

**COOPERATION FUND FOR THE WATER SECTOR
REGIONAL COOPERATION**

**COORDINATION UNIT
PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE ON SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT
&
PACIFIC WATER AND CLIMATE RESOURCE CENTRE**

Mid-Term Report

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Prepared by SOPAC

Suva, Fiji Islands, January 2006

Introduction

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) manages a Water Partnerships program which is part of the regional assistance for promoting effective water management policies and practices (referred to as "RETA-6219") financed by the Cooperation Fund for the Water Sector, a multi-donor umbrella fund administered by ADB.

Two regional projects have commenced with the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) as Implementing Agency for:

- 1) the establishment of a Coordination Unit for the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management.
- 2) the establishment of a Pacific Water and Climate Resource Centre.

As required by the contract for the project (July 2005 - June 2006) a Mid-Term Report for the Coordination Unit Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management and the Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate needs to be submitted covering the work undertaken to date.

I) Coordination Unit Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

Objectives and outcomes

The overall impact of the project is expected to be the Pacific region having an improvement in the sustainability of its water management through optimization of implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Plan (RAP) on Sustainable Water Management and increased country and donor support to the water sector. Outcomes will be a strategic and coordinated approach to water management in the Pacific and accelerated improvements in water management (including improved political commitment, institutional reform, technical capacity, and community awareness of water issues) in individual Pacific Island Countries (PICs). The activities are also expected to result in enhanced donor coordination and harmonization in the water sector.

Projected Activities 2005-2006

Advocacy, coordination, networking, implementation monitoring and partnership of the Pacific RAP require a significant and dedicated effort, to ensure they are continued and maintained, given that these activities will result in the necessary exchange of information and facilitation of the coordination of projects, that will ultimately improve and accelerate progress towards achieving sustainable water management in the Pacific region.

The establishment of a small unit for this facility is, therefore, proposed as an attachment to SOPAC, the regional agency mandated by 18 Pacific Island Countries

to provide technical support in the water sector. This location enables the facility to integrate its coordination activities with those of SOPAC, whilst retaining its independence from the SOPAC work programme, mandate and membership. Securing the existence of this facility is a priority that once created; it will promote and facilitate the implementation of the Pacific RAP.

In order to have added value to existing regional and national programmes, projects, organizations, networks and activities, the following activities were proposed:

- i) introduce Integrated Water Resources Management concepts in Pacific island countries;
- ii) share information in order to strengthen collaboration & coordination of international and regional initiatives;
- iii) strengthen exchange of information with and between Donor Agencies including consultation on Water Policies, Strategies and Development Programmes;
- iv) strengthen involvement and exchange of information with Water Utilities/Associations and the private sector; and,
- v) identify and establish resources and institutional measures for the long-term support of the Coordination Unit.

The above activities are consistent with the main roles of the Partnership Facilitators as identified at the Steering Committee meeting of the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management held 29-30 January 2004, SOPAC, Suva, Fiji.

Resources

The technical expertise needed to fulfill the Coordinator position is provided as part-time assignment of the Water Adviser, Mr. Marc Overmars, of SOPAC's Community Lifelines Program. The Partnership Coordination Unit has a program officer, Ms Sanjeshni Naidu, experienced in research and development and maintaining internet-based networks. Administrative support to the Coordination Unit is sourced from SOPAC's Community Lifelines Programme, Ms Alena Lawedrau, Ms Arieta Navatoga and Ms Pooja Pal.

Activities carried out to date relevant to the Coordination Unit:

- i) introduce Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) concepts in Pacific island countries;
- Briefs provided to Pacific Island Country diplomatic missions in New York and Brussels on IWRM in conjunction with regional IWRM programme developed with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the ACP EU Water Facility (EU WF) after CSD 12 & CSD 13 Sessions at the United Nations.
 - Briefs provided to SOPAC National Representatives and key water sector stakeholders in the region on IWRM activities and National IWRM plans.
 - Assistance provided to the development of IWRM distance learning course with United Nations University (UNU) and University of the South Pacific (USP) and the establishment of the Pacific Virtual Water Learning Centre.

