



GEF PACIFIC IWRM PROJECT

Implementing Sustainable Water Resources and Wastewater Management in Pacific Island Countries

“Ridge to Reef – Community to Cabinet”

MEETING REPORT

Fourth Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee

Nadi, Fiji Islands, 31st July – 3rd August 2012



First published in Suva, Fiji Islands in August 2012 by the GEF Pacific IWRM Project, Applied Geoscience and Technology Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community

Copyright © 2012, GEF Pacific IWRM Project

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder provided acknowledgement of the source is made. The GEF Pacific IWRM Project would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this publication as a source.

No use of this publication may be made for resale or for any other commercial purpose without prior permission in writing from the Regional Project Manager of the GEF Pacific IWRM Project.

SOPAC/GEF/IWRM
Project Co-ordinating Unit
Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC)
Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Postal Address: Private Mail Bag, GPO, Suva, Fiji Islands
Street Address: Mead Road, Nabua, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 338 1377
Fax: (679) 337 0040
Web: <http://www.pacific-iwrm.org>

DISCLAIMER:

The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Global Environment Facility, or the Global Environment Facility Implementing Agencies.

For citation purposes this document may be cited as:

SOPAC, 2012. *Implementing Sustainable Water Resources and Wastewater Management in Pacific Island Countries. Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Regional Project Steering Committee.* SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/3.

DAY 1: Tuesday 31 July 2012

1.0 OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 Opening Prayer – Pastor Josefa

1.2 Official Opening by the National Government of Fiji – Honorable Minister of Primary Industries

Mr. Jo was warmly introduced by the Chair of the Nadi Local Demonstration Project Committee who noted Mr. Jo has supported the IWRM since its inception. Mr. Jo then went on to welcome the participants and dignitaries, noting that the group had grown since the first RSC. He stressed that this showed the commitment and seriousness that IWRM is taken in the Pacific. He noted that the Fiji project has helped build good relations between agencies as well as aiding farmers along the river to take action. Mr. Jo went on to acknowledge the work of the NBCC. He cited that Dr. Al Duda had suggested that we use the IWRM model to replicate across the region. Further, he encouraged countries to prepare proposals for STAR allocations and to work with national budgets to ensure sustainability. The focus should be on scaling up across the Pacific. In conclusion, he gave the support of the Government of Fiji for these efforts.

1.3 Welcome Address on Behalf of the SPC/SOPAC – Ms. Rhonda Robinson

1.4 Welcome Address on Behalf of the UNDP – Mr. Toily Kurbinov, UN Deputy Resident Representative

Mr. Kurbinov began his address by reflecting on the 1st RSC meeting which he had attended. Mr. Kurbinov noted he was speaking on behalf of UNDP and UNEP as the implementing agencies of IWRM. He thanked the SPC and SOPAC project teams and congratulated them on the recent IWRM Audit outcome which was a 'Clean Bill of Health'. Mr. Kurbinov then spoke about MSG - Measurable Sustainability and Gender and stressed the need for good data to measure the strength and resiliency of the Pacific Islands. He posed the question: What would happen if there was no IWRM tomorrow? Are we building skills that complement local traditions and experience? Can the results be replicated? And will they be sustained long term? Are we engaging all spectrums of society? Including women and girls at the policy level? Finally, he introduced his UNDP colleagues who accompanied him in order to support the IWRM programme.

1.5 Welcome Address on Behalf of the European Commission - Mr. Renata Mele, Delegation of the European Union

Mr. Mele passed on the regrets of Mr. Alastair McDonald who was not able to be at the meeting. Mr. Mele then expressed the appreciation of the EU on the long-lasting partnership with SOPAC. He noted the EU are committed over the long term and assured the commitment of the EU as SOPAC pursue their IWRM objectives. Mr. Mele noted that 25 million Euros has been committed to water in the Pacific. 2.1 million Euros has been committed to SOPAC for this purpose for several activities including National Water Strategies. In conclusion, he noted the good work of the Fiji Demonstration site in strengthening governance frameworks in order to address very difficult issues.

54 Million in 10th EDF for water sector. Planning for the 11th.

1.6 Welcome Address on Behalf of the GEF Secretariat - Mr. Christian Severin, Programme Manager/Environmental Specialist for Natural Resources - International Waters, GEF Secretariat

Mr. Severin told participants that the Pacific is a testing pool for the rest of the world. The world's eyes are on the Pacific to learn lessons. The phrase, "Community To Cabinet" was born in the Pacific. US\$21 million from GEF + same co-financing for a project. Learning from IWRM-CAM. H urged participants to be extremely proud of what they have achieved. He made special mention of the Ruby Tipping Competition that IWRM have developed on-line. This sort of social forum for results-based management is very unique.

1.7 Meke and Group Photo

2.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1 Introduction of Participants

2.2 Election of Officers

Mr. Chris Patterson issued a call for nominations. The following participants were nominated for 3 key roles:

Chair: Mr. Suluimalo Penaia IWRM Focal Point Samoa.

Mr. Penaia was nominated by Mr. Bryan Star, National Policy Representative, Republic of Nauru. Mr. Jo Aitara, Acting Director, Land and Water Division, Government of Palau, seconded the nomination.

Vice-Chair: Mr. Chris Ioan, IWRM Focal Point FSM Focal Point.

Mr. Ioan was nominated by Mr. Leerenson Lee Airens. Mr. Andrew Maurice Siohane, Niue Demonstration Project Manager seconded the nomination.

Offers to assist PCU with rapporteuring:

Ms. Ampai Harakunarak, from UNEP Bangkok

Mr. Naheed H UNDP

Patterson Shed, Demonstration Project Manager, FSM 'volunteered'.

2.3 Documentation Available to the Meeting

Mr. Chris Patterson walked participants through the documentation contained in the Meeting Folder. He urged participants to ensure contact information was accurate.

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Jo Aitara, Acting Director, Land and Water Division, Republic of Palau motion to adopt the Agenda. Vinesh Fiji Demonstration Project Manager seconded the motion to adopt the Agenda.

3.1 Programme of Work and Arrangements for the Conduct of the Meeting

Mr. Chris Patterson noted that the country meeting sessions went well on the Monday. That the RTAG met for the first time last evening. The Agenda has been adopted and we will move into the IWRM Status Report next. After that will follow Annual Reporting from Project Managers. Mr. Patterson urged that all presenters get their presentations to Mr. Alike to upload.

In the evening, a dinner will be held outside the meeting room to celebrate the success' of the great project in Nadi. Known as the 'Nadi IWRM Demonstration Project Showcase'. Mr. Vinesh Kumar, Fiji Demonstration Project Manager will bring traditional leaders to the dinner. It will provide an introduction to the site and the visit participants will take on Wednesday afternoon.

The final 2 days is when the substantive items are tabled. Status reports, Indicator Frameworks, Capacity Assessment etc.

Thursday, cocktails hosted by SOPAC water and sanitation project (to be advised).

The final day – project management issues raised in the agenda will be addressed.

Finally, on Friday, a cocktail hosted by the RCPU to formally close the meeting.

4.0 STATUS OF THE IWRM PACIFIC IWRM PROGRAMME

4.1 GEF Pacific IWRM Project Status Report – Mr. Marc Wilson IWRM Project Manager

Mr. Wilson ran through the objectives of the IWRM programme. He then outlined in more detail the budget and the 4 components of the programme:

Component 1: Do not underestimate your achievements. Pacific solutions have resonance throughout the globe.

Demonstration Project Areas

Watershed Management: ROP, Samoa, Vanuatu ?
Wastewater Management & Sanitation: RMI, Nauru Tuvalu (Ecosan
Water Resource Assessment and Protection: Niue, Fiji, Cook Islands
Water Use Efficiency & Water Safety: Solomon Islands (recently in the Pacific Arts Festival – 15,000 additional people in Honiara and water monitoring controlled disease) and Tonga

Mr. Wilson went on to highlight expenditure and progress across the region noting that PNG withdrew from the IWRM.

Expenditure overall at 64% at the end of June - hitting target.

UNEP Expenditure, 70% at the end of June 2012.

Comments from the Floor

No comments from the floor on the progress report.

Showed a video developed by iWRM for a Dubrovnik Conference in 2011.

Mr. Severin noted how valuable these products are for the GEF Secretariat to demonstrate what IWRM is doing in the region. Mr. Wilson noted that 9 out of the 12 countries now have Demonstration Project videos. Have also started putting together a 10-part television series entitled: “*Ridge To Reef*” in the Solomon islands.

Reporting tools used for Project Management – Mr. David Duncan

IWRM is a 5 year project currently in Year 3. Many outcomes are to come over the coming 2 years.

Project Outcomes: 36%
Project Expenditure: under 60%
Project Activities: 60% completed

Comments from the Floor

Mr. Wilson noted other IW projects have to lodge an annual PIR. Helps to assess regional progress, but also national progress. Mr. Wilson thanked Mr. Duncan for his innovative approach to monitoring progress for the programme.

Mr. Duncan noted you can weight activities and outcomes to show how they track against expenditure. Further, he noted that the results come from countries PIR – and their perception on progress.

Mr. Jose Padilla, UNDP, asked about information on collecting information on gender. Mr. Duncan responded the data collected for households is gender-disaggregated.

Regional Technical Advisory Group Report – Dr. Milika Sobey, Water Programme Coordinator, IUCN Regional Office for Oceania

Original programme document said the RTAG would meet twice during the life of the project. Have met 6 times thus far.

Presentation last night and report this week clarifying Pacific needs.
Seek partnership with PACC.

MTR: The potential for RTAG had expanded beyond the initial ProDoc. The funding for RTAG is too low to deliver the expected impacts. Future roles to be decided Wednesday evening and include:

- Identify and highlight lessons learnt
- Assist with exit strategies
- Follow-up with projects
- Stress reduction

Comments from the Floor

No comments from the floor on the progress report.

4.2 Status of the Closure of the EU IWRM National Planning Programme – Mr. David Hebblethwaite, IWRM Project Advisor, EU National IWRM Planning Programme

Overview provided Improved management of water resources by supporting the development of national policy frameworks. To create an enabling environment for the on-the-ground activities and projects in each country.

14 countries 2.8 million Euros Started in 2008 and finishes in 2013. Officially ended 30 June 2012. Number of activities rolling over beyond this date.

Table of Regional Outputs

COUNTRY	OUTPUTS
Cook Islands	Water Policy Officer, Draft Water Policy, National Outlook, Policy Endorsement, Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Fiji	Support to policy framework development, Governance Support to NBCC, Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
FSM	Water Policy Officer Support, National Water Summit, Agreed sub-regional process, Draft framework policy and action plan, draft national framework (other activities still to come including Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework)
Kiribati	National Sanitation Policy and Implementation Plan, Support for National h20 resources policy and imp plan Support for development of South Tarawa Programme Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
FSM	Water Policy Officer Support, National Water Summit, Agreed sub-regional process, Draft National Outlook Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Nauru	National Water, sanitation and Hygiene Policy and Implementation Plan, National Outlook Implementation Plan and Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Niue	Water Policy Officer Support, national IWRM Policy, National Outlook, Support for finalisation of Water Act 2012 Policy Endorsement of Policy Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Palau	Water Policy Officer Support, National Water Summit, Agreed subregional process, National Water Policy, National Outlook Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Samoa	Water Sector Investment Plan, National Water Allocation Policy & Implementation Plan Endorsement of Allocation Policy, Potential Outlook Development, Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Solomon Islands	National Outlook, IWRM Review and Plan Development, Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Tonga	Water Policy Officer, Government endorsed Outlook, Implementation Plan and Regulations for National Water Legislation, Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Tuvalu	National Outlook, National Water and Sanitation Forum, Te Panukua – Draft National Water and Sanitation Policy Policy Endorsement, Governance review of drought response,

	Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework
Vanuatu	National Outlook, Institutional Review and IWRM Assessment, Review of national IWRM consultation mechanisms Engagement in Regional Strategic Framework

Committed Activities to be Finalised

- Progressing outlooks and regional consultations.
- Finalisation and endorsement of policy instruments
- TA to Solomon Islands and Tonga
- Policy support to MSG (Melanesian Spear-Head Group)
- Collation of materials and lessons learned
- Final project reporting and auditing

Mr. Hebblethwaite asked why is there still limited engagement in the water and sanitation sector by Pacific governments. It is considered 'unsexy' and other issues such as Energy take precedence. He noted that the Pacific is not meeting its Millenium Development Goal for water.

17-21 September 2011 starts the Water and Sanitation Consultations in Noumea.

Comments from the Floor

No comments from the floor.

4.3 Presentation of National IWRM "Results Notes".

Result Notes were tabled prior to each speaker's presentations. Below are the key comments arising from presentations:

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
FSM – Mr. Patterson Shed	Ridge to Reef: Protecting Water Quality from Source to Sea
No comments	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
FSM – Mr. Vinesh Kumar	Integrated Flood Risk Management in the Nadi River Basin
<p>Mrs. Winifereti Nainoca, UNDP, asked what quantifiable evidence on e-coli, water quality, total suspended solids etc. is being collected from the IWRM projects?</p> <p>Mr. Duncan noted it takes 20-30 years to have data you can have confidence in. the RSC decided not to set up monitoring programmes that captured this sort of information as the IWRM life-cycle is too short. It is not a role for this project.</p> <p>The Fiji NBCC Chair added that the Water Quality Authority in your country while provide specific water quality data.</p>	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Tonga – Ms. Esetele Lakai	Improvement and Sustainable Management of Neiafu, Vava'u's Groundwater Resource
<p>Mr. Duncan asked how the Tongan project gauged the results of the new systems on water quality?</p> <p>Ms. Lakai noted they had hired a consultant from Southern Cross University to train them how to test nitrate and other pollutant levels from each sanitation system. They have monitored the improvements.</p>	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Nauru – Mr. Bryan Star	Enhancing Water Security for Nauru through better water management and reduced groundwater contamination
Video Presentation. No comments from the floor.	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
---------	--------------

Solomon Islands – Mr. Isaac Lekelalu	Managing Honiara City Water Supply and Reducing Pollution through IWRM Approaches
--	---

What do you do with the meters?

