved in Noumea, New Caledonia, by member governments in July 1991.

¹² This was developed by government officials, SPREP, NGOs, and IUCN during SPREP's Fourth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (Port Vila, Vanuatu, September 1989). It was adopted at the same meeting.

¹³ The following SPBCP member countries are signatories to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Cook Islands, FSM, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme will work within the guidelines and spirit of the Convention, will work with SPREP to encourage other SPBCP participating countries to become signatories and will assist them to comply with the Convention.

Regional Conventions and Strategies

The governments of the South Pacific have negotiated two international conventions which have direct bearing on the conservation of biodiversity. These are the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (known as the Apia Convention) and the Convention Protection of the Natural Resources and the Environment of the South Pacific Region (the SPREP Convention). Both Conventions entered into force¹⁴ in 1990. The former focuses on the protection of biodiversity through the establishment and management of national and regional systems of protected areas whereas the latter addresses the protection of the marine environment and calls for the conservation of marine and terrestrial biodiversity. As the Secretariat for both Conventions and as the implementing agency for the SPBCP, SPREP is in a unique position to ensure that the SPBCP is implemented within the framework of the two Conventions.

The Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the South Pacific is a regional strategy for the promotion of sustainable development and the conservation of biodiversity. The Strategy was prepared by SPREP, IUCN, government officials and non government participants at the Fourth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, held in Port Vila, Vanuatu in 1989. The Strategy was adopted by the conference and subsequently endorsed by the governments of the region at the SPREP IGM in 1990. The Strategy recognises the important role of local landowners and communities in the conservation of biodiversity and seeks to encourage recognition of its importance to Pacific island societies and sustainable economic development based on the region's biodiversity. The SPBCP is consistent with the Action Strategy.

3. Prior and on-going assistance

Summary of Ongoing Environmental Assistance.

A considerable amount of assistance is being provided to Pacific Island countries both directly and through SPREP for a wide range of environmental management and planning activities. Details are provided in Annex 6 and summarised in Table 1, a preliminary overview of the type and magnitude of past, ongoing and planned assistance in this sector.

Overall support for environmental activities within the region from various donors and NGOs has been about \$5 million to SPREP and roughly \$15 million to individual countries and non-SPREP recipients between 1988/89 and 1992. Over \$16 million more, including this programme, is likely to be provided to SPREP within the next few years. While financial support to SPREP is increasing quite substantially, planned new environmental assistance outside of SPREP activities appears to be growing relatively modestly. Annex 8 provides details of assistance which is provided directly to SPREP.

Assistance to Develop the SPBCP Framework: the PFF.

For a number of years, efforts to protect the biological diversity of countries of the South Pacific suffered from the lack of resources. Therefore, the establishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in 1990 and the invitation to SPREP to prepare project proposals for consideration under this Fund was seen as a major breakthrough for the countries of the region in protecting their valuable biodiversity. A project concept document was prepared by SPREP in 1990 and was submitted to the GEF after receiving endorsement by a number of Pacific island countries.

¹⁴ By late 1990, the Apia Convention had been ratified by Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, France and Western Samoa. The SPREP Convention had been ratified by Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Western Samoa.

A "Project Formulation Framework" (PFF) report was developed by UNDP and SPREP for the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme in April 1991. The PFF, essentially a preliminary draft of this document, spelled out the overall approach of the SPBCP, the level of funding, likely GEF and other inputs, and a range of possible activities. The PFF was considered by representatives of Pacific Island governments, NGOs and academics/scientists during a "Workshop on the Conservation of Biodiversity" held in Port Vila, Vanuatu in October 1991 to introduce the SPBCP. See Annex 11.

Participants at the Port Vila meeting expressed concern about the following aspects of the PFF:

- the concept of conservation area should be clearly defined;
- financial arrangements should allow rapid disbursement of funds;
- implementation strategies need to be carefully considered for such a complex programme;
- the lack of expertise and staff numbers within the region to implement in-country activities should be adequately considered;
- the lengthy negotiations required to establish a conservation area should be clearly understood in activity design and timing;
- the programme needs to focus on long term management and maintenance of conservation areas;
- there may be some opposition by some governments to the use of NGOs operating at the local level;
- the programme should place (economic) resource values on the Conservation Areas; and
- there is a need to work with land-owning groups to develop sustainable development practices.

This document develops the basic ideas of the PFF while addressing the points expressed by the government representatives who endorsed the concept.

The process developing national environmental management strategies

SPREP is strengthening environmental legislation and policy frameworks in the Pacific Island countries through the development of national environmental management strategies through ADB support (RETA) in five countries and UNDP/AIDAB support in seven (NEMS). The twelve assessments - with differing procedures and designations in each country, are to be completed during 1993. Based on "State of the Environment", legislative, policy, and educational reviews in each country, they will identify institutional areas that need strengthening.

The NEMS/RETA process, and similar exercises in Fiji (ADB-funded), Tokelau (UNV through UNDP) and Vanuatu (Canadian and AIDAB-funded), are establishing working dialogues among concerned parties in each country (Government officials, NGOs, local communities and local land-owning groups), to establish national consensus regarding sustainable development practices.

National environmental strategies and detailed implementation plans are expected to be adopted by each country. The RETA/NEMS efforts are being supported through in-country training of relevant Government natural resource managers and provide a context for more specific action-oriented biodiversity initiatives. Each NEMS/RETA report will contain statements of principle dealing with biodiversity conservation issues, relevant draft legislation, and recommendations for specific biodiversity activities.

Legal framework

RETA/NEMS consultancies and other studies underway during 1992 are reviewing the legal frameworks for environmental planning and management in a dozen Pacific Island countries. To complement these efforts, for the SPBCP an assessment of legal and institutional options for managing Conservation Areas has been undertaken during the PA phase. See Annex 12.

Table 1- Estimated Regional Environmental Assistance: US\$ millions

Source	Direct to SPREP		Other than SPREP		Comments
	1989 - 92	1993 - 96	1989 - 92	1993 - 96	
ADB	1.2	0.3	0.8		
AIDAB	1.5	1.5	6.0	3.5	approx. incl. sea level and climate change
Canada	0.7	0.1	2.6		future C-SPOD funding uncertain
CFTC	0.1	0.2			meteorologist (tentative)
EC		5.0			Excl. "Ecology in Dev Countries, PNG, SI
ESCAP			0.5		mainly meetings
France		0.2			SPREP legal officer (3 years)
GEF		10.0		0.6	\$0.6m, IOI marine
Greenpeace		0.2			mostly SPREP ECO
GTZ			2.0		
IUCN	0.1		0.1		
MacArthur Fn			0.8	0.2	approximate
NZ	0.5	1.0	0.5		
ODA	0.1		0.2	0.1	UNV for SPACHEE
SSCN			0.2		excludes contributions to local WS communities
TNC			0.5		
UNDP	0.3	1.7			\$2.5m for PMI project; \$0.4m in new funds
UNEP	1.0		0.5	0.2	estimated
UNFPA		1.0			human population related
USAID				4.2	PEP \$2.7m; eco-forestry \$1.5m
USDOJ			0.3		mainly Micronesia
WWF	0.1		0.5	2.0	
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1		EWC
Totals	5.3	19.3	15.5	10.8	

Notes:

- 1) based on following April 1992 exchange rates for US\$1.00: A\$1.31, C\$1.18, DM 1.66, ECU 0.81, and UK £0.58.
- 2) Totals exclude much forestry-related work which is environment-related.
- 3) AIDAB assumes A\$0.4m/year to SPREP post-1992 plus A\$2m for sea level rise.
- 4) Excludes PNG (US\$5m from GEF).

Environmental Impact Assessments

SPREP is developing environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedures and standards for the region; these will contain guidelines for biodiversity impacts. EIA's have mixed success internationally but can be effective mechanisms to influence national development planning and project approval processes to help ensure that the conservation of biodiversity is respected. At least fifteen SPREP EIA courses are planned in the region during 1992 and 1993.

Biodiversity Database.

There have been, and are on-going, broad-scale

efforts such as Geo-Information Systems (GIS) surveys, land-use surveys and forestry mapping exercises that identify critical habitats. However, at egislationese efforts are not well coordinated and produce information in scattered unlinked forms that cannot be easily used by others involved in related biodiversity activities. UNEP support to SPREP will provide computer equipment, a digitizer, and training in relevant database development; however this is a stopgap measure; there is no funding secured to consolidate existing information or to maintain and update the database system.

Previous activities to identify conservation areas

There is not yet an agreed system for classifying ecosystems or criteria for conservation area selection in the region. As described below, several specific areas have been identified as possible CAs. To date, however, no conservation areas along the lines contemplated by the SPBCP have been established.

Existing proposals for establishing conservation areas and projects

When the SPBCP Preparatory Assistance Team assembled in early 1992, there were already at least six preliminary proposals or initial concept papers from governments or regional organisations regarding possible projects for SPBCP monetary support. Most were informal submissions with no official backing by the national government. By late July a dozen proposals, listed in Annex 14, had been received. Some of these were outside the scope of the SPBCP but others were excellent initial drafts of project ideas worth developing further. In general, the present situation is that SPBCP has received suggestions for support for projects which define reasonably well both the biodiversity of specific locations and the rationale for external assistance. In most cases, the initial proposals do not adequately address the role of the landowners, the links between national government and local communities, management of sites, or mechanisms for financial control.

On going faunal species conservation activities

The high level of species endemism within the region's bird populations the cultural and subsistence importance of marine turtles to Pacific Islanders and the importance of the vast Pacific ocean as habitat for many of the world's marine mammal species, justifies a concerted effort on the part of Pacific island countries to conserve these animals. The migratory status of marine turtles and mammals, and some bird species, means that conservation cannot be achieved solely through national efforts and requires a coordinated regional effort. In recognition of this, SPREP has worked with regional and international experts to develop regional conservation programmes for these species.

SPREP's *Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme* provides a regional framework for country-specific population census and tagging project, biological research, habitat conservation, training, public education and awareness and database development. The programme has been supported by ICOD funding, which will expire in 1993, and the Australian Government.

At the request of the SPREP IGMs in 1989 and 1990, Regional Expert Working Groups have developed two other regional species conservation programmes: the *Regional Bird Conservation Programme* and the *Regional Marine Mammals Conservation Programme*. The former was adopted by the governments of the region at the SPREP IGM in 1991 and by the Annual Conference of the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) in the same year. The latter is expected to be adopted by the IGM in September 1992. Neither Programme has been implemented to date due to lack of funding.

The Regional Bird Conservation Programme aims to ensure the wise management of bird communities and their habitats in order to facilitate the recovery of endangered species and the conservation of all other indigenous species. It includes population surveys, information gathering, species recovery planning and plan implementation and education as its main activities. The Regional Marine Mammals Programme aims to develop institutional arrangements for monitoring and recording the status of marine mammal populations in the region, gathering information, undertaking education and awareness raising and supporting conservation research.

In addition to the work associated with the above programmes, there are usually a number of fauna conservation related projects underway in the countries of the region. Recent projects of this type include surveys of saltwater crocodiles, dugongs and fruit bats in Palau, surveys of avifauna in Micronesia, American Samoa, and Western Samoa, recovery plan development and implementation for the endangered Rarotongan flycatcher (Cook Islands) and the development of policy and regulations for the management of wildlife in the Solomon Islands.

Previous protected area awareness and training activities

Since 1974, a four-yearly regional Conference on Protected Areas and Nature Conservation has focused on promoting the establishment of protected areas, institutional building for conservation, promoting conservation policy and legislation at the national and regional levels, supporting conservation education and awareness raising and promoting training in protected area and natural resource management.

A comprehensive regional protected area management training course was held in conjunction with the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference in 1985. Further similar courses have not been arranged because of lack of formal protected areas in the region, lack of personnel who would benefit from protected area management training, the inefficiency of regional courses versus in-country training, and the desirability of providing training in integrated approaches to resource conservation.

In recognition of these points, and the coastal character of the island nations of the region, SPREP carried out three sub-regional Coastal Zone Management Training Courses in 1988/89 which emphasised the ecological interdependence of the terrestrial and marine environments in the island setting and the need for an integrated approach and inter-agency co-operation in resource management.

Training in ecological (terrestrial and marine) and fauna survey techniques has been provided to government and NGO personnel in those countries where survey projects have taken place. This has usually been through counterpart attachments and on an ad-hoc basis. The lack of a professional scientific career structure and personnel movements in the government agencies often mean that the full benefits of such training are not realised.

4. Institutional framework for the subsector

Regional Framework

As described (Section A2 above), SPREP is the institution directly responsible for environmental matters within the Pacific Islands region operating under a broad Action Plan. Proposals for new activities are submitted to an annual Inter-Governmental Meeting (IGM) and items endorsed by the IGM are included in SPREP's Work Programme for the following two years. An expansion of the SPREP work programme, an increase in staff positions, the current evolution from an SPC programme into an autonomous regional organisation, and the 1992 move from the SPC headquarters in New Caledonia to a permanent site in Western Samoa have put SPREP under considerable short-term operational and institutional pressures.

There are several other regional bodies with environmental interests and activities:

- the *South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission* (SOPAC), an intergovernmental organization responsible for investigating mineral and other non-living resource potential and for building up an inventory of geological data to assist with resource assessment, coastal development and hazard evaluation;
- the *Forum Fisheries Agency* (FFA) which deals with fish and other living sea resources;
- the *University of the South Pacific's Institute of Applied Sciences, Institute of Marine Resources* (IMR) and *Marine Studies Programme* which jointly carry out a wide range of environmentally related studies, consultancies and teaching; and
- the *Forum Secretariat* which recently established an environmental position, works with SPREP on coordination of environmental technical assistance and maintains an interest in political aspects of the environment.

The activities of regional organisations are loosely coordinated by the *South Pacific Organisations Coordinating Committee* (SPOCC) which has a rotating chairmanship.

National frameworks

Most Pacific Island countries have established small environment and/or conservation agencies, typically with only one or two professional or administrative staff and a few support staff, usually shared with other government offices. Although the level of regional and national awareness of the need for environmental management and the conservation of biodiversity is improving, these activities have not generally received high priority from the region's governments. As in most developing countries, governments are struggling with the need to meet the economic and social expectations of rapidly growing populations.

Annex 15 summarises the national frameworks for environmental planning and management matters by country. In general, environmental agencies are weak, understaffed, and historically have been ineffective. However, the NEMS/RETA activities, described above have resulted in the formation of numerous environmental working groups and task forces which coordinate environmental activities across a range of sectors in a number of Pacific island countries.

Environmental NGOs

The establishment and management of CAPs in the Pacific Islands will involve working very closely with local communities and land-owning groups, often through NGOs which operate widely, and often very effectively, within the region at grass roots level.

Several international conservation NGOs are active in the region (WWF, TNC, Greenpeace, Maruia Society) and have programmes designed to promote the conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity. These often work in partnership with local NGOs and are concerned to strengthen these organisations. There has been an increase in the number of local NGOs dedicated to, or involved with, sustainable development and natural resource conservation activities at the community and village level.

New NGOs have been established in Palau and in Western Samoa in the past two years and a number of established NGOs in the region are now developing their environmental management capability. Through a separate UNDP-funded SPREP project (PMI/90/002), a training programme is under development to help NGOs establish financial and reporting procedures, raise funds, participate in EIAs, and take part in the NEMS development. NGOs are often much more effective than government agencies in rural communities and, in some cases, are appropriate agencies to help establish and manage CAPs and train local groups.

SECTION B: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. The problem to be addressed

The problem addressed by this Programme is how to achieve conservation of biodiversity on a long-term sustainable basis within the Pacific Islands.

Specific problems include:

- an increasing loss of the terrestrial and marine biodiversity of the region due to over-exploitation of resources, population growth and poorly planned development;
- the need for greater awareness within Pacific Island countries the importance of biodiversity and the means to preserve it;
- the poor understanding, as prevalent worldwide, of the relationships between resource conservation, biodiversity and development; the perception that "conservation" and "development" are opposing concepts;
- the need for greater support and more effective mobilisation of community and landowner involvement in the conservation of biodiversity and development of sustainable economic opportunities;
- the lack of action by Pacific Island governments in protecting the biodiversity of areas which have been clearly identified as important for the past ten years or more;

- the lack of co-ordination within government and other development agencies and between these agencies and local communities;
- the lack of institutional capacity and trained personnel within the region's governments and local NGOs;
- the lack of integration of biodiversity and environmental considerations in national development policy, legislation and planning.

2. The present situation

State of knowledge regarding Pacific Islands' biodiversity

There has been a considerable amount of work over the past two decades in researching, describing and cataloguing the region's biological diversity with particular progress being made in the past five years through the development of several databases and the completion of a number of individual island and site studies. A review of readily-available materials within SPREP found over seventy reports of relevance to the SPBCP on species conservation,

Pacific ecosystems, protected areas, etc; this is a small fraction of known reports. Comprehensive vegetation and ecological surveys have been recently completed, or are nearing completion, in Palau, FSM, Marshall Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu, Western Samoa and the Solomon Islands. Some of the region's coral reef, lagoon and mangrove ecosystems have been well studied and inventoried and our understanding of island coastal ecosystems is rapidly developing. Terrestrial and marine fauna surveys, including surveys of bats, reptiles, dugong, turtles, corals and crocodiles have been carried out in Western Samoa, Palau, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and other countries, providing accurate information on the rarity, location and conservation status of some of the region's biota.

Information on rates of forest and other ecosystem depletion is lacking as is information on the large open water masses of the Pacific and the deep sea features and benthic communities they contain. Understanding is improving of marine areas of conservation importance, of habitats for large marine animals of oceanic areas for pelagic fisheries, and of coastal marine resources.

Traditional uses of terrestrial biodiversity in the region is not sufficiently well documented; traditional uses of marine resources is better understood and documented.

Future needs to improve understanding of biodiversity and its conservation in the South Pacific include:

- more information on the biodiversity of regionally and nationally important ecosystems and sites (conservation status, rates of biodiversity depletion and degree of threat);
- improved information gathering and recording through agreed standardised survey, inventory and monitoring systems;
- maintenance and extension of existing databases and the development of a simple regional taxa based database;
- more information on the traditional use of biodiversity in the region;
- studies on the potential for the sustainable development of biodiversity and improved natural product harvesting and processing techniques;
- improved information and methods for helping land and resource owners and local communities to better understand their biological resources, ecological processes

In order to obtain a clearer picture of the extent of information available on the region's biodiversity, desk studies to produce overviews of terrestrial and marine biodiversity for both the region and the participating countries were commissioned during the PA Phase. These overviews will form a separate Annex to this Project Document.

Despite the gaps in knowledge of Pacific Islands biodiversity, the studies show there is adequate information to justify the choice of a number of specific areas for conservation on biological and ecological grounds. However, in a number of cases it will still be necessary to seek additional information as part of the early project selection and design process. This may simply require a more thorough analysis of existing information or it may entail further biological or ecological surveys.

The research-oriented activities of the SPBCP will concentrate on improving knowledge of the biological resources of CAs, to assist conservation management. It is expected that many of the above needs will be addressed through the process of establishing, studying and managing Conservation Areas and that the information and results of on-site studies will greatly enhance our rapidly growing information base and understanding of the region's biodiversity.

The regional mandate for biodiversity conservation

The issue of biodiversity conservation has been widely recognised within the South Pacific region for more than ten years. SPREP has a specific mandate from regional governments to implement biodiversity conservation through the *"Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific Regional"*. SPREP has the mandate to carry out a broad range of biodiversity conservation related activities on behalf of the region's governments but, without sufficient external assistance, has lacked the resources to do so.

As the Secretariat for the SPREP and Apia Conventions, SPREP has the additional mandate to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the conventions, both of which have a biodiversity conservation focus. Finally, SPREP's mandate for managing environmental matters within the Pacific Islands region was upheld in July 1991 at ministerial level (*"SPREP Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development"*, Noumea, New Caledonia, 9 July 1991) and subsequently at Prime Ministerial level (Forum Communiqué, Twenty-second South Pacific Forum, Pohnpei, FSM, 30 July 1991).

The SPBCP offers a unique opportunity to put into practice biodiversity conservation concepts and policies which have been developed over the past five years by the Pacific island countries. It also offers the opportunity to focus the attention on the importance of biodiversity to island country societies as a basis for sustainable lifestyles and economic development and to avoid the costly environmental and economic mistakes which have occurred in many of the world's other tropical island regions.