- Assistance provided to regional survey on IWRM implementation undertaken for the Global Water Partnership (GWP).
- ii) share information in order to strengthen collaboration & coordination of international and regional initiatives;
- Participation in IWRM meeting in Tokyo (GEF/GWP/UN) and brief provided on IWRM implementation in the Pacific and liaison established with the Global Water Partnership and the Japan Water Forum.
- MOU between Global Water Partnership and the Pacific Partnership Initiative signed through SOPAC to foster collaboration on Integrated Water Resources Management.
- Collaboration with the Japan Water Forum on the Pacific preparation for 4th World Water Forum (4WWF) through regional partnership review during SOPAC's Annual Session 2005 Science, Technology and Research network (STAR), Water Working Group on 26 September 2005. Production of Pacific position paper for the 4WWF and contribution to the Asia-Pacific 4WWF report.
- Quarterly newsletter published for the months of August 2005 and October 2005 and distributed to Partnership members covering items on News; Actions; Publications; Multimedia; Websites; and Water Agenda. The next edition of the newsletter is due in January 2006.
- Establishment of Partnership website with inclusion of all related actions and newsletters with updates on a regular basis:
 - <http://www.sopac.org/CLP+Pacific+Partnership>
- Research for ongoing and upcoming activities for Partnership events carried out regularly and uploaded on the website as well as published in the newsletter.
- Pacific Water action Matrix successfully created and converted to database format.
 - Maintenance of the Matrix is in process
 - In addition an online interactive search engine for Action Matrix as well as an insert form for member countries to enter the records online is being created.
- Partnership logo created and used in various documents as well as uploaded on the website
- Development and maintenance of the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management contact list and database
 - Update is carried out on regular basis for access database
- Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management email list is created in Microsoft Word.
 - Plans are underway to create a database of these emails as well as make an online interactive registration form

- ii) strengthen exchange of information with and between Donor Agencies including consultation on Water Policies, Strategies and Development Programmes;
 - The Pacific Partnership Initiative Coordination Unit provided input to the 12th and 13th Session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development on water sanitation and human settlements held in New York and fostered linkages with donor agencies in attendance.
 - The Pacific Partnership Initiative Coordination Unit provided a briefing on the outcomes of the 3rd World Water Forum including the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management to the ACP European Union Water Facility in preparation of two regional submissions to the facility on IWRM and the Pacific HYCOS.
 - Briefings on regional and national water sector priorities have been provided to strategic donor agencies AusAID, NZAID, ADB, WB and the European Union.
- iii) strengthen involvement and exchange of information with Water Utilities/ Associations and the private sector;
 - Assistance was provided to the Pacific Water Association to organise a board meeting and develop a business plan in conjunction with the Pacific preparations for 4WWF.
- iv) identify and establish resources and institutional measures for the long-term support of the Coordination Unit.
 - Ongoing discussions are being held with NZAID on their support to several Partnership actions potentially resulting in support for the Coordination Unit. The Global Environment Facility funds mobilised for the development of a regional IWRM programme under a PDF-B phase will see support for the Coordination Unit of the partnership for the period 2006-2007.

Outputs

Specific outputs achieved in the initial 6 months-period includes the following:

- Fully functional and effective Pacific Partnership Coordination Unit
- Establishment of a dedicated Web Site
- Production of Quarterly Newsletters
- Review implementation of the Pacific RAP through the Action Matrix
- Establishment of a Partnership Database
- Semi-Annual Report of Coordination Unit

The overall outputs for the 12-month pilot demonstration will include beyond the above the following:

- Distribution of material through CD Rom
- Annual Report of Coordination Unit

Appendix A provides an overview of the partnership newsletters and related reports produced to date. Appendix B provides information on the Pacific preparations for the 4th World Water Forum.

II) Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate

Objective

The overall impact of the project is the establishment of a regional coordination and resource centre for water and climate in the Pacific region which will continue to assist in achieving the goal of the Pacific Dialogue on Water and Climate (DWC): *“to improve the capacity in water resources management to cope with the impacts of increasing variability of the world’s climate, by establishing a platform through which policymakers and water resource managers have better access to and make better use of information generated by climatologists and meteorologists”*.