Mr. Lekelalu noted that on the project site they identified the 50 priority houses which needed meters. The Water Authority needs to decide this matter.

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Palau - Ms. Lynna Thomas	Ngerikiil Watershed Restoration for Improved Water Quality
Mr. Aitaro noted that the lessons are being learnt. That the Government is endorsing the Management Plans that come out of IWRM. A short video presentation was shown.	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Vanuatu – Ms. Rosette Kalmet	Sarakata Watershed Management Plan
Mr. Wilson asked for clarification on the signing of MOUs Mr. Ioan noted the Directors are from different government Departments involved in the partnership of the IWRM programme (such as the Department of the Environment). This was done to aid sustainability of IWRM initiatives. Ms. Kalmet elaborated that the MOUs were developed so that the Departments know their role in the IWRM field and how they can use this to factor into their annual planning. Mr. Ioan also noted the establishment of the 2 conservation areas and the protection zone around Bouganville (main water supply).	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Niue - Mr. Andrew Siohane	Using Integrated Land Use, Water Supply and Wastewater Management as a Protection Model for the Alofi Town Groundwater Supply and Nearshore Reef Fishery
No comments	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Samoa – Mr. Sam Semisi	Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of the Apia Catchment
Mr. Wilson acknowledged the EU and Rhonda's team for facilitating the Postgraduate Studies which enabled such detailed work to be done. Further, 90 million Tala worth of land acquisition has been leveraged from the GEF investment to protect the catchment. The Government is co-financing this initiative. Mr. Padilla asked how the protection of the 300 – 600m and 600m+ above mark came into being (the central peaks – or interior of the island). Mr. Semisi noted that Yes this conservation area can be considered attributable to the IWRM project. It is still in draft form and should be approved as policy by the end of 2012. At this time, they are still negotiating with the Church for the land in the Catchment area. Most farming ends at 200m.	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Cook Islands – Ms. Donye Numa	To reduce stresses on water resources and improve the quality of freshwater and coastal waters in Rarotonga (Muri Bay)
A video was played and was stopped half-way through due to time restraints. No comments from the floor, however, Mr. Duncan asked that the entire video be played one lunchtime during the workshops.	

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Kiribati – Ms. Reenate Willie	No Demo Project but have other benefits of the IWRM
Mr. Hebblewithe asked what are some of the key issues to establishing the water reserves? Ms. Willie noted squatters on the protected area denoted for a water reserve are an issue they need political will and support towards or it will not be possible to achieve. Mr. Shed asked can they manage with high water leakage? Ms. Willie noted that No. They are operating on a loss of around 4,000 cubic metres a day. Some people do not get enough access to water.	

Mr. Severin noted praised the presentations and that he had excellent case notes to write up and put onto the GEF website.

4.4 Presentation of IWRM Graduate Gifts – Mr. Mark Pascoe, International Water Centre, Brisbane

Mr. Mark Pascoe congratulated the present graduates and passed on sincere thanks to the EU for funding this aspect of the IWRM project. Graduates were then presented with a gift from the International Water Centre.

Mr. Joseph Aitaro noted that the Pacific Islands and Caribbean always ask for Capacity Building. He wanted to thank the EU for making this possible through the IWRM. Further, he asked for donations from participants to the local school in the Nadi upper catchment area.

Announcements: Field Trip start after morning team on Wednesday. Group Dinner at 7pm outside the Conference Room. Tomorrow the Agenda starts at 8.30am. Budget session deferred until the second week of the workshop.

Final Remarks

Mr. Wilson thanked the Chair for stepping in and guiding the day. He also wanted to thank the Project Manager's for the high caliber of their presentations and the quality of videos presented.

DAY 2: Wednesday 1 August 2012

Prayer: Mr. Lee Airens opened the day with a short prayer.

Video of 4th GEF Pacific IWRM Opening Day and Evening Celebrations was shown

4.4 Presentation of the Mid-Term Evaluation of the GEF Pacific IWRM Project, Key Findings and Presentation of a Costed Work Plan for the Terminal Evaluation of the Project – Ms. Ampai Harakunarak, UNDP Bangkok

The MTR was conducted by Peter Whalley a little later than expected. The MTR was accepted by the MTR team in February 2012. Objectives and purpose of the MTR were outlined. It followed standard GEF MTR processes which investigates if the project is on track to meet its objectives. The methodology used included desk studies, visit to demonstration sites (RMI, Samoa and Fiji), interviews/questionnaires and meetings with key stakeholders. The overall rating was: Satisfactory which Ms. Harakunarak noted was quite good.

Due to the reviewers availability, the country visits had to be limited to 3 countries, when originally many more were anticipated.

The MTR Findings for Project Design included:

(didn't catch these)

The MTR Findings for Project Management and Oversight included:

- Effective oversight by RSC;
- Creation of 2 PM units not ideal, but good coordination (EU + IWRM)
- RTAG is important body but the project design did not provide sufficient resources
- Strong regional PCU praised by stakeholders for supporting both regional and national activities.

The MTR Findings for Project Achievements included:

- All project components are delivering results:
- National demonstration projects are key to the future (I didn't get the rest down)

Component 1 – NDPs

- C4: Good level of achievement on capacity development
- Additional co-financing is being identified and it is important that is reported and linked to post-project activities

Project Ratings

Overall, the project grading is Satisfactory in all four components.

In terms of Sustainability, the financial, socio-political and institutional criteria it is Mostly Satisfactory.

For Environment criteria: Satisfactory.

Summary of Ratings Table

(goes here)

Lessons Learned

- Design, implementation and management of national demonstration projects with stakeholders
- Achieving wide stakeholder involvement
- Strong national and regional supervisory bodies

Recommendations

Ms. Harakunarak asked that the RSC consider these points and make decisions this week.

- 1/ Extension of the Pacific IWRM project by 6 months to complete regional activities including the finalization of IWRM plans and the dissemination of the national demonstration projects (end of 2013).
- 2/ Developing a sustainability plan for IWRM and WUE approaches in the Pacific region.
- 3/ To develop a strategy to improve the utilization the technical resources of the RTAG.
- 4/ To integrate and better link the demonstration projects into the regional website (already done).
- 5/ To continue to record co-financing delivered to the project at both the regional and national levels.

Final Comment by MTR

- Project has important successes and benefits to PICs and regionally
- Finalise the project will enhance the successes to date
- The MTR acknowledges all the support and assistance by the stakeholders of the Pacific IWRM Project.
- They make this a highly successful project. Thank you!

Comments from the Floor

Ms. Crispina Konelio asked about Component 3 which was not considered to be doing well.

She asked if this included all countries? Or just the 3 that were visited? Ms. Harakunarak answered that the consultant considered all 12 countries during the desk review. The consultant also talked to Project Managers and sent a questionnaire to all the countries. So all countries are included in this MTR.

Mr. Wilson asked participants if they agreed with the MTR recommendations which noted that the projects should end as originally planned, but that the PCU keep going for the following 6 months to wrap up the operational phase. Mr. Wilson needs to know to draft appropriate budgets. Mr. Chair asked for consideration. Ms. Harakunarak thanked Mr. Wilson for the question, and noted UNDP/UNEP/RPCU have met to discuss this issue and see how they can respond to this evaluation. They wanted to develop a matrix to assess whether to take this on, who would be responsible, the budget etc. Ms. Harakunarak would like the response of the RSC and they will factor this into their matrix.

Ms. Harakunarak noted that in normal projects they would consider to keep PCU staff on for a few extra months to deliver the report and prepare for the terminal evaluation.

Mr. Jose noted they will sit down and look to see if it is possible to extend the project. He said that the RSC's guidance will be a determining factor in their decision. They will probably be deliberating beyond this week.

The Chair noted that this decision will be debated tonight at the RTAG meeting. UNDP/UNEP/PCU can meet after this meeting to discuss the recommendation for the PCU.

Mr. Shed asked if the RSC can continue project timeframes also beyond the original timeframe of the end of 2013. The Chair asked that the RTAG consider this tonight as well. Mr. Wilson said the MTR has provided for enough time to capture the project information once projects have completed and that MTR recommendation was that national activities should cease at the end of 2013. This is important to ensure the timely financial closure of the project. He advised participants that 2013 is the end of the demonstration project timeframes.

Mr. Peni Leavai, SPREP, congratulated the IWRM for achieving Satisfactory rating. He noted that the PACC programme is currently being evaluated with a MTR. They will learn from the IWRM lessons in areas such as gender trainings, wide stakeholder engagement, and that a strategy for a strong regional water body is needed beyond the end of the life of the programme. Further, he noted all projects have an end-life and asked if we look at it as a programme, rather than a project. PACC is trying to do it through a Climate Change Framework. They have found a lot of similarities between the PACC and IWRM projects in the 5 countries they both operate in. He was concerned about sustainability. He applauded the capacity building component.

GEF Monitoring and Evaluation (Project Completion) - Ms. Harakunarak

She provided an overview on the essence of the evaluation. The focus are the Outcomes and Impacts. Performance. Outputs/Process. Building Sustainability.

The Terminal Evaluation is conducted by the Evaluation Unit in Nairobi.

It is expected to start in the third quarter of 2013, if the project implementation has achieved (or confidently to be achieved) all key outputs and deliverables within the proposed completion date (31 December 2013). They expect it to be in the fourth quarter of 2013 and have to plan for this:

- Focus on similar issues to the MTR, but the evaluation criteria will be expanded to include inter alia results-driven effectiveness.

The TOR will be provided to the RSC for review.

Key Milestones for Completion of the Project:

- Actual Start Dates: Feb 2009 (UNDP); May 2009 (UNEP)
- Planned project duration: 60 months (5 years)
- Planned Completion date: January 2014 / April 2014
- Expected Completion Date: December 2013 (proposed by SOPAC/RCU, requires RSC approval)
- 2 reports required: Project Terminal Report + RPCU Report

Exit Strategies are required:

- Maintenance of Website and Documents
- Knowledge Management / Outputs expanded
- Ensure STAR allocations and co-financing secured.

Comments from the Floor

No comments.

DAY 3: Thursday 2 August 2012

Prayer: Mr. Isaac Lelelau, Demonstration Project Manager for the Solomon Islands opened the day with a short prayer. The Chair advised that the Tuvalu country presentation would be shown after the prayer as Tuvalu was not In attendance on Day 1 of the RSC meeting.

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME
Tuvalu – Mr. Pisi Seleganiu	Eco-Sanitation Demonstration IWRM Project

No comments from the floor

5.0 CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS, POLICIES, AND IWRM PLAN DEVELOPMENT IN PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Progressing National IWRM Plan Development

Mr. Paterson congratulated participants on their delivery of presentations in English as a second language. He asked everyone to write down 'IWRM Plan' in the mother tongue. A wide and creative range of responses were provided by participants. Mr. Paterson did not add what his mother would call such a Plan.

Mr. Paterson then outlined the IWRM planning, implementation and Completion phases against a timeline. He then noted that that a generic new project concept which is being discussed to scale up project activities. These could include integrating water with climate adaptation or coastal management (IWRM-CAM). Or even scaling up to a broader scope with is truely Ridge to Reef. Governance and Coordination was also noted. He then noted that this would be supported by the Regional Indicator Framework which will be presented by Mr. Duncan soon.

IWRM Plans are an Anticipated Output of this project. Mr. Paterson noted the Component 3 outcome as stated in the overall Project Logframe. 14 Draft IWRM Plans approved by APEX water bodies.

Background

A) WSSD Plan of Implementaiton called for countries to: "...develop integrated water resource management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries.

B) Rio + 20

C) UN Resolutions have further made access to fresh water and sanitation a human right.

Mr. Paterson stressed when planning in the Pacific No One Size Fits All. There is considerable variation between countries in their needs. Despite this the IWRM has helped countries establish legislation, policies and plans, intersectoral coordination committees and water partnerships.

He noted what we still need to do includes:

- Assess if participation countries have met the objectives of the IWRM?
-
- Revisit the 'IWRM' in IWRM Plan.

Mr. Hebblethwaite then explained the General Framework for IWRM which detailed how the actions would lead to establishing an 'enabling environment' for the IWRM planning process in each countries, with the demonstration projects feeding into this. The components for the enabling environment are noted in a 'RoadMap' including:

- Policy – guiding principles, commitment to sustainable action
- Awareness – enable effective participation of stakeholders and engage decision-makers
- Consultation – identifying problems
- Institutions – a functional enabling environment, capacity, resources , relationships within government
- Information – ensure the best understanding of the information available and effective communication and knowledge
- Coordination – effective coordination mechanisms, APEX body
- Monitoring & Evaluation – assess progress, respond to change and adaptive management

Mr. Hebblethwaite asked participants to look at which of these components have been addressed in their countries and asked them identify any gaps. He wants to ensure that there is not the assumption that an enabling environment exists when it doesn't.