3. Expected end-of-project situation

The following situations are envisaged at the end of the project:

- a) Conservation areas will have been identified, established and initially managed with the support of SPBCP in most participating countries.
- b) For specific conservation area projects, some or all of the following will be underway or completed:
 - i) landowner and community groups identified;
 - ii) concept and project plans developed and approved;
 - iii) coordinating groups established; iv) management plans developed;
 - v) ecological surveys carried out;
 - vi) core protection areas identified;
 - vii) sustainable biological resource development and income generation options identified and advice provided for implementation;
 - viii) improved community awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation;
 - ix) long term and self-supporting project management structure with trained personnel in place in a number of areas;
 - x) additional donor or technical agency support and involvement in project development and management secured; and
 - xi) monitoring systems developed and in place.
- c) Knowledge of the state of the biology and environment of the South Pacific region will be improved and information will be more readily accessible than at present.
- d) Improved criteria for selection and management of different types of Conservation Areas in different parts of the region will have been developed, and will improve the chances of further successful biodiversity protection in the region. A series of conservation area management and sustainable development guidelines, case studies and demonstration units will have been developed, evaluated and documented.

- e) For threatened and endangered species conservation, the following will have been achieved:
- i) improved public awareness and understanding of the region's threatened and endangered fauna;
 - ii) endangered and threatened species information networks and database in place;
 - iii) recovery or management plans developed and implemented for some species;
 - iv) improved understanding of the status of threatened and endangered species populations in the region;
 - v) identification and protection of habitats critical to the survival of important species; and
 - vi) institutional and legal arrangements in place to promote the conservation of migratory species.
- f) NEMS and EIA procedures used by SPREP and participating countries will incorporate biodiversity protection.
- g) Educational materials based on specific CAPs explaining the importance of biodiversity conservation will have been developed and disseminated. These materials will refer directly to the ecological features that are being protected and explain the nature of conservation and sustainable development practices.
- h) A group of Pacific Island nationals will have been trained in the management and implementation of resource conservation and sustainable development projects and will have a sound understanding of the relationship between biodiversity and sustainable resource management.
- i) There will be more effective coordination, liaison and information sharing between groups and agencies involved in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the region and an increase in the number of such groups fostered by the SPBCP through conservation area projects.
- j) At least three regional meetings on biodiversity conservation will have been organised and supported.

4. Target beneficiaries

The objective of the SPBCP is to preserve the biological diversity of the South Pacific for the peoples of the region, the world and future generations. The species, ecosystems and natural environment of the South Pacific are direct target beneficiaries of this project.

Local land-owning groups and other concerned community groups who live in or near conservation areas will benefit directly as their biological heritage and its productivity are conserved for themselves and for their children. The people of the Pacific Islands will benefit as sustainable development activities produce improved prosperity and quality of life.

The direct recipient of the GEF assistance is SPREP, the executing agency for the SPBCP. In addition, local land-owning groups, concerned community groups, government officials and NGOs who are involved in managing the conservation areas will be beneficiaries through their involvement in management and training activities.

5. Project strategy and institutional arrangements

5.1 Project strategy

Introduction. The SPBCP will provide technical assistance to the people and communities of the Pacific Islands to conserve their natural biological resources. This assistance will be provided within a regional programme framework and through the provision of inputs and resources coordinated at the regional and project levels. SPBCP outputs will be at local, national and regional levels.

The establishment of community managed conservation areas will assist in achieving national sustainable development and biodiversity goals. This section describes the processes proposed for selection and establishment of CA projects. The processes themselves must be flexible; it follows that the SPBCP overall must have a great deal of built-in flexibility if it is to be successful.

SPBCP Definition of "Conservation Area". Conservation areas are generally large, (relative to the island(s) on or around which they are established) diverse, geographical units which contain important features for the conservation of the biological diversity of the region or country.

Conservation areas will vary considerably in scale and scope. Most will encompass a variety of land and resource uses. Conservation areas will be managed according to agreed criteria for the conservation of biological resources and sustainable community development which is ecologically compatible.

Conservation Area Project or CAPs will attempt to achieve a balance between the conservation and utilisation of biological resources to provide for the cash and subsistence needs of the resident communities. The special ecological and biological features of the conservation area will be identified and management prescriptions for their conservation developed. These may include the establishment of "core" conservation zones, buffer zones, harvesting and environmental impact controls.

Recognizing that the establishment of conservation areas and the conservation of biodiversity may mean changes to the way communities use their resources, emphasis will be given to facilitating the development of a range of appropriate and sustainable resource use activities. These activities may include the development of small scale timber production based on sustainable yield of non-core forest areas, the development of agro-forestry and fisheries projects, the promotion of stabilised market and subsistence gardening, development of natural product harvesting, processing and marketing projects, forestry on already modified lands, nature tourism, and commercial wildlife management.

In appropriate cases, where these will enhance the linkage between resource conservation and sustainable development, infrastructural development such as improving water supplies, irrigation and access may be undertaken in a conservation area project.

The management and legal basis for conservation areas will vary considerably; a flexible approach will be needed in the face of the diverse legal, social and cultural conditions and patterns of resource ownership in the participating countries. In keeping with the principle of local management for conservation areas, adaptation of the general management framework for the projects to customary management systems which are understood and effective at the local level will be encouraged. The underlying principle for the management of conservation areas will be the establishment of a management structure which will be sustainable on a long term basis.

Criteria for Selection of Conservation Areas: To be selected as a Conservation Area a proposal must meet all criteria listed below under Category I and some of the criteria of Category II.

Category I: essential

- (a) the proposed area must contain nationally or regionally significant examples of one or more ecosystems of global conservation concern, such as tropical rainforest, mangroves, wetlands, lagoons and coral reefs, and must be large enough to maintain their viability.
- (b) the project must be achievable and exhibit a high degree of commitment by landowners, residents, resource users and other potential partners in the conservation area project.
- (c) the proposed area must be sufficiently large and complex to encompass a wide range of the interactions among people and natural resources prevailing in the country.

Category II

- (d) the proposed area should contain high levels of biological diversity and ecological complexity, represented by a number of major environments, diversity of ecosystems, and/or large numbers of genera and species of plants and animals;
- (e) the proposed area may be important for the survival of endemic species, or of species that are rare or threatened nationally, regionally or globally; and/or
- (f) the proposed area may be threatened by destruction, degradation or conversion.

Conservation area proposals should be generated as far as possible from the bottom up, since community initiative and support is so important for success. Proposed areas should be subject to a social and economic needs assessment to determine both the threats to the biodiversity from human activities and the potential for alternative forms of sustainable development. A study will be needed of the legal and institutional framework within which management of the conservation area can be organized. If a feasibility analysis indicates a favourable context for a conservation area, then the proposal can be developed further.

Widespread consultation with all concerned groups and bodies will allow the evaluation of community support and the identification of potential coordinating committee members and support officers. It may be necessary to weigh the options of a locally recruited conservation area support officer who may have difficulty maintaining independence from dominant groups or persons, and an officer from outside who would be more difficult to keep on in the conservation area once outside support is phased out. The Conservation Area Coordinating Committee can then be established and trained, and a management/development plan designed and implemented.

Conservation areas must thus satisfy both the criteria for eligibility in the area of Protection of Biodiversity set out by the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (May 1992, paragraph 5.1), and also be areas in which sustainable management of resources is a feasible goal. This is essential if the "high degree of commitment" required is to be obtained and retained. Conservation areas initially chosen for development should be among those evaluated as likely to offer both the greatest likelihood of willing participation among the most people, and also offer the greatest chance of demonstrable short to medium term success. Areas in which there is perceived environmental stress related to loss of biodiversity would be particularly appropriate candidates.

Candidate conservation areas should be ecologically diverse and coherent, large enough to maintain the integrity of an area's biological communities, habitats and ecosystems, and contain discrete social and ecosystem units in their entirety. Those on high islands should normally include at least one whole catchment from source to offshore zone (as far as the outer edge of the reef, if any) in order that the interactions of different elements in the whole can be managed and monitored in an integrated manner.

Moreover, the areas should include all the land held by the people whose participation is required. Given the dual purpose of these conservation areas, it is important that they not only be defined on ecological grounds, but also be coherent in terms of land tenure. This may involve some negotiation of initial conservation area proposals to achieve appropriate boundaries.

As improvement of the economic and social well-being of local communities is to be a major incentive in conservation area management, relevant social, economic and commercial analysis will be carried out in the development of individual CA project. It is envisaged that economists and the business community will be involved in CA projects as appropriate. Institutional and legal mechanism will need to be explored, again for the implementation of individual CA projects. Some possible elements of a CA situation analysis are provided in Annex 10.

Linking most activities to specific Conservation Area Projects. As far as possible, SPBCP activities of all types will be linked to specific conservation area projects. It is expected that about 70% of the SPBCP funding or seven million dollars, will be applied directly to this aspect of the programme. If the SPBCP supports CA activities in each of the 14 countries, with 1-2 CA projects in each, this would equate to an average investment of \$200,000 to \$500,000 per project.

Conservation Area project submission and approval. The Conservation Area concept promoted under the SPBCP is new to the region. Although there are several existing proposals suitable for adaption to the SPBCP, the SPBCP will have to both solicit suitable proposals for Conservation Area projects and assist local communities, NGO's and governments with proposal development. This will be an ongoing process during the life of the SPBCP and will be an important function of the programme managers.

The following steps will normally be required:

- (a) *Preparation of an initial concept document.* The first step in the development and approval of a prospective CAP will be the preparation of an initial concept document. The scope of the initial concept is described in Annex 9. Ideally the initial concept will have been prepared by or in consultation with the landowners and local communities in the proposed Conservation Area. There must be broad consensus among the potential Project partners that the project is realistic and its aims are valid and achievable.

(b) *Submission of the initial concept document.* Initial project concepts may be submitted directly from governments or government agencies or from other organisations or from local or national groups. In the case of the former, the concept document will be forwarded through the formal Foreign Affairs - SPREP channels. In the case of the latter, the principal group or organisation sponsoring the project will be encouraged to obtain the endorsement of the government (Foreign Affairs) of the country concerned. The government may comment on the proposal and strengthen its endorsement if it so wishes. Should a group or organisation fail to get government endorsement, then it may forward its proposal with an explanation.

It should be clear from the above paragraph that there are two distinct channels for submitting proposals for SPBCP support: direct from governments or direct from non government sources (broadly defined), the latter preferably with government endorsement. Government endorsement does not imply any responsibility by the government for the project; only that the government has no objection to the proposal.

(c) *Review of the project concept.* The review of the initial project concept will be the responsibility of the Programme Manager who may call on additional expertise or technical assistance. Where appropriate, expertise will be drawn from the SPBCP Technical and Management Advisory Group (described later in this section). The project concept will be evaluated against the SPBCP's criteria for Conservation Areas. In many cases the review process will require a visit to the Conservation Area by SPBCP staff to verify the conservation values of the project and the managerial framework.

The output from this stage of the process will be;

- i) rejection of the concept as being inappropriate for SPBCP support;
- ii) approval of the concept as being suitable for SPBCP support without further modification; or
- iii) approval of the concept as being suitable for SPBCP support subject to further modification and development. In the case of the latter, the Programme staff will work with the project proponents to further develop the project concept to meet SPBCP requirements.

Modest financial support may also be made available to assist with landowner and community consensus building, document preparation and technical assistance.

(d) *Development of a Project Plan.* Approval of the project concept will lead to the development of a detailed Project Plan. This will be the plan for the establishment of the Conservation Area and will be prepared according to written guidelines provided to the project proponents.

A key feature of the Project Plan will be recognition of the fact that the establishment of a Conservation Area may be a long term and incremental process. To account for this, the Project Plan will incorporate a phased approach to CA establishment and associated sustainable rural and community development activities. SPBCP support will be similarly phased and will be dependent on the achievement of the objectives of each stage or measurable progress towards these objectives.

An important consideration will be the long term sustainability of the project and to this end each stage of the Project Plan will include assessments of co-funding or other sources of financial and human resources. SPBCP financial support may be made available to assist with the development of the Project Plan.

(e) *Approval of Project Plan.* Completed Project Plans will be reviewed by Programme Management in conjunction with the project proponents and the Technical and Management Advisory Group (TMAG). Final modifications may be required before the project is approved by the Programme Manager.

The Conservation Area Coordinating Committees. Some appropriate form of management group which draws together the various partners in a project will be established for each Conservation Area Project. The composition will vary according to the local situation but will generally consist of representatives of the landowners, communities, partner NGO's, local and national government and the SPBCP management. The group will be established by the local partners not by the SPBCP.

The functions of a CACC could include the following:

- develop and endorse CAP Management Plans;
- oversight of the management of the CAP;

- oversight of the management of SPBCP inputs to the CAP and liaison and reporting to the SPBCP Management;
- resolution of disputes within a CAP;
- coordination with national NEMS Task Forces (or their successors) and government agencies on national conservation matters of relevance to the CAP;
- supervise activities of the CA support officers; receive reports on specific matters;
- ensure that the CAP is implemented and developed in a timely and effective manner and carry out other activities conducive to the effective management of the CAP.

CAP Funding. Phased CA project plans must take into account the lengthy time likely to be required for project negotiations and development. They must ensure substantial involvement and commitment of local land-owning and NGO groups to CAP management and sufficient time to identify and implement sustainable development projects. All of this indicates that major funding for a specific CAP may not be required until the second half of the SPBCP's planned life.

It must be recognized also that, in this regard, five years is an inadequate duration for the Programme. The SPBCP goal of long-term self-managing CAP projects will itself take time. Consequently, it is desirable to ensure a mechanism for on-going support for CAP's costs beyond the five year life of the SPBCP to provide for long term commitments and support during the transition of CAPs to self managing entities.

CAP management strategy. Some guidelines for in-country procedures for the management of Conservation Area projects which will be used by the SPBCP are listed below:

- the SPBCP will work with customary landowner associations, NGOs and government agencies on the basis of partnerships.
- the CA coordinating groups will organise preparation of the detailed CA Plan, act as the managers of the CA project, and act as a dispute resolution committee. These groups will coordinate, and may overlap, with the NEMS in-country task force as appropriate; one agency may take the organisational lead for the coordinating groups.

- CA Support Officers (CASO) may be funded by the SPBCP, to facilitate the establishment of the CACC, logistical arrangements, general liaison, CAP implementation and to have responsibility for reporting, coordinating, training and monitoring. While most CASOs will have a role in an individual CAP, CASOs can also be appointed at the national level if there is need for coordination at that level.
- there will be a strong effort to devolve decision-making to the local project level.
- self-appraisal of progress and goals by the local groups will be strongly encouraged.
- the CASO will facilitate access to information by the local groups.
- project activities will include elements of education and training.
- there will be a process to assure quick feedback of the results of studies undertaken by visiting investigators in support of CAP management.
- there will be a strong effort to assure respect for a community's traditional knowledge of the environment and efforts to document this for use in local and wider educational programmes.

Systematic CAP monitoring and review. The SPBCP staff will be required to regularly monitor a number of widely dispersed CAP's which will be at various stages of development. The SPBCP management will develop a consistent and systematic approach to monitoring liaison and support to countries and CAPs.

The CACC and CAP management personnel will be expected to undertake regular appraisal of their project against the CAP Plan and in conjunction with the SPBCP staff. A 4-6 monthly reporting procedure to the SPBCP management will be instigated for each CAP.

Training. Training efforts under the SPBCP will focus on providing Conservation Area staff (CASOs) and local people with the skills and understanding to manage and sustainably use the resources of their Conservation Area. Local NGOs and government officials will also be trained in skills needed to support CAs. In general, training provided under SPBCP will focus on issues and skills related to CAs and to facilitate the implementation of CAPs.

Much of the training will be in the form of attachments or internships for people selected by the CACC's who are expected to continue working on CAP related activities in the long term. Training could be in the form of attachments to other CAP's to learn new skills or observe demonstration projects; internships with SPBCP management staff; workshops and skills training and fellowships with various institutions and organisations operating within the region and neighbouring countries.

Programme cooperation. SPBCP will fully collaborate with other conservation and sectoral programmes operating in the Pacific. In particular, sectoral expertise available in the UNDP Pacific Regional Programme in the areas of agriculture, forestry, water and sanitation, fisheries, community development and others will be drawn on and, where applicable, joint programme and implementation of CAPs will be promoted, incorporating inputs and contributions of such sectoral programmes. Close linkages with the Pacific Sustainable Development Network to be operated from Fiji will be developed. An ongoing mechanism to implement CAPS in consultation and collaboration with other programmes which can provide valuable inputs will be devised and operationalised.

Pilot CAs. SPBCP intends to break a new ground to advance conservation and development at the community level under the Pacific condition, which would entail addressing many new and complex individual issues, yet requiring an integrated and holistic approach, to be effective. There is no prescribed formula to guaranteeing success. It needs to develop workable methodologies, approaches, and tools through their application and field testing, and learning from experiences, as the programme proceeds. For this reason, SPBCP's initial efforts will be targeted at establishing a few model CAs and CAPs in representative areas. It is expected that many useful and practical lessons will be obtained through these pilot schemes, which will be of great value in facilitating further CA efforts in other localities.

5.2 Implementation arrangements

Execution strategy. The programme will be executed by the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme in close cooperation with relevant agencies of the SPREP Pacific Island member governments and appropriate NGOs.

The SPREP Secretariat will be the overall coordinating body for the SPBCP. Day-to-day operation of the programme will be the responsibility of the Programme Manager who will regularly report directly to the SPREP Director. The Programme Manager will be responsible for completing all GEF and UNDP reporting requirements. The SPREP Director is responsible for submitting annual reports to the GEF through UNDP. All financial and administrative arrangements will be made in accordance with the UNDP's Guidelines for National Execution.

Technical And Management Advisory Group. A Technical and Management Advisory Group (TMAG) will be established by SPREP for the purpose of advising on the Programme's implementation, assisting project management and to help carry out the Tripartite and Mid Term Reviews discussed in Section H).

The TMAG will consist of the Director of SPREP, appropriate scientific experts with knowledge in Pacific island ecology and biodiversity, a community development expert, a representative of a national government in the region, an appropriate regional or international NGO representative, the UNDP Resident Representative and an AIDAB representative. An independent chairperson with scientific and technical background will be selected. A balance of gender will be sought. Detailed TOR of the TMAG will be prepared by the Project as part of the initial project activities and will be agreed upon by SPREP and UNDP prior formation of TMAG.

The Technical and Management Advisory Group will meet on an *ad hoc* basis to review SPBCP's progress and work plans, and advise the Programme Manager, SPREP and UNDP on technical, administrative and management aspects of SPBCP, CAP's, and related research aspects of the SPBCP and to provide independent inputs to Tripartite Reviews. Meetings of the TMAG will be convened by the Programme Manager as required, but no less than once a year. Individuals may be co-opted by the TMAG to provide specialist advice in a particular field or to provide additional capacity for CAP assessment and review. Sub-committees for specific tasks may be established, in particular to review and endorse individual CA proposals.

Specifically, the TMAG will provide advice to the Programme Manager in the following areas:

- i) the identification, evaluation and selection of candidate CAPs;
- ii) the review of CAP concept documents and the development of CA project documents;

- iii) the review of CAP project documents and their management and implementation strategies;
- iv) the monitoring and evaluation of CAP's under implementation;
- v) the development and operation of the regional biodiversity database;
- vi) advice on CAP research priorities, research and survey methodology, data analysis and interpretation;
- vii) the establishment of appropriate procedures and guidelines for the establishment management and monitoring of CAP's; and
- viii) review project progress and both scientific and developmental reports.

Programme staffing. SPREP-based staff will include a Programme Manager and three Programme Officers. Further details on staffing are covered under Section E, Inputs. Draft job descriptions are in Annex 5. SPREP will hire long term experts, in particular the Programme Manager, in consultation with UNDP. The costs of one Programme Officer will be split between SPREP and the SPBCP; half of this officer's time will be spent on biodiversity matters not directly related to Conservation areas. Appropriate support staff will be employed by the Programme Manager and SPREP.

Consultancies. Consultancies will be used widely to augment SPBCP staff resources and provide technical advice to individual CA projects and to Programme management. The **skills** of the consultants should be specified not only in biodiversity but also include community development, social and cultural aspects, land tenure, economics, etc. Where feasible there will be preferential use of nationals of Pacific Island or SPREP countries.

Publications. Any reports prepared by SPBCP staff, CAP staff or consultants will include a statement that the material was developed through the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Project. Any SPREP publications or materials based on SPBCP inputs will acknowledge the GEF/SPBCP contribution through UNDP.