Projected Activities 2005-2006

The Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate in the Pacific was assigned to organize activities to:

- i) promote the regional DWC consultation outcomes within the Pacific to national governments, stakeholders, civil society and development agencies, as priority areas to be addressed to improve country resilience and alleviate poverty;
- ii) promote the implementation of the Pacific RAP through influence and lobbying of the Pacific Rim donors and their water & climate resource centers, to focus their resources, programmes and outputs on the technical needs of the Pacific Islands, whilst tailoring their tools to the capacity of the Pacific water sector specialists to use these products;
- iii) use the Joint Caribbean-Pacific Programme for Action (JPfA) launched at the 3rd WWF to ensure south-south transfer of knowledge, expertise and information with the Caribbean SIDS and the Caribbean DWC. The Caribbean has an established Climate Centre, and operational programs in climate adaptation, from which the Pacific could benefit, similarly the Pacific has arguably more advanced regional climate forecasting capability, particularly on ENSO events, which could benefit the Caribbean;
- iv) secure the institutional and financial commitments to implement the Pacific HYCOS project in the Pacific region, to add to the political commitments received in the Pacific Dialogue on Water & Climate;
- v) provide technical support (advice, training materials, wise practice and human resources) to the PICs on water resources management in climatic extremes; and,

- vi) identify and establish resources and institutional measures for the long-term support and implementation of the Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate.

Resources

The technical expertise needed to fulfill the Coordinator position is provided as part-time assignment of the Water Adviser, Mr. Marc Overmars, of SOPAC's Community Lifelines Program. The Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate has a program officer, Ms Komal Raman, facilitating the website, promoting the Centre activities to focal groups and aiding in the development of the Pacific HYCOS proposal. The former coordinators of the Pacific Dialogue on Water and Climate and the 3WWF Consultation have been contracted to carry out activities for the Centre to collect case studies and assist in the regional submission of the Pacific HYCOS to the EU Water Facility. Further support to the Resource Centre is sourced from SOPAC's Community Lifelines Programme Assistants, Ms Alena Lawedrau and Ms Linda Yuen.

Activities carried out to date relevant to the Pacific Resource Centre:

The Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate project has completed 6 months and although a detailed report will be submitted at the end of the one-year period a brief overview of activities carried out for this project is provided below:

- The Resource centre established a focal group for water sector practitioners interested on information regarding climate change & variability and other climate products.
- The Resource Centre developed its own logo and its own web page. The web page has links and access to most of the related organisations whereby interested parties can exchange information on water issues, climate change, and meteorological information.
- Under support to the partnership initiative by NZAID the Island Climate Update is being produced and disseminated through NIWA to major water sector stakeholders. The use and quality of the Island Climate Update is currently being reviewed by SPREP and SOPAC through a region wide questionnaire.
- The promotion of the Resource Centre has been done through the first mail out to the focal group of hydrologists and climatologists and also through the Partnership Newsletters disseminated every 3 months.
- The Resource Centre was introduced to Hydrologists from around the Pacific Region during the World Meteorological Organization Sixth Session of the Regional Association V Working Group on Hydrology held in Nadi, Fiji from 17th to 21st October, 2005. The session was informed about the establishment of the Centre and its contributions to the promotion of the Pacific HYCOS.
- The Resource Centre provided a briefing to the ACP European Union Water Facility in preparation of the regional submission to the facility on the Pacific HYCOS. In collaboration with WMO, UNESCO and the Fiji Meteorological Service, the Pacific HYCOS project proposal was prepared and submitted to

the ACP European Union Water Facility responding to their 1st Call for Proposals. The Pacific HYCOS has been selected for the 2nd phase of the 1st Call for final consideration by the Facility.

Other activities that the resource centre will undertake in the coming 6 months include:

- Continued promotion of Pacific HYCOS and participation in related WMO WHYCOS meetings.
- Continued promotion of south-south transfer of knowledge through liaison with the Caribbean Small Island Countries
- Development and Dissemination of Case Studies through a Synthesis Report
- Brochure on Water & Climate
- Annual Report

The web link of the Pacific Resource Centre on Water and Climate can be found at:
<http://www.sopac.org/Pacific+Resource+Centre+on+Water+and+Climate>

APPENDIX A) PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTERS

The Following are the Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management newsletters to date.

You will need Acrobat Reader to view the PDF files.
If you do not have Acrobat Reader, [Click here](#) to install

Newsletters:

- [Newsletter VII Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management October 2005.pdf](#)
- [Newsletter VI Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management August 2005.pdf](#)
- [Newsletter V Pacific Partnership on Sustainable Water Management March 2005.pdf](#)
- [Newsletter IV Pacific Water Type II Partnership on Sustainable Water Management January.pdf](#)
- [Newsletter III Pacific Water Type II Partnership on SWM June.pdf](#)
- [Newsletter II Pacific Water Type II on Sustainable Water Management Dec 2003.pdf](#)
- [Newsletter I Pacific Water Type II on Sustainable Water Management June 2003.pdf](#)
- [INTERIM NEWSLETTER November 2004.pdf](#)