He summarized progress with all countries except Kiribati having a Demonstration Project. All countries have an APEX body. Targeted policy support (all countries have either done something or considering something). 10 Outlooks have been prepared to date.

Mr. Paterson reviewed 19 IWRM Plans from around the world in developing countries to see what the core elements were. He showed the graph of the 9 core elements: Diagnostic Report (70%), Over-arching Strategic Policy Statements for Water and Sanitation, Costed Investment (Action) Plan ~5 year, description of Coordination and Governance Arrangements and Government endorsement were addressed by over 50% of the countries. Mr. Paterson then went on to compare this to the Pacific where countries were similarly covering the same core elements.

He noted it might be better to call it a 'Costed Action Plan' rather than an Investment Plan as this would require additional financial elements.

Mr. Paterson recommended that the Regional Steering Committee give consideration to the core elements of the IWRM plan. Given the 3 pillars of IWRM, it is suggested the elements of an IWRM Plan be as follows:

- Diagnostic Report
- Over-arching Strategic Policy Statements for Water and Sanitation
- Costed Investment (Action) Plan ~5 year
- Description of Coordination and Governance Arrangements and
- Government endorsement

Comments from the Floor

Mr. Wilson noted that in the RMI someone has led this process which kept the momentum going to progress it through your committees. He noted some external support might be required to not over-burden RSC members. Thus, make provision of sufficient resources to make ensure good intersectoral cooperation.

Mr. Wilson then noted that most countries do not have national indicators and this could make countries reticent to engage in the IWRM Planning process.

Mr. Pascoe asked if all the documents reviewed were policies or plans? As this might have been affected the amount of M&E and other components present. Mr. Paterson did review some policies – but they actually had the elements of plans such as diagnostic plans.

Mr. Severin noted that the 2-step approach IWRM are using is similar to the approach that GEF is using. So this is great news for GEF Secretariat. They use a transboundary diagnostic analysis before being able to fund beyond the 'Enabling Project' phase. Further, he noted GEF is using the same indicators as well. He is very happy to see this is happening with the Pacific IWRM.

Mr. Jose Padilla noted that once these strategies are in place means that the prospects for a next phase are becoming clear. His second comment related to the geographic scope of these interventions rather than policies. A plan is applicable to a site. A policy is at the national level. His understanding is that the 5 recommendations noted by Mr. Paterson are relevant at the catchment / demonstration site. He then went on to be careful using 'Investment plans'. He said if you include both hard and soft components it is useful to use 'Action Plan'. Lastly, he said this project is in an accelerated mode and congratulated participants for the excellent progress.

Mr. Wilson noted that they want to see out of the IWRM that it is not just about moving forward with GEF – but for the Plans to have real relevance for water and sanitation in each country. They are for an overall planning tool for government – to other donors for hard and soft elements. They are not site specific. They want to provide a framework where funds can be targeted on a national planning process as well as meet GEF requirements.

Ms. Harakunarak noted that there was a step missing after the diagnostic review. She said the countries need to identify their priorities first. There would be 2 groups of priority. National and regional issues.

Mr. Hebblethwaite wanted to add that no one size will fit all and in Nauru and Tuvalu the project site will influence the national level. In other countries, like Fiji, the Nadi site influences planning at the national level but there are many other issues. He asked that it could take more time for a country like

Fiji to achieve the same level as the smaller islands – and he asked that countries like this are not disadvantaged because of the complexities of issues.

Mr. Aitaro noted that he agreed with the previous speakers, and that in ROP they consider this a national programme. He said they have tried to meld project objectives between the local and national level with an ADB project. He would like to see the IWRM feed into other policy processes that are underway. He would like to know the 'Next Steps', have them defined, so they don't lose the momentum they have gained.

Mr. Wilson noted it is about the 'road' to the outcome. In RMI it took them almost 12 months to get to the end point. He reiterated that the resources are needed and urged participants of the need to plan. For Fiji and the Solomon Islands, they might not end of an IWRM Plan. He said there needs to be a mechanism where the APEX committees can be lead along this path.

The Acting Chair asked that participants approve the recommendations that countries work towards the completion of these plans.

Mr. Siohane noted that Niue wanted the next steps.

Ms. Donye Numa, from the Cook Islands said in principle they have no problem with endorsing the recommendation, but they would like the additional further recommendation that there is no One Size that fits all. For the Cooks, they have a Sustainable Development Plan that supercedes a water plan. She would like the 'language' to be refined and presented back to the RSC for approval at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Lekelalu asked that the PMU please assist to ensure they include elements such as M&E and Capacity Development appropriately in their plans.

Mr. Padilla asked that countries do an assessment of what they need to do before the end of the meeting and provide this to PMU.

Mr. Howarth noted that all sectors need to work together. That they must integrate in order to achieve Sustainable Development. This was a key outcome of Rio +20. He said to raise the bar and gauge where the IWRM plan sits against where you committed to go in Rio+20. Further, he noted to look forward to 2015 – the end of the Millenium Development Goals. He said it will be inevitable that there will be a set of Sustainable Development Goals which will be a mix of MDGs and SDGs. There will be water development goals. The Pacific will need a strong indicator of what these goals will be and he urged participants to be thinking about this now. Think about the Language used. He gave a wee fable of Sustainable Development being like mixing concrete – you need to know what you are doing whether you are the gravel, cement or water component if you want to be Hard Concrete.

Mr. Shed noted he supported the Cook Islands recommendation. Mr. Shed believes the environment is enabling for the IWRM to link with national priorities with DRR and biodiversity etc in FSM. He congratulates RMI for doing a good job.

Mr. Buraman supports the recommendations of the Cook Islands.

Ms. Numa noted that there are 2 other recommendations noted in the Guidance Paper. Mr. Paterson clarified that there is the minimal requirements for a national diagnostic reports and the structure of the 5 year Action Plan. The recommendation was for the RTAG to pull together this over the coming months. He noted that this can be done over the coming workshop with Project Managers.

Ms. Numa stated for clarification, that this will be addressed next week, when the Cook Islands are not here and will be addressed by the RTAG. The Cook Islands is comfortable for this to take place.

6.0 CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INDICATOR FRAMEWORKS FOR IWRM IN PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES

Mr. Duncan noted that he was changing the order of the presentations to aid decision-making and brought the session on Stakeholder Awareness and Understanding forward.

6.2 Discussion of Possible Approaches to Increase Stakeholder Awareness and Understanding within Pacific Island Countries of the Role of Indicator Frameworks and Related Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

MTR Recommendation

Recommendation 6: To improve the understanding by stakeholders of the indicator framework under development. The MTR recommended that the Regional PCU presents a report to the RSC meeting (summer 2012) on means to improve the awareness and uptake of the indicators developed.

Group 1	It is not that the stakeholders do not understand the Indicators, it's that they haven't started the process yet. The stakeholders will understand what they do the engagement.
Group 2	Took a step back, do they need the stakeholders to understand? And went back to the MTR. Outward Facing and Inward Facing Processes. Perhaps the communities would rather know if the water is clean or dirty – rather than indicator frameworks. The indicator would be a IWRM Plan. 2-pronged, they have a Sustainable Development Plan and within this it would indicate that an indicator of success would be the implementation of the IWRM plan.
Group 3	The indicators are there own awareness-raising tool. If you start telling the community about the baseline then you can start building awareness and understanding.

Lunch is in the Lei Room where Dr. Howarth will make a presentation on the SOPAC Mid Term Review to participants.

Mr. Duncan ran through the reasons for needing Indicators. Then he ran through the timeframes and the types of Indicators:

Control: Need them now.

Process: up to 10 years

Stress Reduction: up to 20 years

Status: 30+ years (condition of environmental indicators and access to clean drinking water)

There are many differences between countries (From Diagnostic Report) Tuvalu: limited water supply, sanitation access, sludge disposal. Fiji – flooding, rural drinking water and sanitation, catchment management, urban supplies / hydropower. How do we roll this into a regional framework?

Mr. Duncan noted the Challenges.

He explained that your monitoring is only as good as the data you collect.

Themes: Human Rights, Economic Development, Sustainable Environment Management, Health and Wellbeing, Resilience and Governance.

Note that the themes may change. They have been endorsed by the RSC but they were developed from going through other Plans – not necessarily derived from the Pacific. He showed a range of examples on how the information in these themes / values can be represented.

IWRM Plan

- Core links between IWRM and NIF
- NIF informs IWRM and other Plans (JNAP, SDP etc),
- IWRM and other Plans drives the NIF,
- and linked.

Mr. Duncan noted that countries 'scores' are based on what the targets are. Two countries can have the same 'score' for a value – but how it is measured depends on what each country was aiming towards.

Links Between National and Regional Indicator Frameworks

Need to feed these into the organization doing the regional indicator collation.

RSC3 Recommendations

- National Indicator Frameworks Developed by all countries by February 2012
- Informed by the Outlook Reports
- Approved the broad approach for a regional indicator framework by March 2012

The PCU have received have no national indicator frameworks except for Tuvalu who asked for help to develop it. This is still happening. The MTR noted more assistance was required for countries to be able to develop indicator frameworks and then more assistance to turn them into tools. Also recommended in the MTR, that the Regional PCU presents a report to the RSC meeting (summer 2012) on means to improve the awareness and update of the indicators developed.

The Tuvalu Experience

Two workshops held and perceived as successful. The themes were appropriate. Some success against indicators and some areas not so strong. The key features of the NIF were consistent with what RTAG proposed. That is good, but only one country has been assessed this far.

Tuvalu's Indicators I

Health – number of children with diarrhea
Water Security - tanks
Environment – water reef

Tuvalu's Indicators II

Governance – proportion of female representatives on Faukaupule + development and implementation of regulations
Human Rights – proportion of access to sustainable and safe drinking water+ Access to sanitation
Economic Development – None

Example of an Indicator provided for Water Security. Then the National Framework needs: indicators/targets; reporting mechanism; endorsement national APEX body; endorsement by Cabinet; monitoring mechanisms; and political will.

You then need a Feedback Response: Indicators own awareness raising mechanism (dependent upon reporting) Need to structure reporting and PR. Internally and externally relevant – Need different reporting mechanisms. Engaging with stakeholders.

Mr. Duncan stressed to choose the best process for your country and that this would be addressed in more detail in the following week's workshop.

Comments from the Floor

Ms. Numas noted that the Cook Islands want to recognize that the National Indicators are linked to their National Sustainable Development Plan and that their NI's for IWRM are for their Demonstration Project. Mr. Duncan noted that the Indicators may be in place already and they may not need any others. The National Indicators can be 'rolled up' into a Regional Indicator Framework.

The Chair noted that whatever we use, national indicator needs will be harmonized with the framework being used for the region. Mr. MacDonald also noted countries need to ensure they have harmonized indicators across programmes that do not duplicate reporting.

7.0 PLANNING THE LONGER-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF GEF PACIFIC IWRM PROJECT OUTCOMES

7.1 Consideration of Capacity Built Through Project Inception to Mid Term and Identification of Priority Actions to Enhance Regional and National Capacity for IWRM

Geoff and team are recording interviews of the Project Managers. The questions they will ask are:

- Top 2 results
- What has been your greatest challenge?

- What has helped the most in getting the work done?
- Number 1 Lesson you have Learned.
- How would you upscale this project if you had more funds?

Mr. Wilson introduced the topic of Capacity Building. What is Capacity?
“ability of individuals, groups, institutions and organisations to identify and solve development problems over time (UNDP 1993).

What is the Capacity Conundrum?

How do we measure Capacity Built so that we can be confident that we have met our capacity development objectives? It is easy to identify the inputs such as attending a training course but how do we determine the impact that the course tried to achieve? It is a bit of a ‘black box’ to measure between the start and end points.

Given the focus by recipients and donors on capacity building and the strong director of donors to do measurement and proof of delivery eg: Toily’s MSG requirement, the lack of direct measurement tools is problematic. There we need to resort to proxy indicators of capacity.

The interviews of IWRM Project Managers each RSC are one way of measuring the growth in ‘capacity’. They asked the same questions of Project Managers at each RSC and will analyse these tapes next year.

UNDP have tried to identify core capacities such as sets of objectives, develop strategies, draw up action plans, development and implement....

Mr. Wilson then went on to show how similar these are to the IWRM Capacity Context and Project Objectives. He referred to the 3 pillars of IWRM and the ‘golden triangle’ of ecological sustainability.

Mr. Wilson looked at matching Core Capacities to Change Drivers and showed how that achieving Capacity will also mean we are achieving IWRM objectives. So how does this relate to sustainability? Then he put up his ‘flower’ Capital Diagram.

The Way Forward

Mr. Wilson said we should measure capacity indicators against the core drivers.

He asked that:

1. RCU prepare Indicators and verifiers to provide proxy measures of capacity built and areas requiring further input and strengthening.
2. That these be considered next week by PMS.

Comments from the Floor

The Chair asked if participants agreed with Mr. Wilson’s definition of Capacity. Mr. Severin said he applauded these ideas and that countries do a one-pager with a visual ‘sliding scale’ to show how each country is performing against the indicators. Mr. Wilson said that Yes this is what he intends to do but that IWRM want to address the whole of capacity.