Financial disbursement strategy. UNDP will release funds for the First Phase of the programme and subsequent release will be subject to the satisfactory review of the progress in implementation of Phase I by TMAG.

Project communications. Communications are always a significant cost element of regional programmes within the Pacific Islands but good communications between the SPBCP staff and CAP staff is important. The SPBCP will investigate E-mail systems such as the emerging Pactok¹⁵ network currently being developed for environmental groups and others within the Pacific Islands as an option for Programme communications.

6. Reasons for assistance from the GEF

The global and regional importance of the biodiversity of the South Pacific region is commented on in Section A and the overall justification of the SPBCP is referred to in Section B.

Because of the small size of most Pacific Island countries, the lack of technical expertise, the lack of national resources, national budget constraints, local uncertainty regarding the value of biological conservation relative to other investments, and the cooperative international nature of successful conservation efforts needed in an oceanic environment, a regionally-coordinated programme for biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management is the most effective strategy.

Experience with a variety of assistance efforts in the region in various sectors (energy, tourism, telecommunications, aviation, forestry, etc.) has indicated that a well-designed and managed regional approach with specific in-country activities can be an effective (and cost-effective) means of initiating and supporting national and local projects.

With its emphasis on financing activities which benefit the global environment, particularly biodiversity conservation, the GEF is a appropriate source of support for the SPBCP which addresses many of the biodiversity conservation needs of this vast and globally important oceanic region.

¹⁵ See "Pactok, State of the Network" (Grant McCall, Director, the Centre for South Pacific Studies, University of New South Wales, April 1992).

Support for the SPBCP will enhance other regional efforts for biodiversity conservation, such as the NEMS programme work under the SPREP and Apia Conventions and initiatives by conservation NGOs, government agencies and local institutions. GEF support for community level conservation and associated sustainable development projects will stimulate the commitment of Pacific island people to the conservation of their natural heritage.

7. Special considerations

NGOs and private sector involvement

As discussed frequently in this document, NGOs and community groups will play a strong role in programme implementation. Most of the land and many marine areas suitable for Conservation Areas are privately owned or controlled, usually by communities. The involvement of private land-owners is absolutely essential to SPBCP success.

The SPBCP will result in an increase in the number of community and other non government groups committed to sustainable resource conservation. During the preparation of this project document, there was a great deal of discussion with NGOs, particularly those based within the region which are involved in environmental activities. The information received from NGOs was collated into a separate review¹⁶ on environmental NGOs in the Pacific.

Some SPBCP funds may be used for small seed monies and advice will be provided to local groups which wish to obtain loans for sustainable development activities such as community agroforestry development or conservation-linked tourism development.

The SPBCP will develop during phase 1 guidelines to assess the existing capacity of applicant NGOs to be directly involved in programme / project development and administration, and areas in which an NGO may need support to develop its capacity to be a partner in the project. These guidelines should include particular attention to the capacity of the NGO to meet administrative and recurrent costs associated with running a project.

Capacity assessment should focus on:

- i) purpose and objectives of the organisation;

- ii) nature and scope of activities being undertaken or currently planned;
- iii) degree of acknowledgment / recognition and level and form of support by government;
- iv) extent of links with international networks and partner or parent organisations;
- v) nature and size of membership;
- vi) staffing;
- vii) funding history;
- viii) target group being supported and serviced;
- ix) social preparation skills (including dispute resolution); and
- x) experience in proposed project site and with intended community participants.

Even for those NGOs with a strong institutional capacity, further assessments will be required of their skills and experience in the use of current concepts and methodologies for equitable community-based development.

It will also be necessary to develop guiding principles for the relationship and institutional arrangements between NGOs and SPREP. For instance, there should be a clear understanding of those costs for project-related tasks carried out by NGOs that should be covered through the programme, such as administrative and overhead costs, and consultancy, management and monitoring fees for supervisory or co-ordinating staff.

Negative impacts

The creation of Conservation Area Projects may restrict certain types of development which will disadvantage some groups at least in the short term. Every effort will be made to ensure that the establishment and management of CAPs is socially beneficial and that the associated emphasis in this Programme on promoting and facilitating sustainable development projects and income generation opportunities will help offset these disadvantages. The environmental and social impact of each CAP will be conscientiously assessed at the proposal stage.

¹⁶ This is being prepared for the PA Team by WWF's Pacific Programme Office.

Women and development

Women, as family managers and food producers, are at the forefront of the use of biodiversity in the region. Their role encompasses both major users and managers of natural resources. However women's perspectives and knowledge are often not adequately represented in programmes and projects. Special emphasis on ensuring the meaningful participation of women in both informal and formal CAP management activities will be needed.

Some examples of action to be taken in this respect are as follows: holding women-only meetings; forming women-only committees; using women's networks for consultation purposes (such as Women's Village Committees); timing meetings to suit women with family commitments; seeking out individual women who are known to have authority in the community and asking for their participation; requiring women, men and youth to be involved in CAP and SPBCP committees, and activities.

Technical cooperation among developing countries

SPBCP activities involving the accumulation and exchange of scientific information, specific biological information, development of sustainable practices etc., will be an exercise of "technical cooperation among developing countries" or TCDC. SPREP has the mandate as a regional organization to provide the context for such cooperation among its member countries and the activities of the SPBCP will lead to further interest and support for CAP's from other agencies. Similarly there will be opportunities for co-operative activities and exchanges of personnel between CAP's and with the technical programmes of other conservation and development organisations working in the region.

8. Coordination arrangements

General

There are environmental activities underway or planned in the region with potential overlap with SPBCP goals or which could benefit from coordination. The SPBCP will complement, and where appropriate, collaborate with biodiversity conservation efforts of international and regional organisations working in the Pacific Islands.

These include ADB, AIDAB, CSPOD, EC, EWC, FAO, Forum Secretariat, FSP, Greenpeace, GTZ, ICOD, SPC, IUCN, MacArthur Foundation, the Maruia Society of New Zealand, New Zealand aid (MERT), ODA (UK), SOPAC, TNC, UNDP and UN agencies, UNEP, USAID, the World Bank and WWF. There will be cooperation with local or regional environmental NGOs such as "O le Siosiomaga Society Inc." (Western Samoa), SPACHEE (Fiji based, regional) and the Solomon Islands Development Trust.

The SPBCP will also cooperate with training and research organisations based in the Pacific Islands, particularly the University of the South Pacific programmes in Fiji, the Solomon islands and Western Samoa. Where appropriate there will also be cooperation with other regional tertiary institutions including the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby, the University of Guam and the University of Technology in Lae, Papua New Guinea. However, the emphasis of the SPBCP is action, not academic studies, so any SPBCP-supported research activities will concentrate on areas which can be used to improve selection or management of CAs.

There will also be cooperation with organisations which have a history of involvement in the region and expertise relevant to biodiversity conservation and sustainable rural development; these organisations include national research and natural resource management agencies of the Australian, French, New Zealand and United States Governments.

The Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia biodiversity programmes

Both Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia possess biological diversity of world importance. The GEF has allocated \$5 million for a PNG government national biodiversity effort. The French government, through ORSTOM, has an ongoing programme of biodiversity studies in New Caledonia and an international Task Force of which SPREP is a member has been formed to intensify these studies. The SPBCP will cooperate with both the PNG and New Caledonian efforts and exchange experiences and results.

9. Counterpart support capacity

Regional

SPREP has fifteen professional and administrative staff and a dozen local support staff at its headquarters in Apia, Western Samoa. Positions which are currently (mid 1992) filled include those of the Director, Deputy Director, Information and Publications Officer, Project Officer (Biological Diversity Conservation), Environmental Education Officer, Environmental Contaminants Officer, Finance Officer, Administration Officer, Computer Systems Analyst, Environmental Information Data Analyst, UNCED Project Officer, Climate Change Officer, Project Scientist, RETA Team Leader, and NEMS Team Leader. There are also usually several specialist consultants and/or environmental officials from SPREP member governments at the office at any given time. SPREP has a good professional team which will provide a supportive environment for the SPBCP management.

SPREP has good office facilities at a large site in Apia with acceptable and improving communications (direct-dial international phones, fax, and modern) facilities. There are about fifteen computers, adequate computer support facilities, a Local Area Network and scanner, and a computerised GIS system under development. A separate building adjoining the main office within the SPREP complex has been set aside for SPBCP use.

National

National environmental organisations are generally weak but are currently being strengthened through other assistance efforts. Some local NGOs can provide support services.

Those regional and international NGOs presently involved in environmental activities and which have offices already established within several Pacific countries (FSP and TNC) are particularly well-placed to work with the SPBCP.

Section C: Development Objective

The overall goal of the SPBCP is to develop strategies for the conservation of biodiversity by means of the sustainable use of biological resources by the people of the South Pacific.

Section D: Immediate Objectives, Outputs and Activities

1. Immediate Programme Objectives

The primary objectives of the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme are as follows:

Objective 1.

to facilitate establishment and initial management, by local communities, NGOs and government agencies, of a series of Conservation Areas that demonstrate protection of biodiversity, ecologically sustainable use of natural resources, and community economic development.

Objective 2.

to protect terrestrial and marine species that are threatened or endangered in the Pacific region.

The following subsidiary objectives will be pursued largely in connection with individual Conservation Area Projects:

Objective 3.

identification of new areas that are important for the conservation of biological diversity, and are potential Conservation Areas in the participating countries.

Objective 4.

improved awareness in Pacific Island countries of the importance and means of conserving biological diversity.

Objective 5.

improved capacities of and cooperation between different sectors of society and agencies contributing to the conservation of the biological diversity of the Pacific Islands.

2. Planned Programme Outputs

The following outputs are planned for each of the above objectives during the project lifetime:

Outputs for Objective 1:**Establishment and management of Conservation Area projects***Output 1.1 CA projects*

CA projects will be initiated in most of the participating countries; a number of projects will have reached the stage of being successfully established CAs.

Output 1.2 CA management tools

A range of guidelines and case studies (covering planning, participation, conservation, development, administration, legal, and other aspects of CA establishment and management) will be developed, documented and made available as tools to other CA projects.

Output 1.3 Coordinating groups

CA Coordinating Groups will be established for projects accepted for SPBCP support.

Output 1.4 CA management planning

For projects reaching CA establishment stage, plans will be developed and endorsed, covering (a) essential information on the geography, biodiversity, human settlement and use of the area and its resources; and (b) CA management and coordination arrangements (CA project objectives; how decisions on resource use, community development and biodiversity protection are to be agreed and disputes resolved; roles of local, national and outside partners; financing; etc.).

Output 1.5 Ecologically sustainable development

Economic development and use of living resources in and around CAs will be encouraged in ways which do not degrade the biodiversity within the CA and which are socially beneficial.

Outputs for Objective 2:**Regional species conservation***Output 2.1 Species protection*

Selected endangered or threatened species of birds, marine mammals and turtles will be given increased protection, following the agreed SPREP Regional Species protection strategies; strategies for plant and invertebrate species protection will be designed.

Outputs for Objective 3:**Identification of Important Potential CAs***Output 3.1 Information*

Improved information will be developed and made available on the biological diversity and status of resource use and conservation of participating countries. Information will be in the form of country reports, site reports, reviews of past work, ecological and socio-economic surveys and assessments based on site country visits, maps, etc.

Output 3.2 CA identification and evaluation

Possible Conservation Areas will have been identified in each participating country. Outline concepts and detailed plans for CA projects will be developed. Concepts and proposals will be evaluated and, where appropriate, accepted for further development or support.

Outputs for Objective 4:**Improved awareness of biodiversity and its conservation***Output 4.1 CA and SPBCP publicity*

General awareness of the CA concept, the SPBCP, how it is being implemented and how people can participate will be raised, through existing publicity outlets.

Output 4.2 Information materials for CA projects

Education and general improvement of information will be built into each CA project, to explain the area's biodiversity and how it is being used and conserved. Materials will be developed in the language(s) relevant to the locality.

Outputs for Objective 5:

Improved capacities and cooperation for conservation of South Pacific biodiversity

Output 5.1 Training and institutional strengthening

Pacific Island nationals - in government agencies, NGOs, regional bodies, research and training institutes - will be better trained in conservation of biological diversity and related sustainable development practices, primarily through participation in particular CA projects.

Output 5.2 Practical biodiversity policies

SPBCP and CA project studies and lessons learned will be recorded and disseminated to guide policies and programmes for conservation in the region and elsewhere.

Output 5.3 Accessible data

Information generated from SPBCP activities will be used to set up and improve databases at local CA project, national and regional levels.

Output 5.4 Regional conservation network

Better coordination will be established among groups and agencies involved in biodiversity conservation in the region. The CA management models and tools developed will be shared within and outside the SPBCP participant countries, including all SPREP countries.

3. Detailed Programme Activities

The specific activities to meet each of the above objectives are indicated in the following section, with notes on timing, location and other comments where appropriate.

A detailed Phase I Work Plan, fully operationalised, will be prepared at the outset of the project by the Programme Manager and the team for the review by the Technical and Management Advisory Group (TMAG). It is to be revised, updated and rolled forward annually, and reviewed by TMAG in the Tripartite Review.

The activities indicated are meant to be sufficiently detailed to be clear yet sufficiently flexible to allow SPBCP staff to provide quick responses under changing conditions and needs. Although the SPBCP is expected to be based in SPREP's Apia offices, most activities will occur in rural parts of the participating countries.

Activities for Objective 1: Establishment and Management of CAs.

Activities for Output 1.1: CA Projects		Comments
1.1.1	Facilitate preparation of initial CA concepts, by assisting local/national groups to review information, carry out consultations, etc; provide modest funds if required	action on a CA concept may be initiated locally, nationally or regionally, but should involve essential partners and their endorsement at an early stage; may occur throughout life of SPBCP
1.1.2	Evaluate initial concepts and approve SPBCP support for further development	locally-developed ideas and plans will obtain SPBCP endorsement in stages; on-going
1.1.3	Assistance with project design and community development	seek AIDAB assistance for these activities
1.1.4	Facilitate planning and establishment of 2-3 CAPs by local coordinating groups	may include surveys (site, boundary, resources, attitudes), publicity, education, consultation, planning, design, legislation, training and pilot demonstrations
1.1.5	Approval of CA management-development plans for 2-3 CAP proposals	by PM with advice from TMAG review board
1.1.6	Provision of appropriate assistance for establishment, resource conservation, and development activities of individual CA projects	following CA Plan approval, funds will be released to the CA lead agency or coordinating group in 3-4 main stages, as agreed milestones are reached;
1.1.7	Regular monitoring and reporting	responsibility will be devolved to local CA project group/agency for self appraisal to SPBCP guidelines; 4-6 monthly reporting to SPBCP will be required of each CAP

Activities for Output 1.2 CA Management Tools		Comments
1.2.1	Preparation of guidelines and case studies for establishment and management of CAs, covering planning, participation, conservation, development administration, legal, and other aspects.	on-going; an important aspect of SPBCP management, to make most use of the series of initial CA projects as pilot schemes and demonstrations
1.2.2	Overview of legal options and management structure for CA projects.	by end of 1993; this will build on materials prepared during PA phase, and review of previous related efforts in PIC and elsewhere
Activities for Output 1.3 Coordinating Groups		Comments
1.3.1	Facilitate consultation and participation of local land-owners, communities, NGOs, government agencies, and formation of an effective coordinating group for each CAP.	the aim is to form, early in CA planning and establishment, a broad group able to work together and to represent effectively the potential partners in the CAP
Activities for Output 1.4 CA Management Planning		Comments
1.4.1	Support local coordinating group in survey work and a participatory planning process.	as initial concept is developed
1.4.2	Facilitate development and endorsement of a CA plan, detailing background information and arrangements for management of conservation, resource use and sustainable development activities in the CA.	this process may require a year or more initially; the plan will form the main framework for decision-making and the operation and development of the CA; the initial planning should confirm the CAP's feasibility; commitment and support by landowners, government and other partners is essential
1.4.3	Assist with endorsement and ratification of the CA management plan.	this will require negotiation and collaboration with other environment and resource management programmes; recognition of the CA Plan in local and national environment and development strategies will be important; policy and legislative changes may require SPBCP assistance
1.4.4	Facilitate on-going CA management planning and decision-making by CA coordinating group	planning must be a continuing participatory process, as CA status evolves, survey and monitoring is carried out and resource uses and income-generating activities develop
Activities for Output 1.5 Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD)		Comments
1.5.1	Support for assessment of existing resource uses and income generation in and around the CA	the CA will need to incorporate social and economic development activities and use of living resources, based on local community aspirations; the aim is to ensure that human activities do not degrade the biodiversity within the CA and are socially beneficial
1.5.2	Provide coordinating group with technical assistance and capital and seed funding for ESD activities	development activities which are self-financing and which support biodiversity conservation will be sought; technical assistance may be in form of business management, pilot projects and appraisals

Activities for Objective 2: Regional Species Conservation

Activities for Output 2.1 Species Protection		Comments
2.2.1	Provide part-funding to Programme Officer, Species Protection	the budget provides for 50% funding for years 1993-1996; the position will be responsible for coordination of SPREP's regional species protection strategies - turtles, birds, marine mammals and others to be developed
2.2.2	Provide initial funding for regional strategies for turtles, birds and marine mammals	the budget provides for part-funding for each of the three strategies for the years 1993-1996 (US\$50,000 annually for each strategy)

Activities for Objective 3: Identification of Important Potential CAS

Activities for Output 3.1 Information		Comments
3.1.1	Preparation of overviews of national and regional terrestrial and marine biodiversity	documents based on available information in 10 countries and a regional overview will be completed in 1992; these will provide the basis for a resource library and database managed and updated as a SPREP facility
3.1.2	Recording issues, constraints, options etc, regarding biodiversity conservation in participant countries	on-going; prepared as required by staff, consultants, CA partners, etc; to assist establishment of CA projects
3.1.3	Review results from conservation and biodiversity assessments by others	this is not expected to be an activity requiring significant SPBCP expenditure except where located in a CA; SPBCP will help identify needs and find other support, and will use results in CAP planning
Activities for Output 3.2 CA identification and evaluation		Comments
3.2.1	Assistance to local groups, communities or agencies to review potential CA candidates, submit initial concepts, develop plans and revise earlier proposals	this is expected to be on-going through the life of the SPBCP
3.2.2	Develop clear criteria to evaluate and select CA projects for SPBCP support	CA projects will be evaluated and supported in stages against specific milestones; criteria and evaluation process will be developed from those prepared during the PA phase
3.2.3	Evaluate proposals against selection criteria	for all proposals, SPBCP response should be sent within one month of receipt; additional work to support incomplete proposals may be supported
3.2.4	Select 2-3 CAPs for implementation	Some CA proposals received during PA phase might be ready for implementation by 1992

Activities for Objective 4: Improved Awareness of Biodiversity and its Conservation

Activities for Output 4.1 CA and SPBCP publicity		Comments
4.1.1	Publicising of the CA concept, the SPBCP, how it is being implemented and how people can participate with a view to ensure public support	Entailing publicity at regional and national meetings; provision of advice to governments, NGOs and regional bodies, and their relevant programmes, including NEMS, RETA and related exercise; and limited use of mass media to contact a wider audience in the region.
Activities for Output 4.2 Information for CA projects		Comments
4.2.1	Support for preparation and dissemination of materials and activities to inform, educate and involve relevant people and agencies in each CA project	this will be organised by the local coordinating groups, will assistance from SPBCP where necessary

Activities for Objective 5: Improved Capacities and Cooperation for Conservation of South Pacific Biodiversity

Activities for Output 5.1 Training and institutional strengthening		Comments
5.1.1	Conduct in-country training on biodiversity conservation and CA establishment and management in a cost-effective sustainable manner	through 1993 to 1996, at least one seminar or course will be held in each participant country, and will include assessments of any local CA projects conducted by core team and appropriate consultant(s) as required
5.1.2	Provide assistance for training people involved in each CA project	this may be in conjunction with 5.1.1 above, or may be run by or for the CA coordinating group; on-going in-service training will be encouraged and supported for each established CA
5.1.3	Arrange short courses or study tours on management and planning of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of renewable natural resources	this would be designed for specific individuals involved in CA establishment or management; it could involve exchange of CAP personnel; studies in other locations or countries; and a regional or sub-regional series of SPBCP organised courses on a variety of relevant topics
5.1.4	Develop guidelines to assess NGO capacity based on NGO capacity assessed under on-going PMI project	in consultation with a national or regional NGO
Activities for Output 5.2 Practical Biodiversity Policies		Comments
5.2.1	Provide assistance for policy-oriented studies on conservation of biodiversity in the region	the SPBCP budget provides for one or more studies each year, one focus will be case studies involving CAPs; other fields will be selected as the project progresses
5.2.2	Technical and policy reports on aspects of the SPBCP	this will provide tentatively one or more reports each year from 1993 to 1996; this will include a full 1996 analysis of SPBCP lessons, resulting in well-evaluated and guided options for establishing and managing CAs in the region
Activities for Output 5.3 Accessible Data		Comments
5.3.1	Provision of assistance and guidance to set up appropriate databanks supporting management of Conservation Areas, at local (CA), national and regional levels	to be set up regionally and nationally by end of 1993, and for each CA project as it becomes established; this will cover information on CAs, sustainable development
5.3.2	Assist in interpreting, analysing and using data for environmental matters	Government, NGO and regional organisation capacities strengthened
Activities for Output 5.4 Regional Conservation Network		Comments
5.4.1	Maintain regular consultation with organisations involved in biodiversity conservation in the region; seek and organise opportunities for collaboration	NGOs, regional organisations and aid agencies are active in the region with projects and programmes that complement the SPBCP
5.4.2	Support regional conferences concerned with biodiversity conservation	this will include part funding for SPREP's 1993 biodiversity conference, and for other, similar events during the life of the SPBCP

4. Criteria for Success

Criteria for judging the successful achievement by 1996 of the immediate SPBCP objectives 1 to 5 are indicated below.

