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GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef Programme

Ridge to Reef – Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries

REPORT

Second meeting of the Regional Programme Steering Committee

Nuku'alofa, Tonga, 31 July – 4 August 2017





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List of Abbreviations

AWP	Annual Work Plan
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CEPA	Centre for Environmental Protection Agency
CRIC	Climate Resilience Investment Committee
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EU	European Union
EWACC	Economy-wide integration of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management to reduce climate vulnerability of communities in Samoa
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEF SGP	Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GM	Gender Mainstreaming
GSD	Geoscience Division (Pacific Community)
ICM	Integrated Coastal Management
IDA	Island Diagnostic Analysis
IEMP-FLC	Integrated Environmental Management Plan – Fangauta Lagoon Catchment
ILAMS	Integrated Land and Agro-ecosystem Management
IW	Integrated Waters
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
JCU	James Cook University
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KCSO	Kosrae Conservation and Safety Organization
LDCF	Least Developed Country Fund
MNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTVKTV	Matavai Kitavai
OEEM	Office of Environment & Emergency Management
OEEM	Office of Environment and Emergency Management
PCG	Programme Coordination Group
PEBACC	Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Project
PFD	Programme Framework Document
PGC	Post Graduate Certificate
RAPCA	Rapid Priority Coastal Area Assessment
RPCU	Regional Programme Coordinating Unit
RPSC	Regional Programme Steering Committee
RSTC	Regional Science and Technical Committee
SPC	Pacific Community
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNE	United Nations Environment
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

REPORT OF THE MEETING

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 An opening prayer was delivered by Reverend Tevita Latailakepa of Tonga.

1.2 Welcome address on behalf of SPC-GSD

On behalf of the SPC Deputy Director General and Head of Suva Office Dr. Audrey Aumua, the SPC-GSD Interim Director, Mr. Akuila Tawake, the Officer in Charge of the GEF Pacific regional IW R2R Project, Dr Fononga Mangisi-Mafileo addressed the Regional Program Steering Committee and welcomed participants to the meeting.

Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo expressed that SPC is proud to partner with the Government of Tonga in hosting the meeting and together with the R2R Implementing Agencies FAO, UNDP, and UNEP to facilitate the week's deliberations. Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo explained that the Pacific Ridge to Reef Program emphasizes the close inter-connections between land, water and coastal systems in Small Island Developing States, and the integration of freshwater watershed management or coastal area management is essential to foster cross sectoral coordination in the planning and management of land, water and coastal uses.

Furthermore, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo highlighted that the program supports the coordinated investments of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the Pacific and it aims to deliver tangible, and quantifiable local and global environmental benefits by focusing on cross-cutting approaches. It was emphasized that the multi-agency, multi-country and multi-focal area program consists of 13 bilateral projects, and 14 national International Waters demonstration projects executed by SPC – a total of 27 national projects. In an area as diverse and vast as the Pacific, integration and coordination are key success factors. She further emphasized that the RPSC meeting provides a vital annual forum for coordination, progress reporting and information and knowledge sharing.

It was highlighted that SPC is celebrating its 70th anniversary and is proudly serving the Pacific's pursuit of resilience and sustainable development. The organisation works in over 20 sectors including cross-cutting areas, and continues to be guided by the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, the Samoa Pathway and the 2013 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development goals. The outcome of program and the 2nd Ridge to Reef Regional Meeting will continue to advance those efforts.

1.3 Welcome addresses on behalf of the Global Environmental Facility Implementing Agencies

Dr Winifereti Nainoca, Deputy Team Leader Resilience and Sustainable Development, representative, UNDP Pacific Office welcomed participants to the meeting on behalf of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment (UNE), and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

Dr. Nainoca highlighted that in 2017, the United Nations released the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and referred to the Regional Ridge to Reef project as a legacy program of which all representatives in the meeting was a part of. Dr. Nainoca explained that ancestors had lived in the Pacific for generations, and had passed on a legacy of environment custodians, some of which unfortunately have been lost. Written in the project documents of the various countries, she continued, are interventions to ensure that the knowledge is retrieved, revived and retained. The Pacific ensures that these legacy of environment stewardship is maintained by involving the

communities so that as project concludes, communities will carry on these projects through their country representatives.