Mr. Padilla noted government officers move around and you can lose capacity this way. He asked what capacity IWRM are hoping to build. Mr. Wilson said that you do this annually through self-assessment so that you can measure each year and track progress. From the institutional arrangements to the individual levels. MR. Hebblewaite concurred that you may not be able to see the capacity built in a snapshot – but you can track trends. The Fiji and Vanuatu DPMS have had experience of this.

7.2 Review of Lessons Learned to Project Mid-Term and the Status of National Replication and Upscaling Plans

Mr. Paterson noted Kellie had been recruited to collate and analyse Lessons Learned from all of the countries and that the position had been vacant this year. Mr. Paterson presented his process diagram and noted that upscaling plans should be built into the IWRM plans.

What is Replication Planning?

The main outcome or result anticipated from the ProDoc Component 1 “quote”
Key learnings can be compiled into a list of best practices in order to repeat their successes.

- The level of participation in lessons learned reporting is inconsistent across countries. Tonga and Fiji submitted considerably more lessons than other countries. Mr. Paterson noted that countries were spending 540 days a year on reporting across the project and it would be good to see an improvement in this sort of reporting.
- Reporting on Lessons has improved over time. Is this representative of capacity being built?
- More themes being measured? Initially, reporting was about project management and now is moving more towards socio-cultural or political considerations.

At the last RSC it was agreed draft replication strategies would be included. Most have been submitted and will be reviewed with Project Managers next week. He noted RMI and Fiji and Tuvalu were very good. Lastly, he noted that there is a Checklist and a Toolkit in the Workshop Folder.

Recommendations for the RSC

Lessons Learned Reporting:

- Retain programmatic support at the RPCU level.
- All countries produce 1 publishable Lesson Learned per year.
- Reaffirm ‘new’ template and requirement of 1-2 lessons/quarter.
- All countries must participate every quarter.
- Would countries benefit from individual feedback on their areas of strength/weakness and suggestions for improvement?
- Analysis of lessons learned conducted annually.
- New lessons incorporated into the database/website

Recommendations for Replication Planning:

- Second draft replication plans due by 30th November
- All countries to revise their Replication Strategy Matrix by:

A) identify key lessons learned for each theme

B) link lessons to replication strategies

- Reaffirm Replication & Upscaling ToolKit as preferred method for developing Replication Plans
- Checklist in Figure 11 of report to be used as an aid
- Group to discuss methods for sharing replication plans.

7.3 Strengthening the Role of the Regional Technical Group in Providing Technical Quality Assurance of Project Results and Future Actions.

Meant to meet twice – has met 7 times.

The Key Project Outputs to come all go beyond the scope of the RTAG so there is not real role for the RTAG.

- NIFs March 2013
- RIFs March 2013
- National IWRM Plans

The MTR gave some options and the RTAG reviewed them last night.

GEF 5 Continuation, GEF 6 + Bridging, GEF 6 without Bridging and Project Closure. All options require funding. Cost options included:

- Teleconference – negligible.
- Partial meeting / teleconference – negligible.
- Suva based meeting – assume organisations cover attendance ~\$5,000 per meeting (Cost of 2 country representatives) Most RTAG members are based in Suva. Samoa & FSM very expensive.
- Full attendance – too costly and not an option.

DAY 4: Friday 3 August 2012

Opening Prayer – Dr. Kula

8.0 BUILDING ON THE MID-TERM ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GEF PACIFIC IWRM PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN THE RELEVANCE OF ‘COMMUNITY TO CABINET’ AND ‘RIDGE TO REEF’ APPROACHES TO PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITIES

8.1 Planning the Longer-Term Scaling of IWRM to a Broader Integrated Coastal Management Platform, incorporating Climate Variability and Disaster Risk Management Considerations

Mr. Paterson outlined some options for the future as national activities close in 2013. He showed a timeline of the history of the programme which started with the International Waters Project (2000 – 2007). Stemming from that has been the FFA Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (2005 – 2011) and the IWRM (2009 – 2013). He identified need for the region to be proactive in securing ongoing support for scaling-up if efforts.

The GEF 5 Themes for IWRM

IWRM – CAM

Water Utility Reform

Water and Climate/Habits

Rural WatSan Issues

There may be a short window of opportunity for the GEF 5 Project to be Scaled Up. This will depend on:

- Positive Mid-Term Review (end of 2011) Satisfactory + Good Bill of Financial Health from UNDP
- Positive Terminal Review (mid 2013)
- Achievement of Demonstration Project Objectives (results)
- Government Endorsement of National IWRM Plans
- National Endorsement / Co-Finance
- GEF Endorsement of GEF 5 Project

Mr. Paterson showed a timeline outlining the GEF 5 Project Concept Development phase which needs to be endorsed by the RSC and Implementing Agencies around the end of 2013. Letters of Country Commitment / Co-Financing sought. A PIF to UNDP / GEF IW by the end of August 2013 and recommendations from Terminal Evaluation at this time as well. The endorsed Concept then needs to go to GEF by November 2013.

Mr. Severin outlined that 120 million is still left for programming the Pacific. GEF can't say for sure how much money will be left by the end of GEF 5. The timeframe may be too tight but if they know that this is being submitted in 2013 they can do their best to save some funds. Mr. Severin urged that they need the strong draft by late August 2013. It can be tweaked in September 2013. Ms. Harakunarak noted that the Terminal Evaluation should be undertaken 3 months before the end of the project – the fourth quarter of 2013. GEF will require this to be completed before submitting the PIF.

Mr. Padilla noted there is the scope for starting the final Evaluation, depending on the progress of the project overall, if 90% of the deliverables have been completed. Given the accelerated pace of this project it might be possible to take advantage of this opportunity. He urged the Demonstration Projects to work faster. Mr. Wilson noted that the best time for a cost-effective Terminal Evaluation is to start a week before the next RSC 5. The consultant could review the background documentation, and then have the opportunity to talk to all participating countries at RSC 5, then visit demonstration projects and have a preliminary draft by the required timeframe. Mr. Wilson noted that it would be good to start the Terminal Evaluation in the third quarter.

Ms. Harakunarak responded that she is not so optimistic. The Evaluation Office has to plan their Review time and she needs to inform them when to come as part of their annual workplan. Further, she noted the risks of assessing results before all the regional components are completed. The result

may be less positive. She would like the region to have another project under GEF 5 but her primary concern is to have a good project.

Mr. Severin outlined the Caribbean experience, where they were at the same stage. UNEP worked closely with GEF and they were able to move forward and be flexible to conduct the Terminal Evaluation early. But what it comes down to is whether the countries are ready. Ms. Harakunarak noted it is herself who informs the office of when this project is ready for evaluation. Mr. Shed raised a concern that some countries will still be implementing project activities during the third quarter of 2013. No other comments from the floor. The Chair asked if the participants agree that the evaluation should be conducted in the third quarter of 2013 as the countries are ready for the Terminal Evaluation. The RSC agreed with RPCUs recommendations on the timeline.

9.0 REVIEW OF KEY PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION ISSUES

9.1 Review of the Agreed Rules and Procedures for the Operation of the Project Fund Reallocation Pool and Determination of RSC 4 Forfeitures and Redistribution Plans

Demonstration Project Expenditure

The objective was to provide incentive for Participating Pacific countries to complete activities. The method was to establish annual aspirational and minimum targets cumulative expenditure targets. Establish forfeiture procedures.

He showed a graph which noted project expenditure for projects and the RCPU is at 70% which is pretty good. The graph doesn't show shifts in the nature of the projects which is why they agreed to a 25% lee-way.

The reason for not achieving these targets:

1. Project expenditure pattern doesn't match the model of expenditure rates due to shifts from original planning. **The targets are annual and 25% lee-way is provided to accommodate for this.**
2. Project implementation is poor and delayed due to poor management. **Forfeiture.**
3. Project implementation and commitment of funds is on target but government payment of accounts is delayed. **Beyond Management Control.**

All countries have made the minimum targets for 2012 except for ROP and FSM. ROP has a huge amount of commitments that is sitting in Finance. FSM did nothing for 12 months until a Demonstration Project Manager was recruited. However, initially, almost all countries were below targets. This shows that the method used (threat of forfeiting funds) has helped boost expenditure and stimulated project implementation.

Recommendations from Mr. Wilson

That the RSC 3 agreed forfeitures rescinded for 2 countries.

That the RSC 4 forfeitures rescinded for 2 countries (ROP and FSM).

Funds remaining unspent by demonstration projects at the end of December 2013 will be forfeited to GEF and lost to the Pacific countries. Therefore, Mr. Wilson proposed a new expenditure target to be agreed to be the end of December 2012 in order to re-allocate the funds from countries who can not spend their allocations.

He had some new provisions as well.

- Expenditures will be based on the end of December 2012 audits which should be available April 2013.
- Countries not meeting minimum targets will automatically forfeit 75% of their underspend to the reallocation pool.
- The resulting reallocation pool will be distributed evenly to all countries that have reached the aspirational expenditure target.

Ms. Numas noted that in the Cook Islands they cannot have additional funds in April 2013 as it would not be appropriated by Parliament which is budgeted in January 2013. Mr. Wilson said alternatively, if this is an issue, the money can be held at SOPAC and they can pay the bill (such as a consultancy).

New Targets

End of December 2012 – minimum target of 80% - aspirational target of 85%.

Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Severin if other IWRM projects have ever completed and spent their budgets in 5 years. Mr. Severin said that no other regional project has ever been spent on time and that he believed the Pacific could do it based on current results. The Chair noted that yes, other than FSM and Palau, all could complete on time.

Mr. Airens, FSM, noted the challenge of getting a new Project Manager in FSM but they are hoping over the next 2 quarters they can reach their targets. Mr. Wilson noted there were other challenges of disbursing the funds in FSM. There is a new modality now to address this. It may be possible to do this in ROP as well who are facing similar disbursement issues. Mr. Shed takes this as a challenge and a lesson and he hopes to rise to the challenge.

Mr. Buraman, Demonstration Project Manager Nauru, noted that he took it as a personal responsibility to perform for his country. What he has learned from other projects in Nauru who are falling behind in expenditures, is that they have recruited extra project managers who are responsible for different activities. This resulted in more results in 8 months than they had achieved in the previous 3 years. He urged other countries to recruit additional help to ensure activities are completed.

Mr. Aitaro, ROP IWRM Focal Point, apologized to his colleagues. It is getting the payments out. They have had numerous consultations with their Finance Officers. They are talking to Mr. Wilson to review the situation.

Mr. Wilson noted that there are stringent systems monitoring what funds are spent on. He mentioned that the Pacific region is not good at spending funds. Mr. Shed noted that there are some NGOs who are good at executing projects and spending funds. The Chair noted they have the Finance Department on the Steering Committee and invite them to functions so the relationships are built and support execution of the project.

Mr. Kumar, Fiji Demonstration Project Manager, noted they will not give a 'shopping list'. He also noted that the way they spend is important. For example, you can host a workshop in a community or a \$10,000 conference room in a hotel. He tries to build local ownership by holding the workshops in the community. He does not want to see the Pacific lose these funds.

Ms. Iosua, Tuvalu IWRM Focal Point, noted they must wait for reallocations until Tuvalu can get more funds. She also noted that they did not realize they were over-spending as this caused other disbursement issues for them. The Chair noted there should be 20% remaining before the next quarters disbursement is issued as it can take 3-4 weeks before the next disbursement will be made into the national account. The Chair urged them to keep going. Mr. Wilson noted this is a project management issue. Activities should be planned ahead and the correct amount of funds requested.

Mr. Semisi, Samoa Demonstration Project Manager, requested that the disbursement of funds is sped up as it can be delayed and 3-4 weeks can be too long.

The Chair asked participants if they agreed with Mr. Wilson's recommendations. Mr. Airens, FSM asked the motion to be moved and Mr. Kumar, Fiji seconded.

9.2 Discussion of the Project Budget, Currency Exchange Issues, and the Continued Tracking of Project Co-Financing

Mr. Wilson asked for the RSC to approve:

1. The budget for next year as outlined in the budget he presented.
2. He asked for a 6 month extension of the RPCU be approved in principle (end of June 2014).
3. A third quarter start to Terminal Evaluation be approved in principle (to be formally requested by RPCU to UNEP as well).

4. For the RPCU extension to be funded by the remainder of the PNG funds

Ms. Harakunarak noted that the MTR budget was \$60,000 and this was not all used as less countries were visited and less consultants were removed. This may need to be added back into the budget. Ms. Harakunarak will check the exact expenditure for the MTR and will report back to Mr. Wilson.

Ms. Numas, IWRM Focal Point Cook Islands supports the recommendation.

Mr. Buramen, Nauru Demonstration Project Manager, supports the recommendation.

The Chair asked that the RSC approves the decision for the RPCU extension period. The ROP Demonstration Project Manager, Ms. Lynna Thomas, asked if they can delay the approval of the extension until they have consulted back home. Mr. Wilson advised that the endorsement is made by the RSC at the meeting.

Ms. Harakunarak noted that the extension recommendation in the MTR is for operational completion (IWRM plans and Demonstration Activities), and the regional components. Further, she noted a 3 months 'grace period' is normally granted to the RPCU after operational completion in December 2013. But if the regional components can not be completed by December 2013, then the RSC could endorse a 3 month extension. This would mean the operational closure would be March 2013 and the whole project closure would be June 2013.

Mr. Padilla put forward that the current RSC could approve Mr. Wilson's recommendation. The work programme has been presented. UNDP would approve it. He also asked Ms. Harakunarak for clarification on how to find a way to justify a 2013 start to the Terminal Evaluation. Ms. Harakunarak said she will make the recommendation.