Success Criteria for Objective 1:

CA Projects

- CAs are established in at least fifteen locations, with coordinating groups, and planning, administration, management and development arrangements well formed;

- effectiveness of these CA projects, and of measures to achieve biodiversity conservation, ecologically sustainable development, and control of incompatible impacts of human activities within them, is assessed;

- results and lessons are recorded and disseminated.

Success Criteria for Objective 2:

Species Protection

- protection plans are in place and implementation started for important threatened species involved in each CA project;

- protection strategies for marine mammals, birds and turtles will have been in operation for the five years of the SPBCP;
- protection strategies are prepared for threatened or endangered plant and invertebrate species;
- long term programmes for regional species protection are organised.

Success Criteria for Objective 3:

Identification of Potential CAs

- identification of important potential CAs in each participant country is completed;
- evaluation of identified areas against developed criteria is completed.

Success Criteria for Objective 4: *Important Awareness*

- the CA concept, the SPBCP, how it is being implemented and how people can participate are understood at national and provincial levels and among community groups and NGOs in participant countries.
- each SPBCP CA project includes relevant education and information activities and materials, of known effectiveness in explaining the area's biodiversity and how it is being used and conserved.

Success Criteria for Objective 5:

Improved Capacities and Cooperation for Conservation of Biodiversity

- there is a measurable increase in the number of Pacific Island nationals involved in biodiversity conservation;
- each SPBCP CA projects has an operational training programme and training materials;
- appraisal of organisational issues and the conservation, economic and social effects of each CA project will be completed, and results disseminated;
- at least one technical report on biodiversity conservation will be completed each year;
- each SPBCP CA project includes a managerial database;
- there is a SPBCP database accessible in each participant country, with links to a coordinating point at SPBCP;
- all groups and agencies involved in biodiversity conservation in the region are collaborating in SPBCP activities;
- a suite of CA management models and tools are documented, and shared within and outside the SPBCP participant countries, including all SPREP countries;
- partial support will have been given to at least three relevant conferences in the region;
- increased biodiversity conservation activity within the region, beyond 1996, is organised, with technical assistance and funding assured.

Section E: Inputs

1. GEF/UNDP Input

The GEF/UNDP input of \$10 million is summarised in Section J with an annual breakdown in Annex I. Details off equipment and miscellaneous costs are attached to Annex I. The GEF will provide the following:

SPBCP MANAGEMENT		US\$,000
Programme Management, SPBCP	48 person-months @ SPC level P1	319
Programme Officer, Species	50% funding (other 50% from SPREP) 48p-m @ P2 x 0.5	127
Two Programme Officers, CAs	resource conservation and sustainable development planning, management, training; 2 x 45 p-m @ P3	380
Consultancies (see under SPBCP In-country Support for CA)		
Four SPBCP Programme Support Staff	admin, secretarial, technical assistant, driver, 144 p-m @ average of \$1,500/m	287
Staff travel and expenses		298
Equipment and office	capital and running costs for Programme and office (equipment, communications, services, recording)	430
P.A. Personnel	P.A. Team and support staff cost	205
Reviews and Advisory Group	tripartite reviews; costs of Technical and Management Advisory Group and CAP proposal review costs	156
SPBCP IN-COUNTRY SUPPORT		
Country reviews, survey, information, CA identification	national and local publicity, SPBCP database, CA identification and evaluation	426
Conservation Area Projects	support for individual CAPs - establishment, planning, coordination (coordinating groups, survey, research, consultancies, information, admin.)	2,607
	support for individual CAPs - CAP support officers (15 x 25 p-m @ average \$1,000/m)	400
	support for individual CAPs - sustainable development activities (pilots, consultancies, initial capital)	2,796
Training	Support for training workshop, study tours and conferences	777
SPECIES PROTECTION		
Support for Regional Species	Implementation of SPREP region protection strategies - birds (280), turtles (170) and marine mammals (170)	620
UNDP Charges	UNDP Field Office Support Cost	172
TOTAL (U\$,000)		10,000

SPREP Inputs

SPREP professional and management staff are expected to devote approximately the following percentage of their time to assisting or overseeing the SPBCP: Director 15%, Deputy Director 150%, Financial Manager 20%, and Information Officer 20%.

SPREP will arrange at least two direct overseas lines (one for phone; one for fax) for the SPBCP. Office maintenance will be SPREP's responsibilities. In addition, SPREP will provide office space, access to communication facilities, and administrative support to all project personnel stationed in, or on missions to, SPREP in Apia.

The value of the SPREP support to the SPBCP is summarised below including the PA phase:

SPREP Personnel	Salary for SPBCP activities	Number of years	Total Value (US\$)
Director	12,000	5	60,000
Deputy Director	10,000	5	50,000
Financial Manager	10,000	5	50,000
Information Officer	9,000	5	45,000
Programme Officer (Species)	32,000	5	160,000
Support Staff	10,000	5	50,000
Total SPREP Personnel Contribution		5	\$415,000
SPREP Office Inputs	Average Per Year	Number of Years	Total Value (US\$)
Office space	24,000	5	120,000
Office maintenance	1,000	5	5,000
Office security	1,2000	5	6,000
Total of "Office Inputs"			\$131,000
<i>Total value of SPREP contributions</i>			\$546,000

Host Government's Inputs

Member Governments' contributions will include office space, administrative and logistic support, professional and national colleagues and counterparts estimated at US\$150,000.

Section F: Risks

There are several risks of SPBCP failure, the main ones described below along with measures designed to reduce them.

1. Inadequate access to communally-owned land which would benefit from CA status

In participating countries, land is overwhelmingly custom or communally owned¹⁷ with little direct access or control by Government agencies. In Fiji and Western Samoa, for example, over 80% of land, and nearly all rural land, is thus owned. There is a risk that the SPBCP will not gain adequate access to privately-owned land with important ecosystems or biota due to poor relationships between the government and landowners,

inadequate involvement of landowners and the local community early in the planning phases of a particular CA, etc.

There is a history of failed projects in the region where landowners have been treated as obstacles rather than partners or where a project of potential benefit to all concerned has failed because outside interveners did not attempt to learn or respect local customs or customary law.

This risk will be reduced by land-owning groups and their legal representatives being participants in CA planning from the earliest stages; by depending primarily on local communities and land-owning groups in the management of CAs; by hiring local people as CA staff, and where possible addressing local aspirations through appropriate income-generating activities.

¹⁷ See "Land Tenure in the Pacific" (Oxford University Press, 1971) edited by Dr Ron Crocombe, Professor Emeritus, USP, Fiji.

2. Insufficient support from governments

There have been excellent policy statements, sometimes good legislation, and impressive conservation rhetoric emanating from governments but effective follow-up action is often lacking. For the SPBCP to succeed, governments must be serious about biodiversity conservation. Appropriate policy perceived reforms and management action need to be developed in areas outside those perceived as the "conservation sector" which can have major impacts on biodiversity (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, primary industry, and tourism) and relevant Government officials informed and trained.

There is some mitigation of this risk. SPREP is supporting the national environment management strategies in twelve countries and cooperating with three others; the NEMS will strengthen the institutions of the conservation sector through training, developing greater public support for conservation, and by providing national mandates for conservation.

There is a related risk that government departments with a formal responsibility for conservation activities, but little history of effective action, will resent strong in-country management roles for NGOs and other local groups. A key to the success of the SPBCP will be effective and approximate in-country working groups to oversee the establishment and initial management of the conservation area. The membership of this group must include the appropriate government conservation official, local groups, NGOs and other important government officials outside the conservation sector.

3. Insufficient activities within the participating countries

SPBCP activities and expenditures should occur largely in-country, not at SPBCP headquarters. There is often a danger that regional assistance programmes become top-heavy with the bulk of funds spent on headquarters staff, generation of studies, etc. This will be guarded against by allocating a high proportion of funds directly for in-country activities.

4. SPREP may be unable to effectively use the GEF support

SPREP is becoming an independent organisation but the metamorphosis from a small SPC programme is still incomplete. There are risks in charging an organisation with managing a large new initiative while it is itself undergoing rapid structural changes. These risks include insufficient time spent by management on SPBCP matters because of other pressing concerns, inadequate financial control - particularly of in-country CA expenditures, and inappropriate staff hired for the SPBCP.

As described earlier, SPREP is receiving considerable assistance from various agencies and cooperation from its member governments in finalising its legal status, establishing a good financial control system, and revising its action plans. UNDP is specifically funding a corporate plan and establishment of a new financial control and auditing system.

Observers familiar with SPREP agree that staff have been competent, highly motivated, and professional. The disbursement of CA funds to the local CA management groups will be dependent upon successful negotiations and development of a staged approach, detailed plans and adequate local financial control mechanisms. Finally, the involvement of recognised, reputable NGOs in SPBCP management and activities will reduce this risk.

5. The success of the SPBCP may be short term only

SPREP itself depends overwhelmingly on donor support for its operations. Funding committed to SPREP, additional support under consideration, and expressions of interest from new donors all indicate that SPREP will have adequate finances for the next few years. However, there is a risk that SPREP will not have the finances to support the CA activities beyond the five year life of the SPBCP. However, it is intended that, as far as possible, the CA projects will not be dependent on overseas support after the initial establishment period.

6) Insufficient or inappropriate biodiversity research and education of prospective biodiversity specialists

Specific technical knowledge is required for "conservation" and "sustainable development" to proceed. However, understanding of biodiversity and of appropriate, sustainable uses of renewable natural resources is incomplete for the Pacific Islands. The SPBCP approach is to use conservation areas to protect critical habitats and develop sustainable use and development practices concurrently, the logic being that is, it is better to act quickly to develop effective models with the best of the working knowledge available.

Section G: Prior Obligations and Prerequisites

1. Prior Obligations

The member Governments' commitment is inherent in their annual pledging of voluntary contributions to SPREP and their endorsement of the project concept in 1991.

2. Prerequisites

SPREP will establish a financial control system which is endorsed by independent outside auditors who are acceptable to UNDP.

Section H: Project Review, Reporting and Evaluation

1. Tripartite Reviews

The SPBCP will be subject to annual "Tripartite Reviews" (TPRs) by representatives of the executing agency, participating governments and UNDP. NGOs will also be invited to participate. The first review will be held within the first twelve months of the full implementation phase of the SPBCP.

The Programme Manager shall prepare and submit to each review meeting a Project Performance Evaluation Report (PPER) in the format specified by UNDP. Copies of each PPER are to be provided to the executing agency, participating governments, the SPBCP TMAG and UNDP in time to be received at least one month prior to the review. The TPR itself will incorporate input or distribute materials from the Technical and Management Advisory Group at their discretion.

2. Work Programme

The Programme Manager will prepare a draft annual work programme which is circulated to participating countries, NGOs, and members of the TMAG, well before the TPR, IGM or any other meeting at which the work programme is to be considered.

3. Midterm Review

An independent external review of the SPBCP will be held about halfway through the programme's scheduled lifetime. This will be arranged by UNDP in consultation with the executing agency.

4. Regular Reporting

Each staff member and consultant assigned to the project, whether directly or through cooperating or support agencies, will be required to prepare relevant documents or technical reports to record results of specific tasks performed under the work plan. Whenever consultants use work processing, database or spreadsheet software in their work, they will be required to provide the SPBCP -- and appropriate CAP coordinating groups, NGOs and governments -- with relevant text files, templates and data in a usable format, generally the prevailing SPREP format.

The Programme Manager will prepare annual reports for submission to SPREP, governments, appropriate NGOs and countries which summarise:

- i) activities overall and by country,
- ii) constraints to meeting objectives,
- iii) expenditures, and
- iv) other relevant information such as co-financing, list of reports prepared during the year etc.

The Programme Manager will prepare quarterly summary reports on activities overall and activities in-country for submission to SPREP, UNDP and the countries concerned.

5. Terminal Report

A terminal project report will be prepared for consideration at the terminal review to be held in the final year of the programme's life. A draft report will be prepared at least four months prior to the meeting to allow advance review and comments by participating governments, appropriate NGOs, CAP coordinating groups, SPREP and UNDP.

6. Auditing

An annual audit of project activities will be performed by an auditor approved by UNDP in accordance with UNDP audit guidelines. This will contain an audit opinion on the Combined Delivery Report, Government Disbursement Report and Reconciliation of Outstanding Advances/Status of Funds Report for each financial (calendar) year and a copy will be forwarded to the Principal Project Representative by 31 March of the following year.

7. Accounting and Financial reporting

SPREP will maintain an accounting system that contains books, records and controls sufficient to ensure the accuracy and reliability of SPBCP financial information. SPREP will prepare two financial reports (Government disbursement report and Conciliation of outstanding UNDP advice/status of funds) and submit them to the Principal Project Representative within 30 days after the end of each quarter.

The information furnished on the reports forms the basis of periodic financial reviews and their timely submission is a prerequisite to the continuing funding of the SPBCP. Accounting and financial management will be the subject of a separate agreement between UNDP and SPREP.

A schedule of reviews, reporting and evaluation is attached as Annex 4.

Section I: Legal Context

It is understood that participating Governments undertake to treat this project in the same manner as national projects with respect to privileges, facilities and immunities.

The following types of revisions may be made to this project document with the signatures of the UNDP Principal Project Representative, and the Director of the Executing Agency.

a) revisions in, or addition of, any of the annexes to the Project Document;

- b) revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of a project, but are caused by the rearrangement of inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation; and
- c) mandatory annual revisions which rephrase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility.

More substantive changes require the written approval of UNDP NY on behalf of the GEF.

Section J: Budget

Annex I provides a detailed breakdown by year of GEF inputs. This and the SPREP input are summarised below:

Inputs	SPREP Inputs (US\$'000)	GEF Inputs (US\$'000)
10 Personnel, travel, etc.	415	2924
20 Sub-Contracts		5668
30 Training		777
40 Equipment		98
50 Miscellaneous	131	489
93 Agency Support Cost		44
Total Inputs	546	10,000

Annexes

Annex 1: Detailed Budget for GEF Inputs

PROJECT BUDGET COVERING GEF CONTRIBUTIONS (in US\$'000)

(page 1 of 2)

PROJECT TITLE: South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme
PROJECT NUMBER: PAS/91/G31/DIG/99

	TOTAL	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
	m/m \$	m/m \$	m/m \$	m/m \$	m/m \$	m/m \$	m/m \$
10 PROJECT PERSONNEL							
Experts							
1101 Programme Manager, SRBCP	48 318,949			12 74,000	12 77,700	12 81,585	12 85,664
1102 Programme Officer (CAs)	45 196,386			9 37,500	12 50,400	12 52,920	12 55,566
1103 Programme Officer (CAs)	42 183,886			6 25,000	12 50,400	12 52,920	12 55,566
1104 Programme Officer (Species)	48 127,149			12 29,500	12 30,975	12 32,524	12 34,150
1105 CA Project Consultancies	190 806,500			30 132,500	40 164,000	60 255,000	60 255,000
1106 PA Personnel	18 153,680		18 145,316	8,364			
1199 Subtotal	391 1,786,550		18 145,316	69 306,864	88 373,475	108 474,949	108 485,946
1300 Support Personnel	162 286,745		18 6,550	36 71,450	36 66,700	36 69,535	36 72,510
1399 Subtotal	162 296,745		18 6,550	36 71,450	36 66,700	36 69,535	36 72,510
1500 Official Travel	294,262		54,535	79,727	60,000	50,000	50,000
1599 Subtotal	294,262		54,535	79,727	60,000	50,000	50,000
1600 Mission Costs (TPRs, Advisory Group, etc.)	156,238		16,238	30,000	50,000	30,000	30,000
1799 Subtotal	156,238		16,238	30,000	50,000	30,000	30,000
1700 CA Support Officers (in-Country)	400 400,000			45 45,000	100 100,000	125 125,000	130 130,000
1799 Subtotal	400 400,000			45 45,000	100 100,000	125 125,000	130 130,000
19 COMPONENT TOTAL	953 2,923,794		36 222,638	150 533,041	224 650,175	269 749,484	274 768,456
20 SUB-CONTRACT							
2901 CA Awareness, Identification	450,820		54,820	100,000	120,000	100,000	76,000
2902 CA Establishment & Management	2,203,600			288,400	488,400	688,400	738,400
2903 CA Sustainable Development Activities	2,393,600			285,900	585,900	735,900	785,900
2904 Species Protection	619,500			167,375	217,375	117,375	117,375
Prior Year Adjustment							
29 COMPONENT TOTAL	5,667,520		54,820	841,675	1,411,675	1,641,675	1,717,675
30 TRAINING							
3200 Study Tours	355,000			50,000	105,000	100,000	100,000
3300 In-Service Training	421,800		58,640	181,360	65,000	55,000	61,800
3800 Prior Years Adjustment							
39 COMPONENT TOTAL	776,800		58,640	231,360	170,000	155,000	161,800
40 EQUIPMENT							
4200 Non-expendable equipment	98,386		13,603	65,462	14,626	4,695	
4800 Prior Years Adjustment							
49 COMPONENT TOTAL	98,386		13,603	65,462	14,626	4,695	
50 MISCELLANEOUS							
5100 Miscellaneous	78,881		19,606	9,750	12,750	18,450	18,325
5200 Printing Cost	46,000			6,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
5300 Sundry	190,492	1,767		44,250	42,250	51,550	50,675
5400 Field Office Support Cost	174,000			44,000	40,000	45,000	45,000
Prior Year Adjustment							
59 COMPONENT TOTAL	489,373	1,767	19,606	104,000	105,000	130,000	129,000
93 ADMIN. & OPERATIONAL SERVICES							
9300 Agency Support Cost	44,127		44,127				
Component Total	44,127	1,767	44,127				
99 GRAND TOTAL	953 10,000,000	1,767	36 413,434	150 1,775,538	224 2,351,476	269 2,680,854	274 2,776,931

US\$1,767 Please refer to Hu Fazzi's EMAIL to Natsuki Hiratsuka of 25 March 1993 also also NOTE TO THE FILE attached to the Record of the PAC Meeting - 29/10/93
US\$413,434 Actual 1992 expenditure reported in Headquarters' Combined Delivery Report for year ending 31 December 1992.