The following are the documents for Sustainable Water management

Documents:

- [Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management.pdf\(1.8MB\)](#)
- [Annex 1-2005 Pacific RAP Action Matrix Inventory \(42KB\)](#)

These are the Water Publications

- [CLP Rainwater Harvesting](#)
- [CLP Community Participation Gender and Awareness](#)

APPENDIX B) PACIFIC PREPARATION FOR THE 4TH WORLD WATER FORUM

The regional consultation in preparation for the 3rd World Water Forum (3WWF) in 2003 resulted in a strategic framework for the region to address small island countries water and sanitation issues, this being the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (Pacific RAP).

Regional, national and local action programmes have since been developed and are in various stages of implementation. The Japan Water Forum (JWF) that arose from the Japanese 3WWF Secretariat has approached SOPAC to assist in drafting and finalizing the Pacific sub-regional part of the Regional Position Paper for Asia and the Pacific, which is to be presented at the 4th World Water Forum (4WWF) 16-22 March 2006 in Mexico.

The offer by the JWF allows the Pacific region's stakeholders in water and sanitation to reflect on the strategic developments and achievements over the past 3 years and provides an excellent opportunity to review the implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Plan. Opportunities to provide input to the Pacific position paper will be possible through various regional water and wastewater consultations and meetings in the remaining period up to Mexico.

The Science, Technology and Research network (STAR) Water Working Group, held in association with SOPAC's Annual Session, will provide a first opportunity to provide this input and will be organized on September 26, 2005 at the Kitano Hotel in Apia, Samoa, in collaboration with the JWF and the Pacific Water Association (PWA). Other meetings where input will be solicited include:

- WMO RA V Working Group on Hydrology Oct 2005
- UNESCO HELP Symposium Nov 2005
- UNESCO IHP RSC Meeting Nov 2005
- 2nd Steering Committee Meeting Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management Dec 2005/Jan 2006

All members of the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management are invited to provide comments on the draft position paper and make recommendations on the Pacific contributions in Mexico.

The draft position paper is intended as a starting point for discussion and it should be noted that it currently contains several "spaces" that require input from countries on the amount of progress that is being seen in the water and sanitation sector at the national and local level, and the future needs and perspectives.

[4WWF Pacific Progress on Water & Sanitation Final Report](#)
SOPAC 2004, Suva Fiji Islands

Please click on the links to view the corresponding documents

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

[Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management.pdf](#)
ADB and SOPAC (2002), Suva Fiji Islands

[Proceedings of the Pacific Regional Consultation on Water in Small Island Countries.pdf](#)

Sigatoka, Fiji Islands 29th July - 3rd August 2002

[Pacific Regional Wastewater Policy Statement and Framework for Action.pdf](#)

10 - 15 October 2001, Majuro, Marshall Islands

[Pacific Type II on Sustainable Water Management.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2002, Suva Fiji Islands

[Water in Small Island Countries Session Statement.pdf](#)

2003, Kyoto Japan

[Water in Small Island Countries Portfolio of Water Actions.pdf](#)

2003, Kyoto Japan

[Joint Caribbean Pacific Programme for Action on Water and Climate.pdf](#)

2003, Kyoto Japan

[Minutes 1st Steering Committee Meeting Pacific Water Type II.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2004, Suva Fiji Islands

[Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management Progress Report.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2004, Suva Fiji Islands

[Recommendations Oceania 3WWF Follow-up Meeting.pdf](#)

2004, Wellington New Zealand

[Pacific Dialogue on Water and Climate Synthesis Report.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2003, Fiji Islands

[An Overview of Integrated Water Resources Management in Pacific Island Countries.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2004, Suva Fiji Islands

[Overview of the State of Implementation of Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements Actions in the Pacific.pdf](#)

27 - 28 October 2003, Bangkok Thailand

[Pacific Cooperation Plan - Preliminary Sector Analysis for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2004, Suva Fiji Islands

[Pacific Brief for Secretary General CSD13 Report on Water and Sanitation.pdf](#)

SOPAC 2005, Suva Fiji Islands

[Pacific Wastewater Policy and Framework for Action.pdf](#)

Links

[Japan Water Forum](#)

Link to the 4th World Water Forum Preparation Page:

<http://www.sopac.org/4th+World+Water+Forum+Pacific+Preparations>