Mr. Shed advised he understood the need for the RPCU extension and asked about the Demonstration Project Managers who may need to complete activities. Mr. Wilson noted that the Demonstration Sites need to have closed in order for the RPCU to complete their activities. The RPCU will sort out the procedures around this process. The Chair asked for the motion to approve the extension for the RPCU. He asked for the budget to be approved as well. All participants agreed.

9.3 Internal and External IWRM Communications Initiatives

Mr. Paterson walked participants through the IWRM website.

The Super 15s Rugby Competition. Originally developed to get Project Managers to be sharing information and contacting each other. The first year there was 119 people. The following year 260 people, 290 people in 2012. It has expanded into government, NGOs and community members. It includes ~70 agencies from Health to the Environment. Mr. Paterson gave the example of inviting your Finance Team to join. This will familiarise them with IWRM and progress (winners in 2011 from a Finance department – the second place person this year was also from Finance). He said it has proven to be very effective. More effective than brochures or emails and gave the example of an RMI Government Official at the GEF Constituency in July 2012 knowing that a Marshallese was going to Tuvalu to teach them about composting toilets.

The Kava Bowl – for national and regional communication. Upload your information.

Facebook Page. No-one's personal details will be accessed from this page. In terms of Outputs, the National MTRs are listed on the website. They are substantial reports and not part of the original project document. The RSC agreed to do this in order to better inform.

Mr. Paterson noted the Project Results Notes will be placed on the website. He also suggested that Project Results Notes be updated before each RSC. The template was from the IW Learn website. They also have Experience Notes. They may look at other ways to publish information. IWRM upload the Pacific programme information onto the IWRM website.

Mr. Wilson also noted that the RSC meetings are another way of building the networks and then went on to present the prizes for the Super 15 Competition.

1. Overall Winner: Chad from Niue
2. Highest Ranked Project Manager: Andrew Siohane from Niue
3. Highest Ranked IWRM National Team (top 3 scorers from each participating country): Niue. The prize is a study tour to an IWRM demonstration project in the Pacific of their choice
4. The Kids Prize: Vere's daughters
5. Most Points for Age: Seth Duncan aged 9

Mr. Niue asked that the RPCU provide donors logos and for them to be of high resolution so they can use them for a variety of uses. Mr. Chung noted there are no updated Government logos. He said to send these to him as well as a list of what is needed and he will supply them.

Mr. Wilson asked that participants send in lists of water stakeholders and pictures to provide a significant repository of regional water data/personnel which they can include on the IWRM website.

LUNCH – IWRM bags and Shirts were presented to participants who then changed into their stylish new attire.

10.0 LOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING

Mr. Wilson suggested the next RSC meeting could be the fourth week of July 2013 in order to accommodate the Terminal Evaluation (22 -26 July 2013).

Further, he noted that the budget for next year's meeting was set based on the meeting being held in Nadi, Fiji. The other option is that a country hosts it and pays the difference or UNDP tops up the budget to hold the meeting at another location.

FSM and Vanuatu offered to consider hosting the meeting next year. Mr. Wilson noted that the PCU would need to know about the location by January 2013. The Chair asked that the Project Manager's from these 2 countries please cost up the meeting with inputs from the PCU.

11.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Wilson announced that the AI Duda Prize will be presented for the best Results Note. A runner-up was also selected. These will be announced later in the presentation.

Mr. Wilson then went on to present the following prizes to IWRM Demonstration Project Managers:

Rosette Kalmet, Vanuatu: Best Use of Regional Technical Expertise

Isaac Lekelalu, Solomon Islands: Best technical solution to an urban water challenge.

Julius Lucky, RMI: Best Regional Radio or TV Interview in Stress Reduction.

Lynna Thomas, ROP: The Most Timely Project Reporting Award

Ese Lakai, Tonga: The Best Use of Local Media Award

Sam Semisi, Samoa: Best Example of Integrated Catchment Management

Pisi Seleganiu, Tuvalu: Regional IWRM Replication Champion

Patterson Shed: Regional Online Communications Champion

Haseldon Buraman: Best Water Policy and Planning Process

The AI Duda First Prize: Vinesh Kumar, Fiji. Presented with the AI Duda Spear (held for 12 months)

The AI Duda Runner-Up was: Pisi Seleganiu

Project Manager initiation for Patterson Shed was to give him The Hat.

Christian Severin, GEF Secretariat, was awarded with The Hat and a Kava Bowl in appreciation of his commitment and assistance. He praised participants on their results and the marvelous job they are doing.

Mr. Wilson acknowledged the additional support and effort from IWRM PCU staff while he was away. In particular Chris, Vere and David. SOPAC staff such as Russell and Rhonda. Petra in Finance section. Liki, IT. Vinesh and his team for the Study Tour. PACC, the IAs and IWC for making such a great contribution to the graduates. Mr. Wilson noted that he feels a great sense of pride from attending these meetings. Finally, he thanked the Chair, Sulu, for doing such a great job over the course of the week.

The Chair then asked the IA from the FSM to thank the RPCU and all other representatives for their hard work during the week. UNDP, IWC, GEF and EU for the funding, Russell, Rhonda and the team from SOPAC.

Mr. Wilson reminded participants that the Project Managers have a meeting next week. Finally, he thanked O-TV and Geoff on the media savvy and more that they bring to the IWRM.

Rhonda gave a special thank you from SOPAC to acknowledge the hard work of Marc and his team.

Patterson Shed moved that the meeting be closed. Seconded by Palau.

RSC Key Agreement Points

Day 3

1. The RSC agreed the elements of an IWRM Plan be as follows:

- Diagnostic Report
- Over-arching Strategic Policy Statements for Water and Sanitation
- Costed Investment (Action) Plan ~5 year
- Description of Coordination and Governance Arrangements and
- Government endorsement

It was agreed to approve the above with a proviso that one size does not fit all and outcomes will vary on national context.

2. The RSC committed to completing the NIFs by the end of 2012.
3. The RSC agreed to task the RTAG with the completion of reporting protocols and a package of proposed RIF outputs by the end of November 2012 with the release of the RIF by World Water Day.
4. The RSC agreed that the RRCU prepare Indicators and verifiers to provide proxy measures of capacity built and areas requiring further input and strengthening. They further agreed that these be considered next week by Project Managers.
5. The RSC agreed to defer discussions on replication, up-scaling and lessons to be addressed with individual Project Managers during the workshop in week 2.
6. The RSC agreed to endorse that the RTAG meet in November 2012 in Suva to:
 - Review (draft) RIF and NIFs
 - Replication Identification.
 - That the RTAG meet at RSC 5 – to close out the programme.
7. The RSC agreed that the PCU can include the UNEPs guidance on Exit Strategies into the IWRM Exit Framework and this will be discussed in the Project Managers workshop next week.

DAY 4

8. The RSC agreed that the evaluation should be conducted in the third quarter of 2013.
9. The RSC agreed with RPCUs recommendations on the timeline of activities for the remainder of the project.
10. The RSC agreed to RSC 4 forfeitures being rescinded for 2 countries (ROP and FSM).
11. The RSC agreed a new expenditure target for the end of December 2012 with the following provisions:
 - Expenditures will be based on the end of December 2012.
 - Countries not meeting minimum targets will automatically forfeit 75% of their underspend to the reallocation pool.
 - The resulting reallocation pool will be distributed evenly to all countries that have reached the aspirational expenditure target.
12. The RSC agreed on the budget for next year as presented by Mr. Wilson.
13. The RSC endorsed the 6 month extension of the RPCU being approved in principle (end of June 2014).
14. The RSC agreed for the RPCU extension to be funded by the remainder of the PNG funds.
15. The RSC agreed a third quarter start to the Terminal Evaluation was approved in principle.

ANNEX 1**List of Participants****Cook Islands**

Ms. Donye Numa
IWRM Focal Point
Secretary
Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning
PO Box 102
Avarua, Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Tel: (682) 20321
Mob: (682) 78993
E-mail: numa@oyster.net.ck

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald
Programme Manager - WATSAN
Water Works Division
Ministry of Infrastructure and Planning
P.O. Box 102
Avarua, Rarotonga, Cook Islands
Tel: (682) 22648
Fax: (682) 24321
E-mail: k.macdonald@moip.gov.ck

Federated States of Micronesia

Mr. Leerenson Lee Airens
IWRM Focal Point
Manager, Water Works
Pohnpei Utilities Cooperation (PUC)
P.O. Box C, Kolonia 96941, FSM
Tel: (691) 320 2374
Fax: (691) 320 2422
E-mail: leerenson@hotmail.com

Mr. Patterson Shed
Demonstration Project Manager
Department of Resources and Development
P.O. Box PS-12, Kolonia 96941, Pohnpei
Federated States of Micronesia
Tel: (691) 320 5133
Fax: (691) 320 5854
E-mail: shedpatterson@gmail.com

Fiji Islands

Mr. Colin Simmons
Director
Land and Water Resource Management
Department of Agriculture
Ministry of Primary Industries
P.O. Box 1292, Suva, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 338 3155
Fax: (679) 338 3546
E-mail: csimmons@govnet.gov.fj

Mr. Vinesh Kumar
Demonstration Project Manager
Land and Water Resource Management
Department of Agriculture
Ministry of Primary Industries
P.O. Box 1292, Suva, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 628 1233
Mob: (679) 990 4005
Fax: (679) 338 3546
E-mail: vinesh.kumar01@govnet.gov.fj

Kiribati

Ms. Reenate Willie
Ministry of Works and Energy
P.O. Box 498, Betio, Tarawa, Kiribati
Tel: (686) 26192
Fax: (686) 26172
E-mail: reenteariki@gmail.com

Nauru

Mr. Bryan Star (*alternate for Mr. Russ Kun*)
National Policy Representative
Director of Projects
Dept. of Commerce, Industry & Environment
Government Buildings, Yaren District
Republic of Nauru
Tel: (674) 444 3133

Mr. Haseldon Buraman
Demonstration Project Manager
Dept. of Commerce, Industry and Environment
Government Buildings, Yaren District
Republic of Nauru
Tel: (674) 444 3133 ext. 311
Fax: (674) 444 3157

Fax: (674) 444 3105
E-mail: bryanstar@cenpac.net.nr

E-mail : haseldon@gmail.com

Niue

Mr. Andre Maurice Siohane
Demonstration Project Manager IWRM
Water Division Public Works Department
Government of Niue
P.O. Box 38, Alofi, Niue
Tel: (683) 4297
Fax: (683) 4223
E-mail: waterworks@mail.gov.nu

Ms Crispina Konelio
IWRM Demonstration Project Assistant
Water Division, Public Works Department
Government of Niue
P.O. Box 38, Alofi, Niue
Tel: (683) 4223
Fax: (683) 4223
E-mail: crispina.konelio@mail.gov.nu

Republic of Palau

Mr. Joseph Aitaro, Acting Director
Land and Water Division
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment,
and Tourism
Government of the Republic of Palau
Tel:
Fax:
E-mail: jaitaro@gmail.com

Ms. Lynna Thomas
Demonstration Project Manager
Palau Environmental Quality Protection Board
P.O. Box 8086, Bureau of Public Works Building
Medalaih, Koror, Palau, 96940
Tel: (680) 488 3600
Fax: (680) 488 2963
E-mail: lynna.thomas7@gmail.com

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Mr. Lowell Alik (*alternate for Ms. Deborah
Barker-Manase*)
Acting General Manager
Environmental Protection Authority
P.O. Box 1322, Majuro
Marshall Islands 96960
Tel: (692) 625 3035
Fax: (692) 625 5202
Mob: (692) 456 0246
E-mail: lowellalik@gmail.com

Mr. Julius Lucky
Demonstration Project Manager IWRM
Environmental Protection Authority
P.O. Box 1322, Majuro
Marshall Islands 96960
Tel: (692) 625-3035/5203
Fax: (692) 625 5202
Mob: (692) 455 1924
E-mail: tupaclolo@hotmail.com

Samoa

Mr. Suluimalo Amataga Penaia
IWRM Focal Point
Acting CEO – Water Resources Division
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Private Bag, Apia, Samoa
Tel: (685) 23800
Mob: (685) 777 2519
Fax: (685) 23176
E-mail: amataga.penaia@mnre.gov.ws

Mr. Sopoaga Sam Semisi
Demonstration Project Manager
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Private Bag, Apia, Samoa
Tel: (685) 23800
Fax: (685) 23176
E-mail: sam.semisi@mnre.gov.ws
Skype: Sam Semisi

Solomon Islands

Mr. Isaac Lekelalu
Demonstration Project Manager
Deputy Director Water Resources
Ministry of Mines
P O Box G37, Honiara, Solomon Islands
Tel: (677) 21522
Fax: (677) 25811
E-mail: Isaac@mines.gov.sb

Tonga

Dr. Taaniela Kula
IWRM Focal Point
Deputy Secretary for Natural Resources
Division
Ministry of Lands Survey and Natural
Resources
P O Box 5, Vuna Road, Nuku'alofa, Tonga
Tel: (676) 25508
Fax: (676) 23216
Mob: (676) 771 9104
E-mail: taanielakula@gmail.com

Ms. 'Esetelelita Fulivai Lakai
Demonstration Project Manager
Ministry of Lands, Survey, and Natural
Resources
Sailoame, Neiafu, Vavau
Tonga
Tel: (676) 70999
Fax: (676) 70999
E-mail: ese_1983@hotmail.com
Skype: kaipeatoa