	1991		1992		1993		1994		1995		1996	
TOTAL COST	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost
EQUIPMENT												
desk, with drawers	2,728				4	1,760	2	968				
desk, no drawers	924				2	440	2	484				
chair, swivel	1,400				3	1,050	1	350				
chair, straightback	494				2	154	4	340				
table, small conference	400				1	400						
bookshelves	1,200				4	1,200						
floor fans	450				3	450						
report binder	1,500				1	1,500						
map filing cabinet	1,000				1	1,000						
filing cabinet	1,144				6	660	4	484				
slide projector	3,000				1	3,000						
camera	2,500				1	2,500						
overhead projector screen	2,800				1	2,800						
desk lamps	600				4	600						
computer desktop	5,000				2	5,000						
computer, notebook	7,300				2	3,500	2	3,800				
printer	2,900				1	400	1	2,500				
photocopier	7,000				1	7,000						
fax machine	550				1	550						
UPS/power conditioner	3,000				2	3,000						
automobile	20,000					20,000						
PA Equipment	13,603	13,603										
miscellaneous	18,893					8,498		5,700		4,695		0
Non-expendable total	98,386	0	13,603	0	65,462	0	14,626	0	4,695	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS												
PA expenditure	19,606		19,606									
vehicle, maintenance	8,000							2,000		2,500		3,500
equipment, maintenance	9,000							2,000		3,500		3,500
petrol	10,000					1,200		2,000		3,500		3,300
office supplies	21,875					6,250		4,250		6,250		5,125
electricity	10,400					2,300		2,500		2,700		2,900
printing costs	46,000					6,000		10,000		15,000		15,000
communications; postage, etc.	39,250					7,500		8,500		11,250		12,000
communications; fax, phone	103,100					25,275		25,275		25,275		27,275
sundry	48,142	1,767				11,475		8,475		15,025		11,400
Field Office Support Cost	174,000					44,000		40,000		45,000		45,000
Miscellaneous total	489,373	0	1,767	0	104,000	0	105,000	0	130,000	0	0	129,000

Annex 2: Draft Work Plan for Phase 1

(January 1993 - December 1994)

The Work Plan activities below begin with administrative matters and are then listed in order of the 5 programme objectives. Activity numbers correspond with and expand on those of Section D3 of the Project Document. The order is not intended to indicate priorities.

A more detailed and fully operational Phase I project work plan, specifying achievement targets and budgetary requirements especially for the CA and other programme activities, will be prepared by the Programme Manager and

Programme Officers with the support of AIDAB provided consultants for review by the Technical and Management Advisory Group (TMAG). It is to be revised, updated and rolled forward annually, and reviewed by TMAG in the Tripartite Review.

PM = Programme Manager
 PO(CA) = Programme Officer (Conservation Areas)
 PO(SP) = Programme Officer (Species Protection)
 CASO = Conservation Area Support Officer

1993 - 1994 Administrative Activities

1993 Activity	Timing	Comments
0.1 hire SPBCP PM, one PO(CA), PO(SP), at least 2 CASOs and support staff	1993	SPREP and UNDP; advertise professional positions widely
0.2 organise equipment purchase and delivery	1993	PM and POs
0.3 prepare travel schedule for staff and consultants	update quarterly	PM & POs
0.4 prepare consultant register and tentative indication of consultants required for 1993 and 1994 cost	first half 1993 and 1994	POs
0.5 prepare revised budget and project document if necessary	before 1993 TPR as indicated in Schedule of Reviews	PM and POs
0.6 prepare progress reports, annual report, PPER		PM
0.7 prepare detailed TOR for TMAG		
0.8 arrange liaison and consultative process for NGO participation in SPBCP	first half 1993	PM
0.9 review/revise 1994 work plan	prior to 1993 TPR	PM and POs
0.10 put in place SPBCP operational procedures	first half 1993	PM, SPREP Admin., UNDP
0.11 set up TMAG and CA proposal review process	second half 1993	PM, SPREP, UNDP
0.12 hold first meeting of TMAG	continued from 1993	PM and POs
1994 Activity		
0.13 organise equipment purchase	continued	PM and POs
0.14 prepare travel schedule etc.	second half 1994	PM and POs
0.15 prepare tentative indication of consultants required for 1995	second half 1994	PM
0.16 prepare budget and project document for 1995-1996	as indicated in Schedule of Reviews	PM
0.17 prepare progress and annual reports	second half 1994	TMAG
0.18 Evaluation of Phase 1	continued from 1993	PM and POs
0.19 continue consultation for NGO participation in SPBCP	prior to 1994 TPR	PM
0.20 prepare 1995 workplan which should include final project evaluation	first half 1994	PM
0.21 organise TMAG and TPR meetings	first half 1993	PM

1993 - 1994 Activities for Objective 1: Establishment and Management of CAs.

1993 Activities for Output 1.1:		CA Projects	Comments
1.1.1	assist local/national groups to review information, carry out consultations, and prepare initial CA concepts		follow up on all 1992 & 1993 approaches made, initial concepts and proposals received
1.1.2	evaluate initial concepts and approve SPBCP support for further development		apply and develop criteria for staged selection process. Select 2-3 CAPs with high success potential as models.
1.1.3	provide assistance in project design and community development		AIDAB had offered assistance in support of activities
1.1.4	provide assistance to local coordinating groups		organise assistance if requested/required by selected CAPs.
1.1.5	organise regular monitoring and reporting		ensure 4-6 monthly reporting to SPBCP by each CA project accepted
1994 Activities for Output 1.1:			
1.1.6	assist Coordinating Groups review information on CAPs and help others prepare initial CA concepts.		follow up from 1993 approaches and commence consultation with other potential CAPs
1.1.7	evaluate additional concepts and approve support for 1995 CAPs		select additional CAPs based on success models from initial selection.
1.1.8	assistance in project design and community development for 2-3 additional CAPs		with AIDAB assistance if available
1.1.9	continue to provide assistance to established coordinating groups		assistance to be based on the achievements on the 1993 activities
1.1.10	Review/Monitor progress on 1993/1994 work programme		evaluate success/failures and provide advice to coordinating groups where necessary
1.1.11	Prepare 1995 workplan and budget.		based on achievements of 1993 - 1994.
1993 Activities for Output 1.2		CA Management Tools	Comments
1.2.1	prepare draft general guidelines for establishment and management of CAs		prepare working draft and get reviewed by end of 1993
1.2.2	carry out socio-economic analysis on 2-3 CAPs		identify localities and select CAP for this purpose.
1994 Activities for Output 1.2			
1.2.3	adopt guidelines for establishment and management of CAs and for ESD activities		finalise draft after review and adopt by mid-1994
1993 Activities for Output 1.3		Coordinating Groups	Comments
1.3.1	assist development of local coordination arrangements for 2-3 CA proposals		encourage early in planning for 2-3 CAPs, assist appointment of CA project support officers in each locality
1994 Activities for Output 1.3			
1.3.2	assist coordinating groups with the preparation of management plans, implementation of project activities and in training of CAP personnel in 2-3 CAPs.		assist/advise on implementation of project activities and encourage wider participation by local communities
1993 Activities for Output 1.4		CA Management Planning	Comments
1.4.1	provide advice on planning processes through POs and CASOs		as CA initial concept is developed.
1.4.2	facilitate development and endorsement of CA plans		assist with the development of management plans for CAPs selected during PA phase
1994 Activities for Output 1.4			
1.4.3	provide advice and assistance on planning and implementation processes through POs and CASOs		continue from 1993
1.4.4	review and revise CA plans		as the need arises and taking into account 1993 achievements

1993 Activities for Output 1.5		Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD)	Comments
1.5.1	assist assessment of existing resource uses and income generation in and around proposed CAs		use local coordinating group, local organisations, consultants
1.5.2	review of regional and international options for ESD		to draw on a wide body of experience and on as many ideas as possible in finding sustainable development activities suitable to specific CAPs
1994 Activities for Output 1.5			
1.5.2	continue assessment of existing resource uses and income generation in and around 2-3 CAs		as in 1.5.1
1.5.3	provide coordinating groups with technical assistance and capital and seed funding for eSD activities		for 2-3 CAPs

1993 - 1994 Activities for Objective 2 Regional Species Conservation

1993 Activities for Output 2.1:		Species Protection	Comments
2.2.1	provide part-funding to Programme Officer, Species Protection		
2.2.2	provide initial funding for regional strategies for turtles, birds, and marine mammals		
2.2.3	develop workplan for 1993 - 1994 strategies		workplan to be based on regional
1994 Activities for Output 2.1			
2.2.4	identify national and NGO focal points for coordination of species programme		to be done in consultation with SPREP country/NGO focal points
2.2.5	provide advice and resources in support of national efforts in species conservation		
2.2.6	review 1993-1994 work plan and draft 1995-1996 work programme		1995-1996 work programme to take into account achievements on 1993-1994 work plan

1993 - 1994 Activities for Objective 3 Identification of Important Potential CAs

1993 Activities for Output 3.1:		Information	Comments
3.1.1	distribute overviews of biodiversity and assist with their use as basis for in-country and regional databanks.		documents based on available information in 10 countries and a regional overview will be completed in 1992
3.1.2	document biodiversity issues in participant countries		compile preliminary reviews for each participant country: POs
3.1.3	encourage other agencies/programmes to undertake conservation and biodiversity assessments		help identify needs and find other support; maintain liaison with relevant organisations; PM and POs
1994 Activities for Output 3.1			
3.1.4	facilitate exchange of information between CAPs and publicise successful CAPs as models for others to follow		assist with dissemination of information locally and regionally about successful CAPs
3.1.5	continue liaison with other programmes to ensure coordination		follow on from 3.1.3
1993 Activities for Output 3.2:		CA identification and evaluation	Comments
3.2.1	assist local groups, communities or agencies to review potential CA candidates, submit initial concepts, develop plans and revise earlier proposals		POs and PM to extend country visits of PA team; devise schedule to give some support to each participant country in 1993
3.2.2	develop CA evaluation and selection criteria		refine criteria and ProDoc by end 1993
3.2.3	evaluate proposals against selection criteria		continue to evaluate proposals from countries and develop those with good potential for implementation during and beyond 1994

1994 Activities for Output 3.2:		
3.2.4	continue assistance to local groups, communities etc with initial concepts and plans for CAs and ESD activities	continue from 1993 activities
3.2.5	monitor progress with establishment CAPs and develop selection criteria for 1995-1996 if necessary	refine 1993-1994 criteria for 1995-96 if necessary

1993 - 1994 Activities for Objective 4 Improved Awareness of Biodiversity and its Convention

1993 Activities for Output 4.1:		CA and SPBCP publicity	Comments
4.1.1	design and implement awareness-raising of CA concept, the SPBCP, how it is being implemented and how people can participate, in each country		POs and PM to complete initial campaign covering all countries by end 1993
1994 Activities for Output 4.1:			
4.1.2	design and implement awareness-raising for 2-3 CAPs, and publicise widely		use materials from 2 or 3 CAPs to publicise SPBCP and to encourage development of additional CAPs in other localities
1993 Activities for Output 4.2		Information materials for CA projects	Comments
4.2.1	support preparation of CA project information		organise as part of preliminary response and plan development by the local coordinating group
1994 Activities for Output 4.2			
4.2.2	continue support for preparation of CAP information		

1993 - 1994 Activities for Objective 5 Improved Capacities and Cooperation for Conservation

1993 Activities for Output 5.1		Training and strengthening	Comments
5.1.1	in-country training		plan and organise programme for delivery starting second half 1993 for 1 or two CAPs
5.1.2	develop guidelines to assess NGO capacity		to be done in consultation with a national or regional NGO
1994 Activities for Output 5.1			
5.1.3	workshops for 2 CAPs		plan and organise one workshop each for 2 CAPs
5.1.4	study tours		arrange study tours for CAP personnel
5.1.5	continue in-country training		design training programme for 1995 - 1996
1993 Activities for Output 5.2		Practical Biodiversity Policies	Comments
5.2.1	assistance for biodiversity studies		plan full series of possible studies - POs, PM and TMAG; organise initiation of 1-2 studies in 1993
5.2.2	prepare technical and policy reports		organise compilation of one analysis and report in 1993; design possible series of reports with TMAG
1994 Activities for Output 5.2			
5.2.3	continue assistance for biodiversity studies		organise 1-2 studies in 1994
5.2.4	continue technical and policy reports		continue activities from 1993. Assist with preparation of legal instruments to formally establish 1 or 2 CAPs if necessary

1993 Activities for Output 5.3		Accessible Data	Comments
5.3.1	assist setting up of appropriate databanks		consult and design system; set up regional and national foci by end of 1993
1994 Activities for Output 5.3			
5.3.2	collect data for 2-3 CAPs		set up database for each CAP and assist with collection of information
5.3.3	coordinate with other regional and international data centres		ensure compatibility of data with those of other biodiversity data centres
1993 Activities for Output 5.4		Regional Conservation Network	Comments
5.4.1	consult with organisations involved in biodiversity conservation in the region		complete familiarisation of relevant agencies and planning of collaborative process by end of 1993
5.4.2	support regional conferences		organise and provide part-funding for 1993 "biodiversity conference"
1994 Activities for Output 5.4			
5.4.3	continue consultation with other organisations involved in biodiversity conservation		finalise planning for collaboration processes with other organisation
5.4.4	plan series of future conferences		taking into account any recommendation from 1993 conference in this regard

Annex 3: Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank	ORSTOM	L'Institut Francais de Recherche Scientifique Pour Le Developpment en Cooperation
CA	Conservation Area	PA	Preparatory Assistance
CAP	Conservation Area Project	PCAA	Palau Community Action Agency (Palau)
CACC	Conservation Area Coordinating Committee	PFF	Project Formulation Framework (UNDP)
CASO	Conservation Area Support Officer	PICs	Pacific Island Countries (and territories)
CAP	Conservation Area Project (or Plan)	PM	Project Manager or Programme Manager
CFTC	Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation	PMI	Pacific Multi-Island IPF (UNDP)
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency	PNG	Papua New Guinea
C-SPOD	Canadian-South Pacific Ocean Development	PPER	Project Performance Evaluation Review
EC	European Community	PRI	Palau Resources Institute
ECO	Environment Contaminant Officer (SPREP)	RETA	Regional Environment Technical Assistance (ADB)
ECU	European Currency Unit (1.0 ecu = US\$1.27, May 1992)	SIDT	Solomon Islands Development Trust
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (Fiji)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (US)	SPACHEE	South Pacific Action Committee on Human Ecology and the Environment (Fiji)
EPQB	Environmental Protection Quality Board (FSM, Marshalls, Palau)	SPBCP	South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN, Bangkok)	SPC	South Pacific Commission
EWC	East-West Center (Hawaii)	SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (of the UN)	SSCN	Swedish Society for the Conservation of Nature
FFA	Forum Fisheries Agency (Honiara, Solomon Islands)	STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (to the GEF)
FSP	Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific	TNC	The Nature Conservancy
GEF	Global Environment Facility (World Bank, UNDP and UNEP)	TOR	Terms of Reference
GEMS	Global Environment Monitoring System (UNEP)	TMAG	Technical and Management Advisory Group
GRID	Global Resource Information Base (UNEP)	TPR	Tripartite Review (involving governments, UNDP and the executing agency)
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Zusammenarbeit (Germany)	UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
ICOD	International Center for Ocean Development (Halifax, Canada)	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IGM	Inter-Governmental Meeting	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IOI	International Oceans Institute (Malta)	UNV	United Nations Volunteer
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature (also called World Conservation Union)	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategy	USP	University of the South Pacific
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation	VNSS	Vanuatu Natural Science Society
NKDT	National Community Development Trust (Vanuatu)	WRI	World Resources Institute
ODA	Overseas Development Administration (UK)	WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (and World Wildlife Fund US)

Annex 4: Schedule of Project Reviews, Reporting and Evaluation

The exact dates of reviews, reporting and evaluations depend upon the project starting dates and the dates of the annual SPREP IGMs. This Annex is to be revised and updated by the Programme Manager as soon as possible.

Description	Date or frequency	Prepared by/comment
Inception Report	once	Programme Manager; within first 12 months.
PPER	annually	Programme Manager; prior to each TPR or other review.
TMAG Report	annually	Any reports of the "Technical and Management Advisory Group" will form an input into the TPR process.
Tripartite Review	annually	Organised by UNDP; involves UNDP, Executing Agency and countries Programme Manager to prepare additional materials as required.
Quarterly Report	quarterly	Programme Manager. This should be an overview of requests for services, key activities and progress by country and overall.
Work Programme	biennial	Draft prepared by Programme Manager, Considered, revised annually and approved at TPR.
Mid term review	once	Organised by UNDP and Executing Agency. Review of overall progress with possible recommendations for programme changes as necessary.
Terminal Report	once	Programme Manager. Replaces the PPER for the final year of the programme.
Final evaluation	once	Organised by UNDP within three months after completion of the Programme.

Annex 5: Job Descriptions.

Attached on the following pages are job descriptions for the following positions:

- Programme Manager
 - Programme Officers (two positions)
 - Programme Officer, Species Protection
 - Conservation Area Support Officers
-

Global Environment Facility (GEF) and South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

JOB DESCRIPTION: PROGRAMME MANAGER

SOUTH PACIFIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

SPREP, an Intergovernmental Agency of Pacific Island countries based in Western Samoa, seeks applicants for the above position. The initial appointment is for two years subject to one year probationary with a possible further extension. It is hoped to fill the position in early 1993.

Background:

The SPBCP is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a joint effort of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme. SPBCP is envisaged as a 5-year, US\$10 million concerted effort to protect biological diversity while facilitating while facilitating ecologically-sustainable development. Funding is for the period 1992-1996 with overall administration by SPREP. The SPBCP will facilitate establishment and initial management of a series of diverse conservation areas (terrestrial, marine or combined) in which human activities will be guided to protect important ecological features and to enable sustainable use of the area's natural resources. Subsidiary activities will support project objectives through provision of information, species protection and action-oriented policy studies.

Location:

Apia, Western Samoa with extensive travel throughout the Pacific Islands.

Duties:

The Programme Manager will be responsible for the supervision and implementation of all activities of the SPBCP under the administration of the Director of SPREP. HE/she will cooperate closely with governments, local and international NGOs, local communities, and other agencies concerned with the establishment of conservation areas and other operations of the SPBCP. He/she will liaise closely with SPREP staff and assure active and full participation of NGOs in programme activities. In addition to the planning, management, and budgeting activities normally required for an operation of this size, the Programme Manager will be expected to perform the following principal duties:

- a) facilitate the development of detailed project design for individual Conservation Area Projects within the framework of the project document;
- b) implement activities stipulated in the project document and annual workplans directly and through supervision of all project staff and consultants;
- c) coordinate with government agencies and institutions within participating countries which are involved in the design and implementation of each project activity;

- d) facilitate the establishment and work of in-country Conservation Area coordinating groups;
- e) assist in-country coordinating groups to recruit project staff and consultants required to perform the work of specific project activities;
- f) facilitate the implementation of the species conservation activities;
- g) arrange through SPREP any sub-contracts required to carry out project activities; and
- h) arrange careful monitoring and reporting of key project activities.
- i) review and recommend modifications to project design documentation on a regular basis.

Qualifications:

University degree in a relevant field, preferably at a postgraduate level. Extensive (at least ten years) experience working on environmental conservation, resource management, land use management or related fields in or on behalf of developing countries, preferably within the Pacific Islands. Proven management skills are important. Experience in implementing community-based projects or working with NGOs in developing countries is desirable as so is experience in dealing with complex land tenure systems. Applicants must be nationals of a United Nations or SPREP member country.

Language:

Fluency in spoken and written English is essential. Knowledge of Pacific Island language(s) would be advantageous.

Remuneration and Conditions:

Remuneration, insurance, leave, allowances, etc. are on standard SPREP conditions at professional level P1.

Country Participation:

SPREP Island members are American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis & Futuna, and Western Samoa. Project finance excludes direct support for American Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, and Wallis & Futuna although they may participate through cost-sharing arrangements. PNG has a separate GEF biodiversity programme in which SPREP is not involved.

**Global Environment Facility (GEF) and
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**

JOB DESCRIPTION:

SENIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER, CONSERVATION AREAS/BIODIVERSITY

SOUTH PACIFIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

SPREP, an Intergovernmental Agency of Pacific Island countries based in Western Samoa, seeks applicants for a Programme Officer, for the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme. Initial appointments will be two years subject to one year probationary with a possible further extension. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

Background:

The SPBCP is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a joint effort of the World Bank, the United Nations Development (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme. SPBCP is a 5-year, US\$10 million concerted effort to protect biological diversity while facilitating ecologically-sustainable development. Funding is for the period 1992-996 with overall administration by SPREP. The SPBCP will establish and initially manage a series of diverse conservation areas (terrestrial, marine and combined) in which human activities will be guided to protect important ecological features and to enable sustainable use of the area's natural resources. Subsidiary activities will support project objectives through provision of information, species protection and action-oriented policy studies.

Location:

Apia, Western Samoa with extensive travel throughout the Pacific Islands.

