



**Minutes of Second Regional Science & Technical Committee Meeting 6pm
August 1st 2017
Tanoa Dateline Hotel
Nuku'alofa, Tonga**

List of invitees included:

Representatives from UNDP, FAO and UE
Prof Marcus Sheaves- marine ecologist, James Cook University
Mr Isaac Rounds- forestry expert, Conservation International
Mr Conway Pene- GIS/Information Management expert, FRA
Ms Aliti Vunisea- Gender expert, Consultant
Dr Johann Poinapen, Water engineer & Director IAS, USP
Mr Alifereti Tawake, LMMA
Mr Akuila Tawake- Interim Director, GSD, SPC

The following persons were in attendance:

Prof Marcus Sheaves
Mr Isaac Rounds
Mr Conway Pene
Ms Aliti Vunisea
Dr Winifereti Nainoca (UNDP)
Mr Akuila Tawake
Dr Stamatios Christopoulos (UE)

Apologies were given by Dr Johann Poinapen and Mr Alifereti Tawake.

The meeting was officially opened by Akuila Tawake and commenced with the election of the Chair and Deputy Chair. Professor Marcus Sheaves was nominated to Chair the Committee and Mr Isaac Rounds to the Deputy Chair.

1. Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the RSTC that had been endorsed at the inception meeting of the regional project was officially adopted by the Committee.





2. Presentations

The meeting agenda was largely to do with information sharing. The Science team at the RPCU made the following presentations:

- the Ridge to Reef Program,
- the annual workplan of the RPCU,
- planned country activities and the pilot diagnostic analysis and RAPCA implemented in Samoa.

Discussions focused on the importance of meta data and the need to turn data into knowledge. The environmental stress reduction measures and targets set were also discussed. The targets set for restored habitat were thought to be overly ambitious when realistically a max of 300-400 ha is achievable in the project time frame.

3. Decisions made

The next meeting of the RSTC will likely be held in Suva in February 2018 and it will include scientists involved in the PEMSEA project who could share lessons learnt.

the ProDoc needs to be sent to the RSTC members before the second meeting