Tuvalu

Ms. Olioliga Iosua
IWRM Focal Point
Secretary for Works, Water and Energy
Government of Tuvalu
Government Offices, Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu
Tel: (688) 20060
Fax: (688) 20207
E-mail: kakega@gmail.com

Mr. Pisi Seleganiu
Demonstration Project Manager
Water and Sewage Supervisor
Ministry of Public Utilities and Industry
Government Office, Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu
Tel: (688) 20538
E-mail: seleganiu70@gmail.com
Skype: seleganiu70

Vanuatu

Mr. Christopher Ioan
IWRM Focal Point/Director
Department of Geology, Mines and Water
Resources
PMB 001, Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel: (678) 22423
Fax: (678) 22213
Email: cioan@vanuatu.gov.vu

Ms. Rossette Kalmet
Demonstration Project Manager
Department of Geology, Mines and Water
Resources
Private Mail Bag 9001, Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel: (678) 37823
Fax:
E-mail: rkalmet@vanuatu.gov.vu

Global Environment Facility Secretariat

Mr. Christian Severin
Program Manager/Environmental Specialist
Natural Resources - International Waters
Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat
1818 H Street, NW, MSN G6-602
Washington, DC 20433 USA
Tel: (202) 458 2001
Fax: (202) 522 3240/3245
E-mail: cseverin@thegef.org

Global Environment Facility Implementing Agencies – RSC Members

United Nations Development Programme
Mr. Jose Erez Padilla, Ph.D.
Regional Technical Advisor
Marine, Coastal and Island Ecosystems
United Nations Development Programme
3rd Floor, UN Service Building, Ratchadamnoen
Nok Avenue, Bangkok, Thailand
Tel: (662) 288 2756
Fax: (662) 288 3032
E-mail: jose.padilla@undp.org

United Nations Environment Programme
Ms. Ampai Harakunarak, PhD
Task Manager, International Waters
Asia and the Pacific Region,
UNEP/DGEF/ROAP, United Nations Building
2nd Floor, Block B, Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel: (662) 288 1977/Mob: (668) 1948 9441
Fax: (662) 280 3829
E-mail: ampai.harakunarak@unep.org

European Union

Mr. Renato Mele
Delegation of the European Commission
for the Pacific
Infrastructure Section, Level 4, FDB Bank
Centre
360 Victoria Parade, Suva, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 331 3633
Fax: (679) 330 0370
E-mail: Renato.MELE@eeas.europa.eu

IUCN

Dr. Milika Sobey
Water Program Coordinator
IUCN Regional Office for Oceania
Private Mail Bag, 5 Ma'afu Street
Suva, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 3319 084/3100 126/3100 127
Fax: (679) 3100 128
E-mail: milika.sobey@iucn.org

Australian High Commission

Ms. Etita Morikao
Assistant Program Manager
Tuvalu Aid Program, AUSAID
Australian High Commission
P O Box 214, Suva, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 338 8358
Fax: (679) 338 2695
Email: etiate.morikao@ausaid.gov.au

**South Pacific Regional Environment
Programme**

Mr. Peniamina D Leavai
Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change
Climate Change Project
Secretariat Pacific Regional Environment
Programme
P.O. Box 240, Vailima, Apia, Samoa
Tel: (685) 21929 ext 274
Fax: (685) 20231
E-mail:

International Water Centre

Mr. Mark Pascoe
Chief Executive Officer
International Water Centre
Level 16, 333 Ann Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000
P O Box 10907, Adelaide Street, Brisbane, QLD
4000, Australia
Tel: (617) 3123 7766
Fax: (617) 3103 4574
E-mail: m.pascoe@watercentre.org

Asian Development Bank

Mr. Marc Overmars
Climate Change Specialist – Consultant
South Pacific Subregional Office (SPSO)
Asian Development Bank
5th Floor, Ra Marama Building
91 Gordon Street
SUVA, Fiji Islands
Fax: (679) 331 8074
E-mail: movermars.consultant@adb.org

SPC/SOPAC**Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC)**

Applied Geoscience and Technology Division
Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Private Mail Bag GPO
Suva, Fiji Islands
Tel: (679) 3381 377
Fax: (679) 3370 040/3384 461
Website: www.sopac.org/pacific-iwrm.org

Dr. Russell Howorth
Director
Applied Geoscience and Technology Division
E-mail: russell@sopac.org

Mr. Marc Wilson
Regional Project Manager
GEF Pacific IWRM Project
E-mail: m.wilson@sopac.org

Ms. Rhonda Robinson
Deputy Director - Water and Sanitation
Programme
E-mail: rhondar@sopac.org

Mr. Chris Paterson
Mainstreaming and Indicators Adviser
GEF Pacific IWRM Project
E-mail: christopher@sopac.org

Mr. David Duncan
Environmental Engineer
GEF Pacific IWRM Project
E-mail: d.duncan@sopac.org

Mrs. Verenaisi Bakani
Senior Administration and Travel Officer
GEF Pacific IWRM Project
E-mail: verenaisi@sopac.org

Mr. David Hebblethwaite
IWRM Project Adviser
EU National IWRM Planning Programme
E-mail: dave@sopac.org

Ms. Leanne Harrison
Consultant – IWRM Small Grants
GEF Pacific IWRM Project
E-mail: leanne@trcnz.com

Mr. Tiy Chung
Communications Adviser
EU National IWRM Planning Programme
E-mail: tiy@sopac.org

Ms. Petra Seeto
Assistant Accountant - Projects
Email: petra@sopac.org

ANNEX 2

List of Documents

Discussion Documents

SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/1	Provisional Agenda
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/2	Provisional Annotated Agenda
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/3	Report of the Meeting (<i>to be prepared post meeting</i>)
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/4	Annual Report of the Regional Project Manager on the GEF Pacific IWRM Project
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/5	Final Report of the EU National IWRM Planning Programme
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/6	Final Mid-Term Evaluation Report for the GEF Pacific IWRM Project
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/7	Progressing National Water and Sanitation Policy and IWRM Plan Development in Pacific Island Countries
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/8	Development of a Results-Based Approach to IWRM in Pacific Island Countries, including Options to Strengthen Stakeholder Awareness of Indicator Frameworks and Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/9	Lessons Learned to Project Mid-Term and Opportunities for Replicating and Scaling-up IWRM in Pacific Island Countries
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/10	Options for Strengthening Community Involvement in IWRM via Development and Implementation of a Partnership with the GEF Small Grants Programme
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/11	Agreed Rules of Operation for the Project Fund Reallocation Pool and Determination of RSC 4 Forfeitures and Redistribution Plans
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/12	Draft Work Plan and Budget for 2011-2012

Information Documents

SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/Inf.1	Provisional List of Participants
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/Inf.2	Provisional List of Documents (<i>this document</i>)
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/Inf.3	Draft Programme
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/Inf.4	Report of the Third Regional Steering Committee Meeting
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/Inf.5	National IWRM Mid-Term Reports from Participating Countries
SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/Inf.6	National IWRM " <i>Results Notes</i> " from Participating Countries

ANNEX 3

Agenda

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

- 1.1 Traditional Welcome on Behalf of the Fiji Islands
- 1.2 Opening Prayer
- 1.2 Official Opening by a Representative of the National Government of the Fiji Islands
- 1.4 Welcome Address on Behalf of SPC/SOPAC
- 1.5 Welcome Address on Behalf of the Global Environment Facility Implementing Agencies
- 1.6 Welcome Address on Behalf of the European Union
- 1.7 Keynote Address from a Representative of the GEF Secretariat
- 1.8 Group Photograph

2. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 2.1 Introduction of Participants
- 2.2 Election of Officers (Chairperson; Vice-Chairperson; and Rapporteur)
- 2.3 Documentation Available to the Meeting
- 2.4 Programme of Work and Arrangements for the Conduct of the Meeting

3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

4. STATUS OF THE PACIFIC IWRM PROGRAMME

- 4.1 Annual Report from the Regional Project Manager of the GEF Pacific IWRM Project, including Update on Work of the Regional Technical Advisory Group
- 4.2 Status of the Closure of the EU IWRM National Planning Programme
- 4.3 Presentation of National IWRM "*Results*" Notes
- 4.4 Presentation of the Mid-Term Evaluation of the GEF Pacific IWRM Project, Key Findings, and Presentation of a Costed Work Plan for the Terminal Evaluation of the Project

5. CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS, POLICIES, AND IWRM PLAN DEVELOPMENT IN PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

- 5.1 Progressing National Water and Sanitation Policy and IWRM Plan Development
- 5.2 Development of Costed Regional and National Work Plans aimed at Guiding the Achievement of the Anticipated Coordination, Policy, and Planning Results of the Pacific IWRM

6. CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INDICATOR FRAMEWORKS FOR IWRM IN PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES

- 6.1 Development of a Results-Based Approach to IWRM in Pacific Island Countries
- 6.2 Discussion of Possible Approaches to Increase Stakeholder Awareness and Understanding within Pacific Island Countries of the Role of Indicator Frameworks and Related Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

7. PLANNING THE LONGER-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF GEF PACIFIC IWRM PROJECT OUTCOMES

- 7.1 Consideration of Capacity Built through Project Inception to Mid-Term and Identification of Priority Actions to Enhance Regional and National Capacity for IWRM
- 7.2 Review of Lessons Learned to Project Mid-Term and the Status of National Replication and Upscaling Plans
- 7.3 Strengthening the Role of the Regional Technical Advisory Group in Providing Technical Quality Assurance of Project Results and Future Actions
- 7.4 Development of a Pacific IWRM Sustainability Planning Toolkit for Application at National and Regional Levels

- 8. BUILDING ON THE MID-TERM ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GEF PACIFIC IWRM PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN THE RELEVANCE OF “COMMUNITY TO CABINET” AND “RIDGE TO REEF” APPROACHES TO PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITIES**
 - 8.1 Planning the Longer-Term Scaling-Up of IWRM to a Broader Integrated Coastal Management Platform, incorporating Climate Variability and Disaster Risk Management Considerations
- 9. REVIEW OF KEY PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION ISSUES**
 - 9.1 Review of the Agreed Rules and Procedures for the Operation of the Project Fund Reallocation Pool and Determination of RSC 4 Forfeitures and Redistribution Plans
 - 9.2 Discussion of the Project Budget, Currency Exchange Issues, and the Continued Tracking of Project Co-Financing
 - 9.3 Internal and External IWRM Communications Initiatives
- 10. DRAFT WORK PLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE GEF PACIFIC IWRM PROJECT 2012-2013**
- 11. LOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING**
- 12. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 13. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

ANNEX 4

PROGRESSING IWRM PLANNING IN PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES

1. BACKGROUND

At the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in 2002, the international community took an important step towards more sustainable patterns of water management by including, in the WSSD Plan of Implementation (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), a call for all countries to "*develop integrated water resource management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries.*" Water use efficiency is an important component of IWRM and it was envisaged that water efficiency plans or strategies would comprise a component of overall national IWRM plans. Meeting recently in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Heads of States and Governments reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and committed to *inter alia* "*significantly improve the implementation of integrated water resource management at all levels as appropriate.*"

Giving weight to the commitments made during the Rio+20 meeting is the 28th July 2010 United Nations General Assembly resolution declaring "*the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights*" and which called on States and international organizations to "*to provide financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer, through international assistance and cooperation, in particular to developing countries, in order to scale up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all*". In September that year, the United Nations Human Rights Council further affirmed by a consensus resolution that water and sanitation are human rights. The HRC called upon States "*to develop appropriate tools and mechanisms, which may encompass legislation, comprehensive plans and strategies for the sector, including financial ones, to achieve progressively the full realization of human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation*".

1.1 National IWRM Plans – An Anticipated Project Result

IWRM Plans have been promoted in recent decades to provide strategic direction to the design and implementation of investments needed to address, amongst other things, priority water resource infrastructure, water services, and water resource management and governance needs of countries. At the time of project development and inception for the Global Environment Facility supported project entitled "*Implementing Sustainable Water Resources and Wastewater Management in Pacific Island Countries*" (GEF Pacific IWRM Project) no participating country had IWRM plans or water use efficiency strategies in place, hence a significant focus of the project's overarching strategic results framework relates to achievement of the following **outcome**:

"Institutional change and realignment to enact National IWRM plans and WUE strategies, including appropriate financing mechanisms identified and necessary political and legal commitments made to endorse IWRM policies and plans to accelerate Pacific Regional Action Plan actions"

The related project logframe indicator and target are as follows:

Indicator: "*1.1 Nationally endorsed IWRM plans and WUE strategies in place and driving sustainable water governance reform in PICS by end of project*" [**emphasis in bold**]

Target: "*1.1 14 draft National IWRM and Water Use Efficiency Strategies in place, with institutional ownership secured through the national APEX body and institutional mandates adjusted/confirmed as IWRM implementing agencies with appropriate budget allocations ...*"

1.2 Defining "IWRM Plan" during the Project Preparatory Phase

The Project Document for the GEF Pacific IWRM Project does not define "*IWRM Plan*" and "*Water Use Efficiency Strategy*". During the preparatory phase of the project, nationally nominated IWRM

Focal Points from participating countries participated in a SOPAC IWRM Planning Meeting in Alofi Niue from 21st-22nd July 2008. At that meeting, Dr. Christopher Cox from the GEF supported Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States Project (GEF IWCAM) provide guidance to the region on IWRM Planning. IWRM at that time was defined as “A *strategic statement that details a country’s actions toward to sustainable management of its water resources*”.