Duties:

The Programme Officer will work under the direction of the Programme Manager. He/she will be responsible for planning and implementation of Conservation Area projects and expected to perform the following principal duties:

- a) plan and implement publicity and awareness programmes of the SPBCP and the Conservation Area (CA) concept in each of the participant countries and the region generally, leading to Conservation Area (CA) proposals;
- b) manage identification and evaluation process of potential CAs in each of the participant countries;
- c) assist with the establishment of in-country CA coordinating groups; hiring of CA support officers;
- d) preparation and submission of CA project proposals and development and implementation of CA plans, with specific responsibilities for biodiversity and conservation aspects;
- e) provide necessary assistance to CA coordinating groups in support of sustainable development and biodiversity conservation activities in CAs;

- f) consult with and support the SPBCP Programme Manager and other project team members on all aspects of CA and CA projects;
- g) continuously assess the potential for CA development in the participant countries; recommend ways in which CA development and biodiversity conservation can be better promoted;
- h) plan and manage education and training, planning and research programmes in conjunction with individual CA projects;
- i) carry out other related activities as directed by the Programme Manager.

Qualifications:

Post graduate degree in ecosystem and/or biodiversity conservation or related areas, and at least ten years experience in relevant fields, concerned with **natural resource management for conservation or development, training, resource sector extension** preferably in the Pacific or other island ecosystems. **Experience in implementing community based projects, or social analysis and/or business development is desirable.** Applicants must be nationals of a United Nations or SPREP member country.

Language:

Fluency in spoken and written English is essential. Knowledge of Pacific Island languages(s) would be advantageous.

Remuneration and Conditions:

Remuneration, insurance, leave, allowances, etc. are on standard SPREP conditions for professional staff at the top Programme Officer's level.

Country Participation:

SPREP Island members are American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis & Futuna, and Western Samoa. Project finance excludes direct support for America Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, and Wallis & Futuna although they may participate through cost-sharing arrangements. PNG has a separate GEF biodiversity programme in which SPREP is not involved.

**Global Environment Facility (GEF) and
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**

JOB DESCRIPTION

SENIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER, CONSERVATION AREAS/SOCIO-ECONOMICS

SOUTH PACIFIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

SPREP, an Intergovernmental Agency of Pacific Island countries based in Western Samoa, seeks applicants for a Programme Officer for the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme. Initial appointments will be two years subject to one year probationary with a possible further extension. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

Background:

The SPBCP is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a joint effort of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme. SPBCP is a 5-year US\$10 million concerted effort to protect biological diversity while facilitating ecologically-sustainable development. Funding is for the period 1992-1996 with overall administration by SPREP, the SPBCP will establish and initially manage a series of diverse conservation areas (terrestrial, marine and combined) in which human activities will be guided to protect important ecological features and to enable sustainable use of the area's natural resources. Subsidiary activities will support project objectives through provision of information, species protection and action-oriented policy studies.

Location:

Apia, Western Samoa with extensive travel throughout the Pacific Islands.

Duties:

The Programme Officer will work under the direction of the Programme Manager. He/She will be responsible for planning and implementation of Conservation Area Project and expected to perform the following principal duties:

- a) plan and implement publicity and awareness programmes of the SPBCP and the Conservation Area (CA) concept in each of the participant countries and the region generally leading to Conservation Area (CA) proposals;
- b) manage identification and evaluation process of potential CA in each of the participant countries;
- c) assist with the establishment of in-country CA coordinating groups; hiring of CA support officers;
- d) preparation and submission of CA project proposals and development and implementation of CA plans with specific responsibilities for biodiversity and conservation;
- e) provide necessary assistance to CA coordinating groups in support of sustainable development and biodiversity conservation activities in CAs;

- f) consult with and support the SPBCP Programme Manager and other project team members on all aspects of CA and CA projects;
- g) continuously assess the potential for CA development in the participant countries; recommend ways in which CA development and biodiversity conservation can be better promoted;
- h) plan and manage education and training, planning and research programmes in conjunction with individual CA projects;
- i) carry out other related activities as directed by the Programme Manager.

Qualification:

Post graduate degree in development economics or sociology and at least ten years experience in relevant fields, concerned with **natural resource management for conservation or development, training, business development, resource sector extension**; preferably in the Pacific or other island countries. **Experience in implementing community based projects or social analysis and/or business development is necessary.** Applicants must be nationals of a United Nations or SPREP member country.

Language:

Fluency in spoken and written English is essential. Knowledge of Pacific Island language(s) would be advantageous.

Remuneration and Conditions:

Remuneration, insurance, leave, allowances, etc. are on standard SPREP conditions for professional staff at the top Programme Officer's level.

Country Participation:

SPREP Island members are American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis & Futuna and Western Samoa. Project finance excludes direct support for American Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, and Wallis & Futuna although they may participate through cost-sharing arrangements. PNG has a separate GEF biodiversity programme in which SPREP is not involved.

**Global Environment Facility (GEF) and
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**

JOB DESCRIPTION

PROGRAMME OFFICER, SPECIES PROTECTION

SOUTH PACIFIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

SPREP, an Intergovernmental Agency of Pacific Island countries based in Western Samoa, seeks applicants for the position of Programme Officer, Species Protection. Initial appointments are for three years with a possible extension. It is hoped to fill the position in early 1993.

Background:

The SPBCP is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a joint effort of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme. SPBCP is a 5-year US\$10 million concerted effort to protect biological diversity while facilitating ecologically-sustainable development. Funding is for the period 1992-1996 with overall administration by SPREP. The SPBCP will establish and initially manage a series of diverse conservation areas (terrestrial, marine and combined) in which human activities will be guided to protect important ecological features and to enable sustainable use of the area's natural resources.

Related activities will support project objectives through species protection and action-oriented policy studies.

This position is established to give effect to these aspects of the SPBCP and SPREP work programme. The Programme Officer, Species Protection will manage the regional species conservation programmes for turtles, marine mammals and birds. In addition this officer will be responsible for facilitating the implementation of regional and global biodiversity conventions in SPREP member countries and initiating regional policy studies and activities related to biodiversity conservation such as bio-technology, biodiversity property rights, training, education, research and institutional development. Liaison with SPREP member countries not eligible for the SPBCP will also be required.

Location:

Apia, Western Samoa with travel throughout the Pacific Islands.

Duties:

The Programme Officer, Species Protection will work under the direction of the Programme Manager. He/She will be expected to perform the following principal duties:

- a) plan, oversee and facilitate the activities of the regional species conservation programme covering birds, marine mammals and turtles;
- b) ensure effective coordination of regional species conservation activities with the design and establishment of conservation areas;
- c) develop an annual workplan and budget consistent with the regional bird, marine turtles and marine mammals programmes in consultation with the expert advisory groups for these programmes;

- d) coordinate the implementation and development of the programmes with appropriate government and non government agencies and personnel in participating countries and ensure the joint planning of field activities and involvement and training of local personnel;
- e) ensure timely reporting of the results of the programme activities and that the bird, marine turtles and marine mammals components of the regional database are developed and maintained with timely entry of data generated by the programme;
- f) facilitate the regional implementation of the biodiversity conservation elements of regional conventions (SPREP and APIA) and the International Convention on Biodiversity;
- g) initiate regional studies related to biodiversity conservation issues of importance to SPREP member countries;
- h) initiate regional activities in support of biodiversity conservation such as education, training, information, research and institutional development;
- i) carry out other related activities as directed by the Director.

Qualifications:

University degree in a relevant field; at least five years field experience working ... on fauna protection, species recovery and wildlife management, preferably in the Pacific Islands. A good appreciation of Pacific Island species conservation issues is required and an understanding of the regional wildlife policy and legislation framework would be desirable. Good writing and verbal communication skills are necessary. Applicants must be nationals of a United Nations or SPREP member country.

Language:

Fluency in spoken and written English is essential. Knowledge of Pacific Island language(s) would be advantageous.

Remuneration and Conditions:

Remuneration, insurance, leave, allowances, etc. are on standard SPREP conditions at professional level P2.

Country Participation:

SPREP Island members are American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis & Futuna and Western Samoa. SPBCP finance excludes direct support for American Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam, PNG, New Caledonia, Northern Marianas and Wallis & Futuna although they may participate through cost-sharing arrangements.

**Global Environment Facility (GEF) and
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPBCP)**

JOB DESCRIPTION

CONSERVATION AREA PROJECT SUPPORT OFFICERS

South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme

Background:

The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a joint effort of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The SPBCP is a five year, US\$10 million concerted effort to protect the biological diversity while facilitating ecologically-sustainable development. Funding is for the period 1992-1996 with overall administration by SPREP. The SPBCP will establish and initially manage a series of diverse conservation areas (terrestrial, marine and combined) in which human activities will be guided to protect important ecological features and to enable sustainable use of the area's natural resources. Subsidiary activities will support project objectives through provision of information, species protection and action-oriented policy studies.

The SPBCP will establish in conjunction with governments, NGOs, landowning groups local communities, resource users and other interest groups Conservation Area coordinating groups which will oversee the planning and implementation of Conservation Area projects.

Duties:

The conservation Area support officer will provide a main line support, facilitation and communications between CA coordinating groups and SPBCP management. The support officers main duties are set out below:

- a) facilitate the establishment of the Conservation Area Coordinating Group, provide advice, consultation, as required;
- b) report to and work under the direction of the CA coordinating group on matters affecting the establishment and operation of the CAP; copy reports to the SPBCP Programme Officers or Manager;
- c) coordinate training for CAP personnel;
- d) arrange local meetings for coordinating group or individual sectors;
- e) arrange or facilitate mechanisms for CA project implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- f) carry out other activities conducive to the success of the CAP.

The CAP support officers will be appointed from the groups participating in the CA coordinating group with the approval of the Programme Manager. He/she will be employed by the CA coordinating group once adequately constituted, but will be funded, at least initially, by the SPBCP. The CASO will be appointed for an initial period of two years with possible extension up to a total of five years.

Annex 6: Regional Environmental Assistance and Activities by Donors, Regional Institutions and NGOs.

Late 1980's to Mid 1990's

A considerable amount of assistance is being provided to Pacific Island countries both directly and through SPREP for a wide range of environmental management and planning activities. Although this Annex an overview of technical assistance for environmental work in general and biodiversity in particular, it is incomplete for several reasons;

- many of the donors active in the region do not have records of those current assistance efforts which have strong environmental or biodiversity links and are not able to accurately provide such information;
- often "historical" information - including efforts as recent as 1987 - is not available from Pacific-based donor offices and headquarters records are hard to access;
- many assistance efforts (road construction, agricultural pest control, sustainable agricultural practices, agro-forestry, energy investments, etc.) may have strong positive or negative biodiversity conservation effects but it was impossible to obtain enough information to adequately cover them in this document;
- numerous international and local NGOs receive support for environment-related projects, usually small, which are often not recorded centrally within the region; and
- the recent upsurge in donor interest in environmental matters has probably resulted in several new initiatives of which local donor offices are unaware.

Nonetheless, the available information summarised below does provide a preliminary overview of the type and magnitude of past, ongoing and planned assistance in this sector. Overall support for environmental activities within the region has been about \$8 million to SPREP and roughly \$13 million to individual countries and non-SPREP recipients between 1988/89 and 1992. Over \$20 million more, including this programme, is likely to be provided to SPREP within the next few years. While financial support to SPREP is increasing quite substantially, planned new environmental assistance outside of SPREP activities appears to be relatively static compared to previous years.

This Annex provides details on the estimated environmental support and activities indicated in Table 1 of the main text. There are separate sections on: i) donor agencies and development banks, ii) regional organisations other than SPREP, and iii) NGOs.

ii) Environmental Support from Donors and Multilateral Development Banks

Recent and planned support for environmental activities by bilateral and multilateral donors and lending institutions is described below.

ADB

The Asian Development Bank is supporting the development of national environment strategies in five Pacific ADB member countries through a regional technical assistance (RETA) grant to SPREP which is expected to be completed by late 1993. There is a separate US\$60.6 million technical assistance programme for Fiji to develop a national environmental management programme expected to be completed during 1992. Over \$1.2 million in ADB grant assistance has been provided to the region since 1989; \$0.9 million to SPREP for environmental strategies and UNCED related work and over \$0.3 million for workshops on environmental impact assessments, pesticide control, etc.

AIDAB

The Australian International Development Assistance Bureau is a major contributor to environmental programmes in the region. In Papua New Guinea, A\$3.2 million has been allocated to help implement a "National Forestry and Conservation Action Plan" and AIDAB has agreed to provide A\$0.14 million for "National Conservation Strategy" development in Vanuatu.

There has been support for various small programmes such as A\$50,000 toward SPREP's turtle conservation programme and WWF's Community Resource Conservation programme in Solomon Islands.

Most other assistance is through multilateral arrangements including A\$1 million each this financial year for sea level monitoring and climate change studies and over A\$0.4 million in 1990/91 to SPREP for a wide range of activities including workshops, UNCED preparations, and development of in-house information systems.

Over a five year period, AIDAB contributions are expected to be A\$5 million for sea level monitoring, A\$4 million for climate change, and A\$5 million toward this Pacific regional biodiversity project through the GEF. The Apia AIDAB office plans to expand its regional activities in part because of SPREP's new Apia location.

Canadian Aid

Canada, through the International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD¹) has provided about C\$1 million² per year for various environmental projects such as pollution monitoring, emergency oil responses, SPREP's community development officer, etc. Through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Canada-Soluth Pacific Ocean Development programme (C-SPOD), SPREP has received C\$498,000 over three years to support coastal resource management programme of "on-beach" surveys and C\$343,000 for the marine turtle conservation programme. Canadian support is coordinated through the Canadian Cooperation Office in Suva.

CFTC

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation has tentatively agreed to finance a meteorologist to work on the Climatic Change Programme within SPREP beginning by late 1992.

EC

The European Community has provisionally allocated 4 million ECU, over US\$5 million, for regional environmental support activities under the Lome IV regional programme for the eight Pacific Island members³ of the African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) group. In addition to the Lome-specific funds, the EC's "Ecology in Developing Countries Programme" has provided about US\$0.4 million to support WWF's work in Papua New Guinea on rehabilitation of protected areas and in the Solomon Islands on community conservation.

ESCAP

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has spent about US\$0.5 for various environmental studies, meetings and other activities in the region since 1989.

FAO

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation has a regional aquaculture project (seaweed from Fiji, Kiribati, and Tonga for export; Tilapia with poultry farming in Fiji; milkfish as a supplementary food in the Cook Islands; etc.) with possible biodiversity links through effects on the regional genetic stock and through reducing pressures on natural fisheries.

France

France was a major force behind establishment of the GEF and it is expected that France will provide a legal advisor to SPREP for three years beginning in 1992.

GEF

In addition to the SPBCP, the Global Environment Facility has allocated \$5 million to Papua New Guinea for a national biodiversity conservation programme and is expected to provide US\$2.6 million to the Malta-based International Ocean Institute (IOI) for project GLO/91/G33/A/IG/31, "Support for Regional Oceans Training Programmes" which specifically includes a Pacific Islands component to about \$0.6 million which is expected to be based in Fiji. This will focus on training in marine environment problems and sustainability.

GTZ

The German aid organisation, Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), has supported environmental education through a joint project with the Fiji Forestry Department, expects to complete a DM 2 million (1.2 million) Fiji national forestry inventory by late 1993, and a National Forestry Management Pilot Project focussing on sustainable yields, also in Fiji. GTZ is also thought to be financing other environmental work within the region but no details are available.

JICA

The Japanese government has not supported specifically environmental activities within the region and none have been requested by governments. A UNV Computer Specialist based at SPREP for 6 months during 1992 is funded by JICA.

¹Greenpeace NZ and UNDP are expected to share the costs of the Environmental Contaminant Officer for two years.

²The UNEP and EIA activities was allocated in 1990 and supports work that is now planned for the 1991-92 timeframe. UNEP has pledged additional money for global warming and sea level rise as well as for marine pollution activities.

ODA

The British Development Division in the Pacific, the regional office of the Overseas Development Administration (ODA), provides little direct bilateral support for environment work but has given over PStg.100,000 towards co-financing of "walkabout sawmill" projects through the FSP, mainly in the Solomon Islands. About 30,000 was provided to SPREP from 1987-1990 for biodiversity education publications.

ODA is providing a Pacific Coordination for three years from April 1992 for a project on soil conservation and sustainable agriculture specifically for sloping lands in islands. The project is being managed by the International Board for Soil Research and Management (IBSRAM). In addition, the UK has agreed to support a UNV position within SPACHEE for two years from mid 1992. ODA and WWF co-financed a study of plant species conservation needs in Fiji which was reported on in March 1992.

UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme provides funding for an Environmental Management Specialist within SPREP to develop national Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) in seven countries (Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Western Samoa) as part of \$2.5 million allocated to SPREP for broad institutional support under a multi-island project (PMI/90/002) for three years from late 1991.

An Environmental Contamination and Pollution Control programme and a Sustainable Development Network are being separately supported. An additional \$0.4 million has been approved for the 1992 - 1996 funding cycle for unspecified environmental activities, probably mainly through SPREP.

UNEP

As one of the founding organisations of SPREP, the United Nations Environment Programme has had a long relationship with SPREP which is a UNEP "programme activity centre" for the Pacific Islands. Currently UNEP is assisting SPREP to develop a regional component of the Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) and the related Global Resource Information Database (GRID) through provision of \$130,000 for computer facilities, database software, a mapping system, training and staff support.

UNEP has indicated willingness to provide a further \$30,000 seed money for environment and natural resources assessment and monitoring if other donors contribute \$600,000.

UNEP has reportedly contributed about \$0.7 million to SPREP for marine pollution activities between 1988 and 1992. In addition, there are a number of ongoing national UNDP-sponsored activities including greenhouse gas monitoring (Fiji) and support for a national biodiversity unit (Solomon Islands).

UNFPA

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities has allocated US\$1.0 million for a "Population and Environment" project for the Pacific Islands from 1992 through 1996. Expected to be executed by SPREP, it covers work on environment, population and sustainable development including development of a database. There could potentially be support for demographic analyses within SPBCP Conservation Areas.

USAID

The United States Agency for International Development has approved a \$2.7 million "South Pacific Regional Profitable Environmental Protection Project" (PEP; project 879-0023) for the period 1991 through 1995, with most funding going through the FSP, "to develop, demonstrate, and disseminate innovative mechanisms for protecting natural environment through promotion of profitable private enterprises". Of the total \$150,000 is likely to go directly to SPREP between 1992 and 1994 for information dissemination.

US\$1.6 million has been allocated to FSP also, for a 1991-1995 "Melanesian Eco-forestry Project" for the Solomon Islands, PNG and Vanuatu through American NGOs, contingent upon matching funds from elsewhere. The USA-Asia Partnership also has funds available for training, support for a biodiversity network, and other areas.

USDOJ etc.

The United States Department of the Interior has provided TNC with \$215,000 for environmental work in Palau and provided support for the environmental protection agencies within Micronesia and the US territories. Other US agencies, particularly the US Fish and Wildlife Service, have provided a wide range of biodiversity conservation services within Micronesia.

World Bank.

World Bank activities within the region (excluding PNG) have focussed mainly on environmental assessments associated with housing and infrastructure projects. The 1992 Regional Economic Report will incorporate environmental analysis based on existing documentation. Pacific Island UNCED reports are currently being evaluated to determine the extent to which they can fulfill the World Bank's requirements for an Environmental Action Plan. The Bank is planning to work with SPREP, ADB and UNDP to ensure that the RETA/NEMS studies address outstanding gaps. Member⁵ countries are required to have environmental action plans as a precondition to approval of IDA credits after June 1993.

ii) Environmental Support from Pacific Island Regional Organisations

Recent and planned environmental support activities by regional institutions are described below.

EWC

The East West Center in Honolulu has a South Pacific Programme for small grants and project support related to the conservation of biodiversity and improvement of environmental awareness in the region. There is substantial expertise on Pacific biodiversity within the EWC's Environment and Policy Institute (EAP). It is understood that the EWC plans to substantially increase its overall level of activities within the PICs.

FFA

The Forum Fisheries Agency has numerous activities with environmental implications, particularly those related to sustainable exploitation of the living marine resources of the region.

SOPAC

The South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission has worked with SPREP on environmental impact assessments of coastal development projects and has numerous activities with environmental components or implications. However, SOPAC primarily deals with non-living marine resources and does not expect to be directly involved in biodiversity activities.

SPC

SPREP was located within the South Pacific Commission from 1982 until 1992. Although most SPC environmental activities have been incorporated into SPREP in Apia, an environmental health programme remains within SPC and the inshore fisheries programme is involved in improving sustainability of fish yields.

USP

University of the South Pacific staff have extensive knowledge of Pacific Islands biodiversity and environmental issues in general and will be organising a biodiversity education project financed by MacArthur Foundation. SPREP's UNEP funded marine pollution work has largely been carried out by USP, Staff of the Alafua campus near Apia began a research programme in 1990 on sustainable agroforestry in Polynesia (Samoa, Cook Islands and Fiji), Micronesia (Kiribati and Tuvalu) and Melanesia (Vanuatu and Solomon Islands). The USP's Marine Studies Programme carries out coral reef research, is beginning studies on marine biodiversity at the Great Astrolable Reef (Kadavu, Fiji) in 1992, hopes for extensive cooperation with SPREP, and has proposed a regional programme to develop expertise in identification of marine species of the Pacific Islands. The Institute of Education has proposed a biodiversity education programme as part of this SPBCP. During 1992 and 1993, the Institute of Natural Resources will be teaching a dozen of Environmental Impact Assessment courses within the region under a contract from SPREP. Finally, USP research interests include the study of the genetic resources of wild and domesticated plants of possible economic and medicinal value to the region under the terms of the biodiversity convention.

iii) Environmental Support through NGOs

There is also extensive support for environmental activities from Non Government Organisations, as summarised below.

Brehm Fund

The Grehm Fund for International Bird Conservation has an office in Tonga since 1989 which has carried out bird surveys, education campaigns, training in bird husbandry and related activities.

FCOSS

The Fiji Council of Social Services is an umbrella organisation for NGOs in Fiji. Environmental activities have included a community environment awareness workshops, tree-planting, cleanup campaigns and related activities.

FSP

The Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific is a regional NGO, has offices in Fiji, Kiribati, PNG, Tonga, Vanuatu and Western Samoa and is involved in a number of environment/development activities within the region including agroforestry and "walkabout sawmills" in the Solomon Islands and elsewhere. FSP is the main contractor for the \$2.7 million "Profitable Environmental Protection" project described under USAID in the previous section.

Greenpeace

Greenpeace has an active Pacific Island environment campaign group based in Auckland and is contributing about \$150,000 toward the costs of SPREP's Environmental Contaminants Officer. A SPREP layman's guide to pesticides was supported by Greenpeace. Waste awareness projects are underway in the Marshall Islands and the Solomon Islands.

IUCN

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature has provided assistance through SPREP for the NEMS effort, has been active in the region for some years, and is involved with UNDP in a proposed "*Sustainable Development Network*" within the region. The ADB-funded national environment project in Fiji is being managed by IUCN.

MacArthur Foundation

The MacArthur Foundation of the USA has been a major supporter of environmental programmes within the region. Since 1989, MacArthur has committed about US\$0.8 million to a range of activities by Conservation International, TNC, USP. US\$200,000 more will be provided to USP for "Community-based Biodiversity Conservation in Melanesia" emphasising small scale sustainable agroforestry development in eight pilot communities with a rich biodiversity inheritance which is being eroded.

Manuia Society

The Manuia Society of New Zealand has carried biodiversity and protected area surveys in Fiji and the Solomon Islands, and is developing community conservation work in the Solomons.

An analysis of social attitudes to protected areas is underway in New Caledonia.

RFBPS

The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand has financed research in a number of Pacific Island countries by ornithologists, carried out bird surveys (Fiji, Western Samoa, Vanuatu), and co-financed a bird recovery programme (Cook Islands).

SSCN

The Swedish Society for the Conservation of Nature is providing the Western Samoa environmental NGO, O le Siosiomaga Society (OLSS), with US\$150,000 over three years to assist with several "eco-tourism" projects in Samoa (which are also being supported by Sweden).

TNC

The Nature Conservancy is developing a regional ecosystem classification system with support from USAID and has a range of biodiversity-related projects in the region involving protection of threatened or endangered species and in preserving critical habitats. The TNC Pacific Islands activities, with a budget exceeding \$250,000 per year, are coordinated from Hawaii with the most active programmes in Micronesia, particularly Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia both of which has local TNC offices.

WCMC

The World Conservation Monitoring Centre in the UK is likely to support development of SPREP's regional environmental databased activities possibly including coverage beyond protected areas.

World YWCA

The Fiji-based office of the World YWC has a staff member who deals with energy and environment issues, environmental education and environmental campaigns.

WWF

WWF, World Wide Fund for Nature, provided support for SPREP's Protected Areas Officer in the 1980, and expanded its South Pacific Programme in 1990. It has piloted a community-based resource conservation programme in the Solomons providing support to rural village groups. WWF is involved in the design and execution of the USAID-FSP PEP project and of an associated information service for ecologically sustainable development. A Review of the Status and Management of PNG's Protected Areas was completed in July 1992.

Annex 7: Membership of SPREP and Project Coverage

The "developing country" members of SPREP are the same as the membership of the South Pacific Commission (SPC).

	Member	Abbrev. (UN)	UNDP Field Office
1.	American Samoa	AS	n.a.
2.	Cook Islands	CKI	Apia
3.	Federated States of Micronesia	MIC	Suva
4.	Fiji	FIJ	Suva
5.	French Polynesia	FP	n.a.
6.	Guam	GM	n.a.
7.	Kiribati	KIR	Suva
8.	Marshall Islands	MAS	Suva
9.	Nauru	NAU	Suva
10.	New Caledonia	NC	n.a.
11.	Niue	NIU	Apia
12.	Northern Mariana Islands	CNMI	n.a.
13.	Palau	PAL	Suva
14.	Papua New Guinea	PNG	Port Moresby
15.	Pitcairn Island *		n.a.
16.	Solomon Islands	SOI	Suva
17.	Tokelau	TOK	Apia
18.	Tonga	TON	Suva
19.	Tuvalu	TUV	Suva
20.	Vanuatu	VAN	Suva
21.	Wallis and Futuna		n.a.
22.	Western Samoa	SAM	Apia

The "developed member countries" of the SPREP are Australia, France, New Zealand, and the United States of America.

Notes:

* No SPBCP funds will be used directly for support of project activities in these countries/territories. However, other funding is expected to be made available so that these Islands may participate in regional and sub-regional project activities.

n.a. not applicable or not available.

Annex 8: Breakdown of Finance to SPREP by Member Governments and Donors

A) Finance of SPREP Staff Positions

The SPREP positions that are funded by its member governments are the following:

- 1) Director;
- 2) Environmental Education Officer;
- 3) Project Officer/Scientist

- 4) Administrative Assistant
- 5) Secretaries (2)
- 6) Receptionist
- 7) Gardener
- 8) Driver

The donors indicated have agreed to fund the positions listed below:

Position	Donor	Comment and dates:
Deputy Director	New Zealand	Jan 1992 - 1994
Information and Publications Officer	New Zealand	Jan 1992 - 1993/4
Project Officer (Biodiversity)	New Zealand	March 1992 - March 1992
Environment Contaminants Officer	Greenpeace NZ & UNDP (50% each)	Jan 1992 - 1994
Assessment Officer	UNDP	Nov 1991 - 1994
Finance Officer	UNDP	Nov 1991 - Jun 1993
Legal Officer	France	Mid 1992 - 1995
Administrative Officer	UNDP/UNV	1992 - 1994
Environment Information Data Analyst	UNEP	March 1992 - March 1993
Computer Specialist	UNV	1992
Climate Change Officer	AIDAB	1991 - 1993
Project Officer (UNCED)	ADB/AIDAB	March 1991 - 1993
Team Leader (NEMS)	UNDP	April 1991 - 1993
Team Leader (RETA)	ADB	Oct 1990 - April 1993
Senior Accounts Clerk (3)	UNDP	1992 - 1993
Accounts Clerk	UNDP	1992 - 1993

B) Approximate Contributions by Member Governments and Donors

Donor interest in environmental has increased greatly in the past several years. Assistance to this sub-sector through SPREP has included the following:

Donor	Contribution (US\$'000)	Comments and/or Duration
ADB	1,040	RETA, UNCED
AIDAB	400	EIA, NEMS, core
East West Center/Mac Arthur	60	Project Funding
Greenpeace NZ	150	See note 1
Member governments	285	1990
UNEP	804	1990-1992; See note 2
NZ government	542	see note 3
UNDP	500	SPBCP PA Team, misc
UNDP	2,518	PMI/90/002
Other	100	See note 4
Total	6,399	

Notes:

1. Greenpeace NZ and UNDP are expected to share the costs of the Environmental Contaminants Officer for two years.
2. The UNEP support for EIA activities was allocated in 1990 and supports work that is now planned for the 1991 - 1992 timeframe. UNEP has pledged additional money for global warming and sea level rise as well as for marine pollution activities.
3. Deputy Director and Information and Publications Officer.
4. Assistance, mainly on a project-funding basis, has been received from Canada, Chile, France, TNC, United Kingdom, USAID and WWF. Australia and New Zealand have made considerable contributions outside of their normal membership contributions to the funding of SPREP projects and meetings, as well as to the sponsorship of Pacific island protected area personnel scholarships in their countries. The ADB, AIDAB and UNDP are complementing each other in funding NEMS/RETA activities for a dozen countries.

Annex 9: Scope and Initial Project Concept

Project Background

- who is proposing the project and personal or organisation background
- brief project description

The Proposed Conservation Area

- area, location, boundaries, ownership/tenure

Conservation Area Features

- geography, ecosystems, habitats and biota

Human Activities

- settlement patterns in area
- use of resources

Conservation Area Values

- how the landowners\local communities value the area
- values for conservation, science, education, recreation and tourism
- values of resource extraction e.g. forestry, fishing, mining etc.

Management Issues and Project Outline

- main purpose and focus of the conservation effort
- community needs and sustainable development opportunities
- conservation and development issues and how the project will address these
- proposed project implementation plan including linkages with other projects
- roles of local NGOs and community-based organisations, as participants and beneficiaries.

Management Structure

- proposed arrangements for project management and staff support
- proposed project budget.

Annex 10: Some Possible Elements of a CA Situation Analysis

Economic Analysis

- Economic activities currently undertaken in the proposed site and those which impact on the proposed site (subsistence and value-adding);
- economic value attached to the factors of production from the local, regional and national perspectives, particularly those which may affect biodiversity conservation in the proposed site income and expenditure patterns;
- income and expenditure patterns
- resource pricing mechanisms
- analysis of resource flow into/out of proposed site
- cost-benefit analysis: least-cost options for sustainable development; investment and business opportunities through project which account for biodiversity conservation
- inventory of skills which human resources could potentially contribute to the CA project

Social Analysis

- social organisation of production, resource use
- economic and social and conservation values, beliefs and practices in proposed site
- absorptive capacity of intended beneficiary groups (eg will, resources, organisation)

Political/Institutional

- prevailing political climate re biodiversity, sustainable development, NGOs, community development, WID (legislation, policies, offices, players, etc)
- government regulatory mechanisms which may impact on proposed site, eg. credit and currency markets, subsidies, etc. (eg market prices may be distorted and not a true reflection of cost of resource use in terms of environmental degradation)
- property rights (eg development, transfer, use, tenure)

Ecological/Environmental

- Boundary description of proposed conservation area
- Known biodiversity of area
- Known endemic species present
- Special or unique landforms, geological formations or other physical features
- Predicted biodiversity values (where values are not known, they can often be inferred - for example a large area of undisturbed lowland forest can be predicted to have high value for low-land dependent wildlife)
- National and regional importance of area
- Resource management issues pertinent to environmental and ecological considerations (including imminent threats such as logging or roading, and the impact of local resource management systems).

Annex 11: Summary of SPBCP Consultative Workshop held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, on 22-23 October 1991.

Background

Following the approval of the Project Formulation Framework (PFF) document in mid 1991 and the development of a PA Phase document in August of that year, SPREP undertook the first step of the PA Phase work programme by convening a regional workshop on the SPBCP in Port Vila, 22-23 October 1991. The workshop was held in conjunction with the SPREP preparatory workshop on UNCED.

Participation

The workshop was attended by technical representatives drawn mainly from the environment and conservation agencies of the SPREP member governments, some NGO's, USP, SPREP and UNDP. A list of the participants is appended.

Workshop Activities

The primary purpose of the workshop was to inform the SPREP member countries of the recent developments with the SPBCP and to seek the views of the participants on the approach to biodiversity conservation being advocated in the PFF i.e. by placing the emphasis on the establishment of Conservation Areas and on species protection.

The opportunity was also taken to review and amend the SPREP regional strategies for the conservation of birds and marine mammals which were identified for support under the SPBCP.

Results

While there was strong support for the SPBCP and its basic concepts, the workshop participants raised the following points for attention in the final Programme Document:

- the concept of Conservation Areas should be clearly defined;
- financial arrangements should allow rapid disbursements of funds;
- implementation strategies need to be carefully considered in such a complex programme;
- the lack of expertise and staff members in the region to implement in-country activities should be adequately considered;

- the lengthy negotiations required to establish a Conservation Area should be clearly understood in Programme design and timing;
- the programme needs to focus on long term management and maintenance of conservation areas;
- there may be some opposition by some governments to the use of NGO's operating at the local level;
- the programme should place (economic) resource values on conservation areas; and
- there is a need to work with land-owning groups to develop sustainable development practices.

In addition to consideration of the PFF and PA Documents, the workshop further refined the SPREP regional strategies for the conservation of Birds and Marine Mammals and strongly supported the inclusion of a species protection function in the SPBCP.

PARTICIPANTS

GOVERNMENTS

American Samoa

Mr Richard Volk - Economic Development Planning Office

Australia

Ms. Genevieve Hamilton - Dept. Foreign Affairs and Trade

Mr Phil Burgess - DASETT

Mr Richard Thackeray - Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service

Mr David Roberts - AIDAB

Mr Dan Van Classen - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

Cook Islands

Ms Anna Tiraa - Cook Islands Conservation Service

Federated States of Micronesia

Ms Maureen Phelan - Office of Attorney General

Fiji

Mr Stuart Chape - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

French Polynesia

Ms Yolande Vernaudeau - Delegation for the Environment

Kiribati

Ms Tererei Abete - Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Marshall Islands

Mr Kasuo Helgenberger - RMI Environmental Protection Agency

Ms Martha Crawford - RMI Environmental Protection Agency

Papua New Guinea

Mr John Wilmott - Department of Environment and Conservation

Palau

Mr Demei Otobed - Bureau of Resources and Development

Mr Noah Idechong - Bureau of Resources and Development

Solomon Islands

Mr Henry Isa - Ministry of Natural Resources

Tonga

Mrs Netatua Fifita - Ministry of Lands, Survey and Natural Resources

Tuvalu

Ms Misalaima Nelesone - Office of the Prime Minister

Vanuatu

Mr Ernest Bani - Ministry of Home Affairs

Mr Charles Vatu - Ministry of Home Affairs

Mr Aru Mathais - Department of Forestry

Mr Joshua Mael - Department of Forestry

Western Samoa

Mr Sailimalo Pati Liu - Department of Lands and Environment

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific

Ms Kathy Fry - Vanuatu

International Forest Environment Research and Management

Mr John Hibbert

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand

Ms Sue Maturin

The Nature Conservancy - Pacific Regional Office

Dr James Maragos

University of the South Pacific

Dr Gunsagar Pillai

World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF)

Mr Peter Hunnam

RESOURCE PERSONNEL

Mr Peter Thomas - *The Nature Conservancy - Pacific Regional Office*

Mr Iosefatu Reti - *Environmental Consultant*

Dr Rod Hay - *Department of Conservation - New Zealand*

Dr Randy Thaman - *University of the South Pacific*

Mr Mike Donoghue - *Department of Conservation - New Zealand*

Mr Steve Leatherwood - *Chairman IUCN Cetacean Specialist Group*

Mr Dieter Rinke - *Brehm - Fonds Sudsee Expedition*

SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME

Mr David Sheppard - RETA Team Leader

Ms Tekura Manea - Office Assistant

Ms Andrea Williams - Office Assistant

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Ms Kristy Regan - Suva

Annex 12: Summary of Consultative Workshop held in Apia, Western Samoa, on 29 - 31 July 1992.

Background

To complement the PA Team's extensive consultations with government representatives, NGOs and other interested parties during the preparation of the SPBCP Project Document, it was considered desirable to convene a workshop of government and NGO representatives to present the Interim Project Document for broader review and recommendations.

Participation

The workshop was convened by SPREP in Apia, 29 - 31 July 1992, and was attended by more than 30 participants representing SPREP member governments and international and local NGO's. A list of participants is appended.

Workshop Activities

The main objective of the workshop was to review the project document and form recommendations for its improvement as considered necessary. The workshop focussed on four main aspects of the Interim Project Document:

- SPBCP Objectives and End of Programme Outputs;
- the Conservation Area Concept;
- the "Rolling Project Design";
- Programme Strategy and Institutional Arrangements.

Results

1. SPBCP Objectives and Programme Outputs

There was general consensus on the validity of the Programme's objectives provided stronger emphasis was given to the need for long term project sustainability and to objectives 1 and 2. The integration of conservation and sustainable development should be an important aspect of the programme with more emphasis being given to the role of the Programme in the identification and implementation of sustainable development and income generation activities. There was a need to more clearly define the meaning of the term biodiversity. The need to develop a mechanism to link the SPBCP with the wider biodiversity conservation activities in the region was also commented on.

2. The Conservation Area Concept

The workshop sought a clearer explanation of the CA concept and greater emphasis on the sustainable development component of CA establishment and management. Other points raised for consideration were the need to address:

- the legal implications and associated obligations of the Conservation Area and its management;
- the strategy for allocating resources to the CAs;
- the need for the CA criteria to reflect achievability;
- the need to include locally significant biodiversity in the criteria.

3. The Rolling Project Design

There was support for the concept of a phased project design and implementation process which would allow interaction between the SPBCP staff and project proponents to ensure projects meet the objectives of the SPBCP. Clarification of the format of an initial project concept and Project Plan was sought. The emphasis given to the submission of projects by or with landowner/community support and endorsement was strongly supported. So too were the provisions in the SPBCP to support the consensus building and endorsement process for promising projects. There was enthusiasm for the concept of Trust Funds for individual CAPs as a means of ensuring the funding for the project would remain available beyond the life of the project.

4. Programme Strategy and Institutional Arrangements

There was support for the strategy of establishing CAPS in all the participating countries and for an approval process which accepts projects throughout the life of the SPBCP. There was considerable discussion about the relationship of the SPBCP with SPREP.

The workshop consensus was that there would be a need for SPREP to maintain a capacity to deal with regional biodiversity issues which fell outside the scope of the SPBCP (the regional Conventions and the International Convention on Biodiversity; biodiversity property rights, the countries not included in the SPBCP etc.).

Other points raised for consideration included:

- the need for the establishment of CASO positions to be regarded in a flexible way;
- the need for funding to be realistic and of a level necessary for successful CAP;
- the need for the Tripartite Review to include NGO representation;
- that funding be disbursed to CAP's in 3-4 stages and;
- reporting and review processes and guidelines be addressed.

The points raised in the workshop were subsequently addressed by the PA Team in the editing of the Project Document.

Participants

GOVERNMENTS

AUSTRALIA

Mr Graham Hunter - Center for Pacific Development and Training, AIDAB

Mr Phil Burgess - Biodiversity Section, Department of Arts, Sports, the Environment, and Territories (DASET)

COOK ISLANDS

Mr Teariki Rongo - Director of Conservation Service

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

Mr J. Raglmar Subolmar - Chief of International Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs

FIJI

Mr Stuart Chape - Head of Environment Management Unit, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

KIRIBATI

Ms Tererei Abete - Environment Coordinator, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Development

MARSHALL ISLANDS

Mr Kasuo Helgenberger - General Manager, RMI - Environmental Protection Authority

NEW ZEALAND

Dr Rod Hay - Department of Conservation, Conservation Science Centre

NIUE

Mr Bradley Punu - Environment Officer, Community Affairs Office

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Mr Henry Isa - Acting Chief Environment Conservation Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources

TOKELAU

Ms Suia Gaualofa - Environment Officer

Dr Steve Brown - Environment Advisor, Office for Tokelau Affairs

TONGA

Mrs Netatua Fifita - Ecologist and Environmentalist, Ministry of Lands, Survey and Natural Resources

TUVALU

Mr Alefaio Semese - Environmental Officer, Office of the Prime Minister

VANUATU

Mr Ernest Bani - Principal Environment Officer, Environment Unit

WESTERN SAMOA

Mr Samuelu Sesega - Principal Environment Officer

Mr Cedric Schuster - Environment Officer, Division of Lands, Survey and Environment

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR OVERSEAS AID

Mr David Turbayne - Environment and Development Adviser

ENVIRONMENT DEFENDERS OFFICE

Ms Nicola Pain, Sydney 2000

PACIFIC ISLANDS ALLIANCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (PIANGO)

Ms Mary Soondrawu

FOUNDATION FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC INC.