It was further discussed at that time that IWRM Plans in a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) setting should: have a geographical scope from “*ridge to reef*” which encompasses fresh and coastal waters; define the issues and strategic responses by all actors; and presents the indicative cost outlay required for action over short to medium-term, with identification of national recurrent budget support commitments and areas required donor assistance. A key point made was that an IWRM Plan could also act to guide coordination of other water planning frameworks including *inter alia*: water use efficiency strategies; water demand management; national plans of action (e.g. pollution control); and wastewater management plans. Water Use Efficiency, for example, is a key element of IWRM when appropriate. Hence water use efficiency strategies would form a key component of the strategic direction and costed investment planning contained in an IWRM plan for settings where it is required.

1.3 The EU IWRM National Planning Programme – No One Size Fits All

Project activities to strengthen national coordination and IWRM policy and planning were arranged under project Component 3 “*Policy, Legislative, and Institutional Reform*”. This project aims to support countries to develop national IWRM policies and water efficiency strategies, endorsed by both government and civil society stakeholders, and to assist with integration of these into national sustainable development strategies. Similarly it is anticipated that this project component will contribute to institutional change and realignment to enact National IWRM plans and WUE strategies, including appropriate financing mechanisms identified and necessary political and legal commitments. The component was 100 percent co-financed by the European Union and executed regionally by SOPAC as the EU IWRM National Planning Programme from 2008 to June 2012.

The EU IWRM National Planning Programme linked closely to the national IWRM demonstration projects in the participating countries and aimed to assist with strengthening the enabling environment for IWRM. Specific country support was delivered primarily in the form of: technical support; support to consultation and coordination processes; support to knowledge exchange; and recruitment of local staff support such as National Policy Officers. Although as has been the case in many other regions of the world, especially SIDS regions, IWRM needs and processes differ from country to country, and it was apparent to the EU programme that there was no “*one size fits all*” in considering IWRM planning matters in the Pacific. Indeed in some situations, flood management has been the entry point to IWRM policy and planning, whilst in others, political and public interest has been focused on overcoming critical water scarcity and drought resilience challenges. Amongst this are the highly diverse socio-political circumstances of the Pacific Island Countries.

The EU programme provided substantive support to countries in improving management of water resources via development of national frameworks and plans, including: legislation; policy and plans; inter-sectoral water coordination committees; water partnerships; and water use efficiency. This support was delivered on a demand basis and tailored to meet specific national needs in water and sanitation policy and planning as identified by the participating countries. The status of national-level activities, including a summary of activities progressing to finalisation in 2012/13 is provided in meeting document SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RSC.4/5 “*Status of Closure of the EU IWRM National Programme*”. Key questions for consideration of the Regional Steering Committee relate to whether or not recent policy and planning achievements of participating countries satisfy the expected project outcome relating to IWRM Plans? To enable this assessment it is recommended that the Committee give some consideration to clearly defining what an IWRM Plan is, agree on what should constitute the core components of an IWRM Plan, and provide guidance to participation countries in establishing criteria for assessing progress against the related project target.

2. REVISITING THE “IWRM” IN IWRM PLAN

Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) was not developed to act as a utopic target or end point. Rather has been promoted as an adaptive, common-sense approach to water management

and development. Indeed the RSC has previously considered that in Pacific Island Countries IWRM will necessarily need to occur along an “*IWRM continuum of transition in the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, results, and sustainability of investment in the water and sanitation sector*”.

2.1 The Dublin Principles

While there are no set “*rules*” for IWRM, the approach espoused by this project and many other regions and countries is founded on the Dublin Principles¹, which assert that:

1. Fresh water is a **finite and vulnerable resource**, essential to sustain life, development and the environment. Since water sustains life, effective management of water resources demands a holistic approach, linking social and economic development with protection of natural ecosystems. Effective management links land and water uses across the whole of a catchment area or groundwater aquifer.
2. Water development and management should be based on a **participatory approach**, involving users, planners and policy-makers at all levels. This participatory approach involves raising awareness of the importance of water among policy-makers and the general public. It means that decisions are taken at the lowest appropriate level, with full public consultation and involvement of users in the planning and implementation of water projects.
3. **Women play a central part** in the provision, management and safeguarding of water. This pivotal role of women as providers and users of water and guardians of the living environment has seldom been reflected in institutional arrangements for the development and management of water resources. Acceptance and implementation of this principle requires positive policies to address women’s specific needs and to equip and empower women to participate at all levels in water resources programs, including decision-making and implementation, in ways defined by them.
4. Water has an **economic value in all its competing uses** and should be recognized as an economic good. Within this principle, it is vital to recognize first the basic right of all human beings to have access to clean water and sanitation at an affordable price. Past failure to recognize the economic value of water has led to wasteful and environmentally damaging uses of the resource. Managing water as an economic good is an important way of achieving efficient and equitable use, and of encouraging conservation and protection of water resources.

2.2 Defining IWRM

In giving guidance to the operationalization of these principles IWRM may be defined as: “*a process which promotes the co-ordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximise the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems*”. IWRM is a comprehensive approach to the development and management of water, addressing its management both as a resource and the framework for provision of water services. The multi-stakeholder nature of IWRM means it is often a complex political process and involves conflicts of interest that must be mediated.

2.3 The Three Pillars of IWRM

Implementing an IWRM process has been shown to be a question of getting the “**three pillars**” right:

1. **Enabling Environment** - *moving toward an enabling environment of appropriate policies, strategies and legislation for sustainable water resources development and management;*
2. **Institutional Framework** - *putting in place the institutional framework through which the policies, strategies and legislation can be implemented; and*
3. **Management Instruments** - *setting up the management instruments required by these institutions to do their job.*

¹ From The Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development. International Conference on Water and Environment, Dublin, 1992.

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) has developed a toolkit providing operational guidance on IWRM and a summary of that is presented below as Information Box 1. The related GWP schematic depicting the three pillars is provided in Figure 1 below.

Information Box 1 Content of the Global Water Partnerships IWRM Toolbox

A THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

A1 Policies – setting goals for water use, protection and conservation.

This part of the framework deals with water policies and their development. Policy development gives an opportunity for setting national objectives for managing water resources and water service delivery within a framework of overall development goals.

A2 Legislative framework – the rules to follow to achieve policies and goals.

The required water laws covers ownership of water, permits to use (or pollute) it, the transferability of those permits, and customary entitlements. It underpins regulatory norms for e.g. conservation, protection, and priorities.

A3 Financing and incentive structures – allocating financial resources to meet water needs.

The financing needs of the water sector are huge, water projects tend to be indivisible and capital-intensive, and many countries have major backlogs in developing water infrastructure. Financing approaches and incentives are required to achieve the development goals.

B INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

B1 Creating an organisational framework – forms and functions.

Starting from the concept of reform of institutions for better water governance, the practitioner needs to create the required organisations and institutions – from transboundary to basin level, and from regulatory bodies, to local authorities, civil society organisations and partnerships.

B2 Institutional capacity building – developing human resources.

Upgrading the skills and understanding of decision-makers, water managers and professionals will take place in all sectors, and capacity building for regulatory bodies and for empowerment of civil society groups will need to be undertaken.

C MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENTS

C1 Water resources assessment – understanding resources and needs.

A set of tools are assembled to assist water resources assessment, starting with the collection of hydrological, physiographic, demographic and socio-economic data, through to setting up systems for routine data assembly and reporting.

C2 Plans for IWRM – combining development options, resource use and human interaction.

River, aquifer and lake basin planning entail a comprehensive assembly and modelling of data from all relevant domains. The planning process must recognise social, economic and environmental needs using a range of assessment tools.

C3 Demand management – using water more efficiently.

Demand management involves the balancing of supply and demand focusing on the better use of existing water withdrawals or reducing excessive use rather than developing new supplies.

C4 Social change instruments – encouraging a water-oriented civil society.

Information is a powerful tool for changing behaviour in the water world, through school curricula, university courses on water and professional and mid-career training. Transparency, product labelling and access to information are other key instruments.

C5 Conflict resolution – managing disputes, ensuring sharing of water.

Conflict management has a separate focus as conflict is endemic in the management of water in many places and resolution models must be at hand.

C6 Regulatory instruments – allocation and water use limits.

Regulation in this context covers water quality, service provision, land use and water resource protection. Regulations are key for implementing plans and policies and can fruitfully be combined with economic instruments.

C7 Economic instruments – using value and prices for efficiency and equity.

Economic tools involve the use of prices and other market-based measures to provide incentives to all water users to use water carefully, efficiently and avoid pollution.

C8 Information management and exchange – improving knowledge for better water management.

Data sharing methods and technologies increase stakeholder access to information stored in public domain data banks and effectively complement more traditional methods of public information.

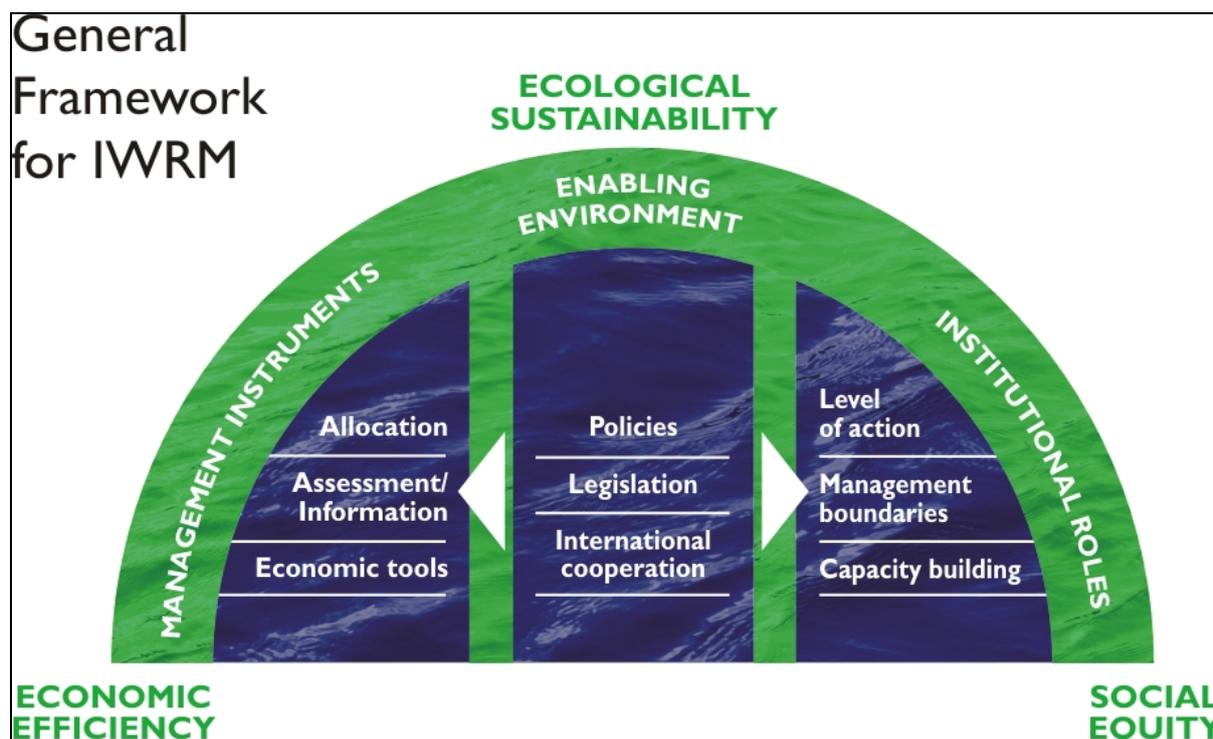


Figure 1 General framework for IWRM developed and promoted by the Global Water Partnership

3. CONSIDERATION OF THE “PLAN” IN IWRM PLAN

Over the past decade many countries globally have started, or have already been through, the process of putting in place elements of the IWRM process envisaged by the international community during the World Summit on Sustainable Development and encapsulated in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The drivers have however varied and have largely related to public pressure caused by, for example, lack of safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation, pressure from national economic sectors like energy and agriculture due to lack of water for development, and transboundary conflicts and crises. Water scarcity and deteriorating water quality has been the driver in other cases where these are critical factors limiting national economic development, expansion of food production and/or provision of basic health and hygiene services to the population. The recognition of the need to redress these weaknesses in their water governance structures has convinced many countries that a new water management framework is needed. Other contributing factors as noted by the Global Water Partnership are summarised in Information Box 2.

Information Box 2 Factors contributing to the need for strengthened planning of IWRM

Factors Contributing to National Need for IWRM Plan Development

- Awareness and priority at political level of water issues is limited
- Institutions are rooted in a centralised culture with supply driven management and fragmented and sub-sectoral approaches to water management. Few water managers view water holistically, but the integrated approach is required, among others, because of the biophysical reality where water movement through the catchment links the livelihood and resource perspectives.
- Local governments lack capacity to manage pressures on water resources.
- Inappropriate pricing structures and hence limited cost recovery result in inefficient operation and maintenance of water systems, as well as in misallocation and loss of water.
- Investments in the water sector are low, and do not get sufficient attention in the national budgeting procedures.

- Information and data to support sound management of water is generally lacking.
- The often inadequate economic, social and environmental criteria for the approval of policies, plans and projects.

Recognising that there is no “*one size fits all*” model for IWRM, calls for the development of IWRM Plans have not been prescriptive in terms of content and a review of IWRM plans developed globally shows considerable variation in their content. Most however, attempt to give support to strengthening the 3 pillars of IWRM and contain detailed costed action plans to address priority IWRM actions. To assist the RSC in determining what should constitute the core components of IWRM Plans in Pacific Island Countries, a brief analysis of the contents of 19 IWRM Plans from developing countries in the Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean, Africa, and Europe has been conducted. The aim of this was to identify some common themes in current IWRM Planning practices. Key IWRM Plan components identified from the 19 Plans reviewed include and their percentage frequency in these plans is presented in Figure 2.

- 1. Diagnostic Reviews of Water and Sanitation:** compilation of available information on water resource availability, use, and management such as “*National State of Water Resources and Management*” reports.
- 2. Overarching Strategic Policy Statements for Water and Sanitation:** including statements of policy, vision, goals, guiding principles, priority areas of action for water resource management with several giving strategic direction to linkage of IWRM with broader coastal management initiatives
- 3. Costed Investment Plans (~5 year):** these have typically been action plans with detailed costings for priority actions for strengthening the 3 IWRM pillars, i.e., enabling environment, institutional frameworks, management instruments.
- 4. Coordination and Governance Arrangements:** describe features and membership of a national coordinating body for water, e.g. National APEX water body
- 5. Monitoring and Evaluation Framework:** descriptions of baseline situations, agreed targets, and performance measures/indicators for tracking progress of plan implementation.
- 6. Technical and Scientific Services:** description of the role of national research organisations in technical quality assurance of investments.
- 7. Communications and Awareness:** description of national communication plan for IWRM
- 8. Human Capacity Development:** capacity building for IWRM
- 9. Government Endorsement:** done at various levels, several including traditional leadership

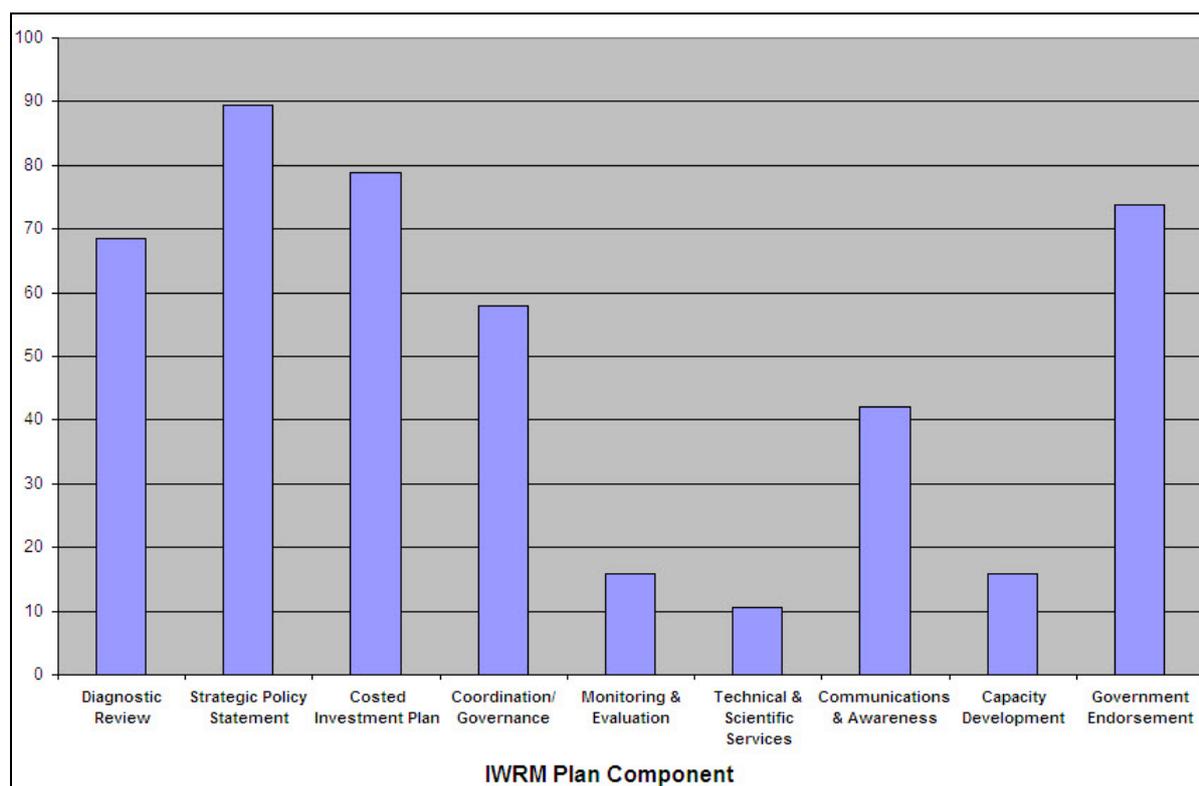


Figure 2 Percentage frequency of various IWRM Plan components in 19 National IWRM Plans

The broad analysis of IWRM Planning in practice indicates that more than 50 percent of plans reviewed feature 5 key components, including: (1) **a diagnostic review of water issues and needs** (68% of plans); (2) **strategic policy statement** (89% of plans); (3) **costed investment plan** (79% of plans); (4) **national coordination and governance** (58% of plans); and (5) **government endorsement** (74% of plans). Other elements, whilst important to longer term sustainability such as monitoring and evaluation, technical and scientific services, and capacity development were present in far fewer plans and perhaps reflect the early stages of IWRM in the countries from which the plans were sampled. Indeed the 5 components highlighted above are most closely aligned with the IWRM 3 pillars, especially the creation of the enabling environment and definition of the institutional roles required to support the IWRM process. Similarly the emphasis on diagnostic reporting seen in is indeed closely related to the IWRM pillar of identifying management instruments and making them operational.

3. PROGRESSING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP IWRM PLANS IN PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Figure 3 provides a schematic of current planning in the Republic of the Marshall (RMI) to progress efforts to finalise a National IWRM Plan by the end of 2013. The RMI in considering their national needs have identified a four step approach involving: (1) diagnostic reporting in the form of a **“National Water, Sanitation, and Climate Outlook”**; (2) statement of a broad vision and goals in the form of the RMI’s 1st National Water and Sanitation Policy; (3) preparation of a 5-year IWRM Action Plan aimed at coordinating investments in water governance reform and priority water and sanitation efforts; and (4) and Cabinet endorsement of their IWRM Plan *“package”* for implementation. Similar efforts are underway in the Republic of Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia in the North Pacific region. The Framework National Water and Sanitation Policy endorsed by the President and State Governors of the FSM is attached as Annex 1 for the information of the Committee.

The North Pacific approach was facilitated via a coordinated programme of activities focusing on national and sub-regional consultation, combined with target technical and coordination support. Each of the three North Pacific countries involved have established national coordination bodies in support of this process. Challenges have been faced in the North Pacific with securing services of local consultants to support diagnostic reporting and facilitation of community and national expert group consultations, although the approach has been successful in generating a relatively high degree of

national ownership which has been effective in ensuring successful carriage of initiatives through periods of key staff turnover in two countries.

As noted above approaches in the southern Pacific countries have also focused on strengthening the enabling environment for IWRM. Initial diagnostic reporting in many of these countries has been supported via the involvement of post-graduate students from the International Water Centre leading country consultations to prepare "**National Water, Sanitation, and Climate Outlooks**" as a deliverable as part of a Masters of Integrated Water Management degree. Higher level efforts to chart policy direction and IWRM implementation planning/roadmapping have been undertaken in these countries, largely with the support of external consultants and to good effect. A notable example is the recent endorsement of Water and Sanitation Policy and IWRM implementation plan in the Republic of Nauru, and similar results in Fiji Islands, Niue, Tonga, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Given the diverse nature of the Pacific Islands region, it is inevitable that the varied modalities of support used to progress the policy and institutional reforms by this initiative will need to be drawn on into the future. A key benefit has provided opportunity to learn from different approaches and an important lesson learned to date is that regardless of the use of external consultants or "*home grown*" solutions, the critical element is fostering high levels of engagement with key stakeholders and providing backstopping to participants in the process aimed at: (a) building their experience and capacity to operate effectively in a cross-sectoral setting; (b) establishing trust between and amongst participants; and (c) establishing solidarity between stakeholders required to drive the necessary reforms. This is indeed the approach that has been fostered in implementation of Component 3 of the project to date.

The policy and planning work has benefited from the simultaneous operation of national IWRM demonstration projects which have been effective tools in elevating the importance of water and sanitation as an "*APEX*" issue in national planning.

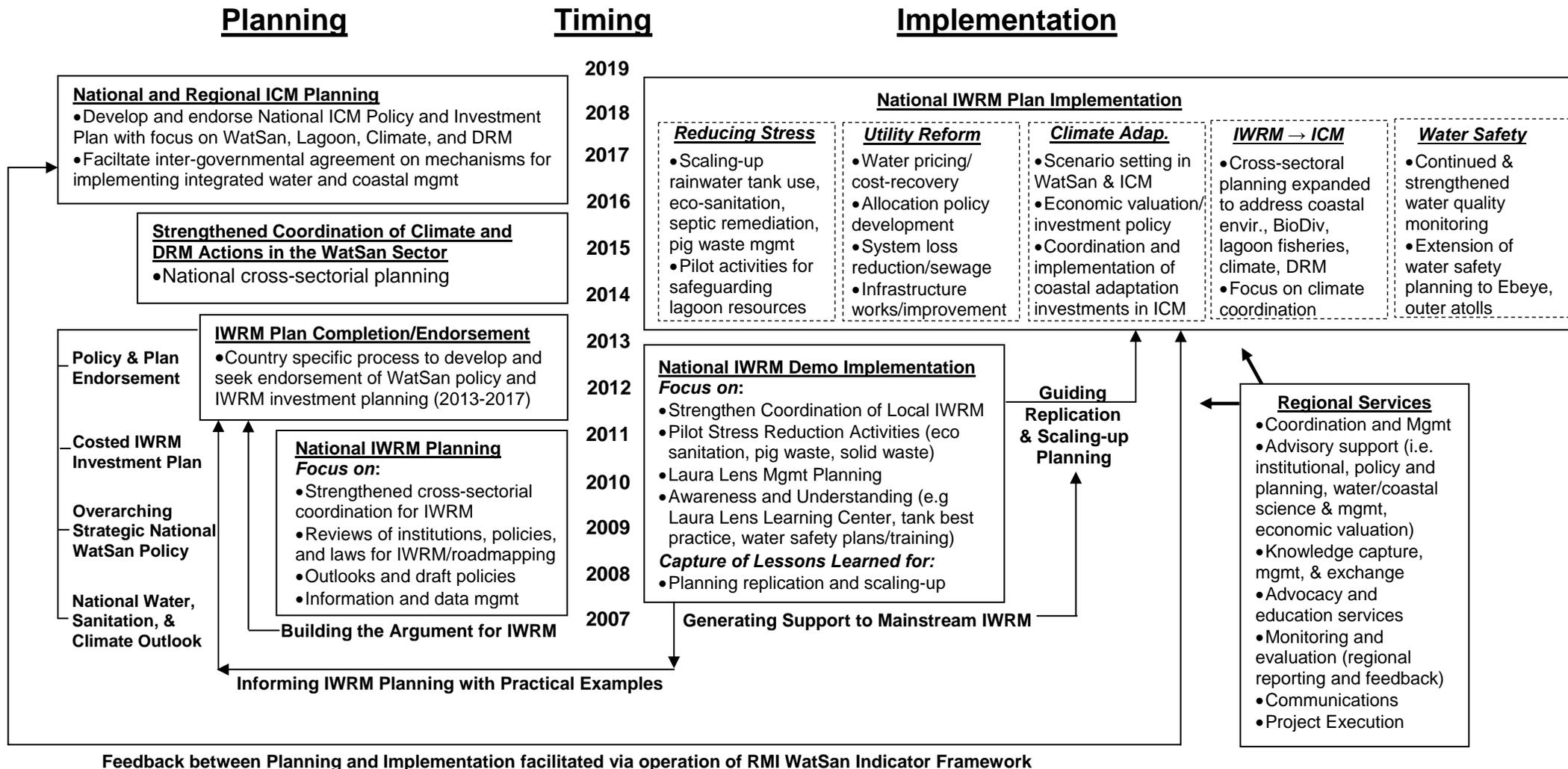


Figure 1 IWRM Planning and Implementation Framework for the RMI with longer term planning targets focused on a broader ICM approach

Recommendations

It was agreed by the fourth meeting of the Regional Steering Committee the following would be considered core elements IWRM plans in Pacific Island Countries:

- **Diagnostic Reviews of Water and Sanitation:** compilation of available information on water resource availability, use, and management such as "*National State of Water Resources and Management*" reports.
- **Overarching Strategic Policy Statements for Water and Sanitation:** including statements of policy, vision, goals, guiding principles, priority areas of action for water resource management with several giving strategic direction to linkage of IWRM with broader coastal management initiatives
- **Costed Investment Plans (~5 year):** these have typically been action plans with detailed costings for priority actions for strengthening the 3 IWRM pillars, i.e., enabling environment, institutional frameworks, management instruments.
- **Coordination and Governance Arrangements:** describe features and membership of a national coordinating body for water, e.g. National APEX water body
- **Government Endorsement:** done at various levels, several including traditional leadership