Ms Kathy Fry - Vanuatu Country Director

GREENPEACE NEW ZEALAND LTD

Mr Pene Lefale, Atmosphere and Energy Campaigner (Pacific)

MARUIA SOCIETY

Ms Annette Lees - Director, South Pacific
Tropical Forests Programme

O LE SIOSIOMAGA SOCIETY INC.

Mr Clark Peteru - Director

*SOLOMON ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT
TRUST*

Mr Nicholas Kikini - Planning/Finance Officer

*SOUTH PACIFIC ACTION COMMITTEE FOR
HUMAN ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT*

Mrs Leba Savu - Chairperson

ORSTOM

Dr Jean-Francois Dupon - Delegee pour le
Pacifique

**SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

Mr Don Stewart - Deputy Director

Ms Adrienne Farago - Project Officer (Biological
Diversity Conservation)

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

Mr Mathew Kahane - Resident Representative

Mr Iosefa Maiava - Project Officer

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANISATION (UNESCO)**

Mr Trevor Sankey - Programme Specialist
(Science)

RESOURCE PEOPLE

Mr Peter Thomas - Director Pacific
Programmes, The Nature Conservancy

Mr Peter Hunnam - South Pacific Programme
Coordinator, WWF

Mr Iosefatu Reti - PA Team Leader, South
Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme
(SPBCP)

Mr Randy Thaman - Professor of Pacific Islands
Biogeography, USP

SECRETARIES

Loise Moala

Naomi Lualua

Annex 13: Documentation produced or underway during PA Phase

The following documents are under preparation by team members, short-term consultants, or SPREP staff specifically for the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme Preparatory Assistance phase. These will be published under the SPBCP and will be available from SPREP.

1. "An Annotated Bibliography of Reports and Materials Related to Biodiversity Conservation of relevance to the Pacific Islands" First draft only - (Adrienne Farago, SPREP, April 1992). Further work will be done during the project.
2. National Biodiversity Reviews:

Country	Terrestrial Studies		Expected Marine Studies	
	Prepared by	Completion	Prepared by	Expected/Completion
Cook Islands	Gerald McCormack	May 1992	Gerald McCormack	May 1992
Fiji	Dick Watling	8 May 1992	Leon Zann	June 1992
Kiribati	James Maragos/ Randy Thaman	June 1992	James Maragos	late June 1992
Niue	Bradley Punu	July 1992	Bradley Punu	July 1992
Palau	Charles Cooke	July 1992	CharlesCooke/ James Maragos	July 1992
Tokelau	James Maragos	June 1992	James Maragos	late June 1992
Tonga	Netatua Fifita	July 1992	Netatua Fifita	July 1992
Tuvalu	James Maragos Randy Thaman	June 1992	James Maragos	late June 1992
Vanuatu	Charles Darby	May 1992	Charles Darby	May 1992
Western Samoa	Arthur Whistler	May 1992	Leon Zann	May 1992

3. *A Review of Biological Diversity of the Pacific Islands*. Material from the following appear in the main text of this document.

Component:	Prepared by:	Complete:
Terrestrial	David Given	April 1992
Marine	Paul Holthus & James Maragos	March 1992

4. *Review of Legal and Institutional Options for Conservatio Areas*. Environmental Defender's Office (Sydney) and NEMS/RETA lega consultants. (to be completed: early August 1992)
5. *Review of NGO Environmental Activities in the Pacific Islands*. WWF (to be finalised: September 1992)
6. *Biodiversity in the South Pacific: A Matter of Survival*. PA Team, completed May 1992; flyer describing the SPBCP.

Annex 14: Preliminary Proposals or SPBCP Project Concepts Received during the Preparatory Assistance Phase

The following documents have been received by SPREP or SPBCP PA team members. These include formal proposals submitted by governments, initial concepts provided for preliminary discussions, proposals prepared by NGOs or regional organisations, etc.

1. Country specific

Federated States of Micronesia

"*The Selapwuk Rainforest Watershed Project*" (4 pages, 1991). Brief description of watershed project in lush rainforest area of Pohnpei which may be proposed for SPBCP support. Prepared by Pohnpei state government with assistance of TNC. Submitted by the Office of the Governor through the national government.

Fiji

"Integrated Development Plan for Taveuni Island" (22 pages plus seven annexes; Environmental Planning Unit, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development).

Kiribati

"*Conservation of Atoll Vegetation of Kiribati*" (5 pages, undated late 1991). Concept proposal prepared by WWF and FSP for Government of Kiribati consideration; for atoll land-use and vegetation survey, development of a conservation plan, and exploitation of native plants for sustainable cash income.

Niue

"*Niue Biodiversity Conservation Project*". (3 pages, 14 July 1992). A project to improve the capability of the Government, NGOs, and landowning groups to plan and manage the Hakupu-Liku conservation areas; submitted by the Community Affairs Office, Government of Niue.

Palau

"*Palau's Biodiversity Conservation Programme*" (6 pages, 6 July 1992). An official CA project proposal to follow up on earlier concept papers discussed with the PA Team; to begin to bridge the gap between resource **management** and resource **ownership and use**, and to begin to mobilize support for conservation area establishment.

"*Palau Biological Diversity Protection - Draft Concept*" (2 pages, April 1992). Note prepared by the Division of Conservation and Entomology of Palau's Ministry of Resources and Development with broad ideas of the type of support Palau may propose for SPBCP assistance.

"*Regional Biodiversity and Palau*" (25 pages, March 1992). Overview of biodiversity in Palau, issues, and preliminarily concepts for several conservation areas which may be proposed for SPBCP support.

Western Samoa

"*Socioeconomic Survey of Perceptions and Attitudes Towards Mangroves and their immediate environments*". Tentative Proposal for the Western Samoan Conservation Area Project (4 pages, March 1992). Outline for SPBCP support for Saanapu/Sataoa (Upolu) mangrove perception and attitudes survey prepared by Division of Environment with proposed collaboration by other departments, NGOs and village councils.

2. Regional

SPREP Avifauna Working Group

"*South Pacific Regional Bird Conservation Programme - Plan for Action*" (6 pages, Oct 1991). Proposal for birds surveys, documentation, species management and education prepared during regional biodiversity workshop held in Port Vila explicitly to be incorporated into the SPBCP.

SPREP Marine Mammal Conservation Programme Steering Committee

"*Draft Marine Mammal Conservation Programme*" (6 pages, October 1991). Proposal for marine mammal bibliography, database development, research and education prepared during regional biodiversity workshop held in Port Vila explicitly to be incorporated into the SPBCP.

SPREP Marine Turtle Working Group

"*A Regional Marine Turtle Conservation and Management Programme for the South Pacific Region*". Port Vila workshop (1991) recommended this programme to be incorporated into the SPBCP.

USP

"*Biodiversity Education Programme*" (10 pages, late 1991). Proposal from USP Institute of Education for 3 years, \$600,000 regional biodiversity education programme.

"*South Pacific Regional Oceanographic Identification Service*". A Proposal in Support of the GEF Biodiversity Programme, SPREP (9 pages, April 1992). Proposal prepared by USP's Marine Studies Programme for development of the expertise within the region in systematics and identification of marine species.

Annex 15: Government Departments and NGOs with Strong Environmental Focus within the Pacific Islands

This Annex summarises key government departments, statutory bodies and NGOs operating within the region whose primary responsibility is environmental planning or management or which have major activities in this area. Those NGOs which have limited or occasional environmental activities are not included. PNG and those countries or territories not participating directly in the SPBCP are also excluded. Most local NGOs listed are small and underfinanced. Regional and international NGOs are listed only where they have in-country Pacific Islands offices.

Cook Islands

i) *Government*

The Cook Islands Conservation Service was established in 1982. It has had a peak staff of nine, all local people, seven Rarotonga based.

ii) *NGOs*

Cook Islands National Youth Council, Cook Islands National Council of Women.

Federated States of Micronesia

i) *Government*

There is no national conservation agency in the FSM. The Department of Human Resources is the SPREP contact whereas the Department of Resources and Development has some environmental responsibilities. Much of the environmental work is carried out at state, not national level.

ii) *NGOs*

The state Community Action Agencies (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap) have some environmental activities. The Yap Institute of National Resources has a good library of environmental materials and has been involved in resource assessments throughout Micronesia. The Nature Conservancy has one part-time staff member in Pohnpei.

Fiji

i) *Government*

An Environmental Unit with three permanent staff and a number of advisers has been established within the Department of Town and Country Planning of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development.

There is an Interministerial Environmental Management Committee (EMC) and a National Environmental Steering Committee established for the NEMS, UNCED and World Heritage initiatives. The Forestry Department (Ministry of Primary Industries) expanded its Environment Division in early 1992 under a Senior Forestry Officer. There are now two local professional staff, several forest area rangers, and an adviser in environmental education. The Ministry of Primary Industries has one environment officer. The Department of Energy has a rural energy/environmental officer position. The Native Land Trust Board (NLTB) recently added environmental management and sustainable development to the responsibilities of a senior staff member. The National Trust for Fiji, a statutory body established in 1970, has two staff members a number of volunteer workers and legal responsibility for several reserved areas.

ii) *NGOs*

FCOSS, the Fiji Council of Social Services is an NGO umbrella organisation with some community environmental awareness activities. The South Pacific Action Committee on Human Ecology and the Environment (SPACHEE), with one full-time staff member and several temporary and volunteer staff, is Fiji-based but has a regional focus. The World YWCA has a Nadi-based energy and environment office. FSP and KANA, have activities in sustainable rural development. The regional Pacific Council of Churches, based in Fiji, plans several environmental awareness and sustainable development workshops in 1992.

Kiribati

i) Government

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Development has one professional/administrative position for environmental matters. Funding is available from SPREP(NEMS) to support an Environment Coordinator position within the Ministry.

ii) NGOs

None specifically environmental although FSP, the Karikarakean Mwengaraoin Kiribati, and the Solar Energy Company have environmental activities.

Marshall Islands

i) Government

The Republic of the Marshall Islands Environmental Protection Agency (RMIEPA) is responsible for environmental matters. Pollution control in coastal and inland waters is a major responsibility.

ii) NGOs

The Maloelap Self Reliance Movement is trying to raise environmental awareness.

Niue

i) Government

The Office of Community Affairs is responsible for environmental matters. A Conservation Act, which is pending, would allow the creation of a Conservation Service under a Council which reports to Cabinet. SPREP through the NEMS project is funding the Environment Officer position within the Community Affairs Office.

ii) NGOs

The Niue Council of Women is involved in environmental education in 13 villages.

Palau

i) Government

The Division of Conservation and Entomology within the Ministry of Resources and Development has the key national role in environmental management. There is one professional staff position. The NEMS project has provided funding for an Environment Education Officer.

ii) NGOs

The EPQB is quasi-government body responsible for assuring compliance with environmental planning regulations. The Palau Community Action Energy (PCAA) focuses on low-income families including sustainable agriculture. The Nature Conservancy (Hawaii) has an active office in Koror and Pacific Resources Institute (PRI) has recently carried out studies related to environmental perceptions in Palau and FSM.

Solomon Islands

i) Government

The Division of Environment, Conservation and Energy within the Ministry of Natural Resources has two established professional environmental positions of which one is filled.

ii) NGOs

The Pacific Islands Association of NGOs (PIANGO) is based in Honiara and the Development Services Exchange has facilities and office space available for NGOs. The Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT) is currently focusing on links between population growth and environmental management. The International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM) is a practical academic institution working on management of aquatic resources to enhance incomes of coastal people. FSP and "Save the Children" have environmental activities. WWF has community project facilitators in the Solomons. The Nature Conservancy has a full time field representative in Honiara.

Tokelau

i) Government

There is one full time environmental officer (UN Volunteer) attached to the office to Tokelau Affairs for two years from mid 1992. SPREP, through NEMS, will soon fund another position with the Apia-based Office.

ii) NGOs

Tokelau Island Women's Committee.

Tonga

i) Government

The Environmental Planning Section of the Ministry of Lands, Survey and Natural Resources has several staff with some environmental training. An Interdepartmental Environment committee meets on occasion to coordinate environmental reviews.

ii) NGOs

The Marine Research Foundation is trying to foster public awareness of environmental issues. The Brehm Fund has a Tonga office involved in bird conservation efforts. FSP, the Marine Research Foundation, the Tongan National Youth Congress and the Tonga Community Development Trust have environmentally-oriented activities.

Tuvalu

i) Government

SPREP, through the NEMS programme, has paid for an Environment Coordinator position with the Office of the Prime Minister.

ii) NGOs

The Tuvalu Solar Electric Cooperative Society promotes sustainable energy use.

Vanuatu

i) Government

The Environment Section of the Department of Physical Planning and Environment, Ministry of Home Affairs was established in 1986. It has four staff positions of which two were filled in early 1992.

ii) NGOs

The National Community Development Trust (NKDT) emphasises self-sufficiency in environmental protection. The Vanuatu Natural Science Society is an environmental network. Activities include a campaign to save the coconut crab.

Western Samoa

i) Government

The Division of Environment and Conservatin of the Ministry of Lands, Survey and Environment has four local and one expatriate professional staff. SPREP will soon seconded one officer for 3 months to help with the increasing work of the Division.

ii) NGOs

Ole Siosiomaga Society Inc. is a national non-profit environment organisation based in Apia and is jointly involved with the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation in implementing rainforest protection agreements with Tafua, Faala and Salelologa villages on Savaii Island.

Annex 16: Summary of Country Visits by the PA Team

The Terms of Reference for the PA Team required that the Team undertake amongst other things, the following:

- consult with priority countries/governments and design country specific implementation strategies;
- gather detailed information of particular areas and species to refine regional species conservation plans and establish a priority sites list;
- coordinate with other conservation efforts and agencies.

The country visits were undertaken mainly for the purposes stated above. The countries visited, the agencies met and the main focus of discussions are summarised below.

- *Western Samoa (3 - 6 February 1992)*: Discussions with the key agency (Dept. of Lands, Survey and Environment) focused on the Saanapu/Sataoa mangrove area proposed as a conservation area under the SPBCP. Meetings with other officials in government confirmed that there was enough interest in the environment and in the conservation of natural resources to support projects such as those envisaged under the SPBCP. Agencies met include; Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries, USP Alafua, Office of the New Zealand High Commission, Office of the Australian High Commission, O le Siosiomaga Society Inc., UNESCO, FAO, UNDP, SPREP, and the Department of Lands, Survey and Environment.
- *Office of Tokelau Affairs (5 February 1992)*: There was general acceptance of the CA concept as most appropriate for Tokelau. It is impractical to rule out the use of motus (islands) by people thus the broadly defined CA concept was fully supported. The only other agency consulted in relation to Tokelau was the UNDP which was recruiting a UN volunteer for Tokelau.
- *Palau (5 - 18 March 1992)*: The Palau visit was organised to coincide with the NEMS workshop thus allowing the Team to meet with the people who are closely involved in environmental and conservation matters in the country.

The SPBCP was introduced and a project concept paper was presented to the Team; this was the basis for the discussions that followed. Site visits were organised to areas likely to be proposed as CAs. On the basis of comments from the Team on the concept paper, the authorities agreed to revise the proposal and submit it officially to the SPBCP. The main agencies met include; the Bureau of National Resources, Foreign Affairs, Speaker of the Koror State, Speaker of the Tobi State, U.S. Department of the Interior, Palau Research Institute, National Museum of Palau, Palau Community Action Agency, the Nature Conservancy.

- *Federated States of Micronesia (18 - 20 March 1992)*: One of the first project proposals received for the SPBCP was from the FSM. This was for assistance towards the establishment of the Pohnpei Integrated Watershed project. The area has been declared by legislation as a protected area mainly to ensure the continued supply of water for the State and to protect the endemic flora and fauna of the island. The project involves groups of landowners and is an appropriate model for the SPBCP. Meetings were held with agencies of the National Government such as the Department of Human Resources, Office of Planning and Statistics, Department of Resources and Development and the Department of External Affairs. At the State level, meetings were held with Forestry officials and a group of landowners from the project site, the State Office of Planning and Statistics and the Office of the Governor.
- *Australia (21 - 22 April 1992)*: Although Australia will not be a direct recipient of GEF resources, it has indicated it will co-finance the SPBCP provided it was happy with the design. Australia (AIDAB) had also expressed interest in the work of the PA Team and the visit to Canberra enabled the Team to discuss these matters with the Australian officials. The visit also enabled two members of the Team to meet with a group of NGOs in Sydney. Main agencies met included; AIDAB, DASETT, Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA), Environment Defender's Office, Greenpeace Australia, Ideas Center, WWF Pacific Programme, WWF Australia.

- *Fiji (23 April - 1 May 1992)*: The Taveuni Integrated Development Plan was presented to the Team at a seminar organised by the Environment Unit of the Department of Town and Country Planning and was the focus of discussions with government officials. The Team reviewed the proposal and presented its comments at another meeting towards the end of the visit. A field visit was organised to the Taveuni island thus providing the Team a brief but valuable look at the area being proposed for conservation under the SPBCP. The key agencies met were; the Department of Town and Country Planning, Native Land Trust Board, National Trust of Fiji, Forestry, Tourism, USP, USAID and UNDP.
 - *Niue (20 - 22 May 1992)*: The visit to Niue followed an invitation from that country for the Team to assist with the identification of potential CAs in the country. Again the visit was organised to coincide with a NEMS workshop. As in Palau, attendance by the Team at the workshop provided the opportunity for country officials to appreciate the link between the SPBCP and the work of other agencies and other programmes of SPREP. A site visit to the Hakupu forest reserve impressed the Team with the potential of the area as a CA. An important feature of the area was that it has been protected for more than a hundred years under customary law and has remained virtually unspoiled up to now. The land clearing for agriculture that is going on in areas adjacent to the reserve poses a direct threat to the area and will be an interesting challenge to the CA. The Niue officials undertook to prepare a formal request for assistance from the SPBCP to set up the area as a CA. Key agencies met were; Community Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Education Department, Public Works, Agriculture and Fisheries. Team also met with landowners from the Hakupu and Makefu villages whose lands are the focus of the forest reserve.
 - *Tuvalu (16 - 17 June 1992)*: Atolls have special needs which may be quite different to those of the larger volcanic islands. The visits to Tuvalu and Kiribati enabled the Team leader to discuss with officials in these countries how the SPBCP might be able to help with current and future efforts in setting up CAs.
- Tuvalu did not have any specific proposal to be discussed although interest was expressed on the possibility of setting up a marine reserve mainly as a way of restricting fishing activities on some areas which are being rapidly degraded by over fishing especially with destructive devices. Officials government expressed keen interest in the SPBCP (Tuvalu was one of the countries which signed the SPBCP concept document in 1990) and indicated that the appropriate officials will contact SPREP should current interest result in a firm proposal. Meetings were held with officials in both the Prime Minister's Office which is responsible for environment and conservation matters, and Foreign Affairs. A brief meeting with the Fisheries Advisor was also organised.
- *Kiribati (17 - 19 June 1992)*: On receipt of the letter from the Team leader advising of his impending visit, the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Development invited project proposals from other government departments and institutions in Kiribati. Three proposals were received from the USP Integrated Atoll project. However, these have not been seen by the Secretary of the Ministry will submit the proposals after they have reviewed and discussed them with the proponents. Meetings were held with the Head of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Development as well as senior officials in Fisheries and Environment. Other meetings were held with the FSP, Agriculture and Women's Committee. Informal discussions were also held with the UNDP Integrated Atoll field project officer and a staff of the SPC Community Training Center in Suva, Fiji.

The Teams Impression from Country Visits

Through the country visits, the Team was able to have a first hand impression of the capacity and degree of readiness within countries to become involved in the SPBCP. Clearly from these visits, there was a great deal of interest in the region but whether this interest will eventually turn into projects on the ground remains to be seen.

What was important was the opportunity afforded the Team to introduce the SPBCP and to discuss project ideas and concepts which might be supported under the programme. There were a number of good project concepts some of which might have to be developed further in order to meet the established for the SPBCP. For all the project proposals received by the Team, a response was either discussed in-country or sent to the responsible authority on the Team's return to base.

What appeared to be the priority need for many of the countries visited was assistance with the preparation of detailed project proposals which could be presented to the SPBCP. This involves the collection of relevant information, negotiation with landowners, and discussions with other potential partners in the project. Once this has been done, a number of project proposals could quickly get started. It is getting the landowners to become equal partners in a project that is likely to drag progress with the SPBCP. It is not surprising therefore that the SPBCP gives great emphasis to the participation of local groups and NGOs.