The R2R program relies on the countries and representatives to revive and retain the projects to ensure that the project lives on as a legacy.

1.4 Official opening of the meeting was conducted by the Government of Tonga Minister for Agriculture, Food, Forestry and Fisheries, the Honorable Semisi Fakahau extended a warm welcome to members of the Ridge to Reef Regional Program Steering Committee (RPSC), the GEF implementing agencies and SPC.

Minister Fakahau expressed that the meeting provides an opportunity to review the progress of the project to date and to prioritize activities, work plan and budget for the next 12 months in order to share successful stories and implementation challenges and lessons learned to guide more effective project implementation. Tonga reaffirmed its commitment to the implementation of the Pacific Ridge to Reef Program, with a focus on communities, climate, resilience and sustainable livelihoods.

On this note the meeting was officially declared Open.

1.5 Vote of Thanks

Following the Minister's speech, a Vote of Thanks was presented by Ms. Rosamond Bing, CEO Tonga Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources.

1.6 Benediction

The benediction service was carried out by Reverend Tevita Latailakepa of Tonga.

1.7 Group photographs

Participants were invited to assemble outside the Tanoa International Hotel Conference room for a group photograph.

2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING

2.1 Introduction of the Participants

The R2R Officer in Charge, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo invited participants to introduce themselves to the meeting and added that a provisional list of participants was reflected in the document reference - SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/Inf.1.



Opening prayer at the 2nd Regional Program Steering Committee meeting, Nuku'alofa, Tonga.

A total of 56 participants attended the meeting, including representatives from GEF implementing agencies and SPC. Refer to Annex 1 for details on the list of participants. Table 1 indicates the participation of GEF Operational Focal Points, representatives of lead agency, GEF R2R national IW project manager, and representatives of the GEF R2R STAR project management unit.

Country	GEF Operational Focal Point	Head of Lead Agency/ Delegate	IW Project Manager	STAR Project Manager/PMU
Cook Islands				
FSM				
Kiribati				
Nauru				
Niue				
PNG				
Palau				
RMI				
Samoa				
Solomon Islands				
Tonga				
Tuvalu				
Vanuatu				

Table 1: Participation of GEF Pacific R2R national stakeholders.

2.2 Election of Officers (Chairperson FSM, Vice-Chairperson; and 2 Rapporteurs)

The R2R Officer in Charge, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo reminded the Committee that, Mr. Moannata Lentaake from Kiribati and Ms Cynthia Ehmes of FSM were elected Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Committee during its first meeting in October 2016.

Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo also reminded the Committee that according to its Rules of Procedure, elected officers would hold office until subsequent meetings, at which time the Vice-Chairperson would be promoted to Chairperson. In addition the Rules of Procedure also stated that the Committee shall elect two Rapporteurs from among its members at the beginning of each meeting.

In the absence of Ms. Cynthia Ehmes (FSM), Mr. Andy George (FSM) was appointed Chair of RPSC2. Committee members were then invited to nominate a Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteurs.

The following was nominated and agreed upon by the committee:

Vice-Chair:	Tonga	Mr. Taaniela Kula
Rapporteurs:	Samoa	Mr. Malaki Iakopo
	Palau	Ms. Gwendalyn Kingtaro Sisior

2.3. Documentation available to the meeting

The Chair invited the Regional R2R Science Officer, Ms Emma Newland to review the documentation available to the meeting, a list of which was contained in document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/Inf.2.

2.4. Programme of work and arrangements for the conduct of the meeting

Participants were briefed on the administrative arrangements for the conduct of the meeting, and the proposed organisation of work as outlined in information document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/Inf.3.

Ms. Newland informed the meeting about the Country Presentation templates which was sent to countries that have current IW projects, however countries that were not involved in IW activities were invited and encouraged to present on existing activities.

Questions/Comments

Niue highlighted that a challenge for the country was having to understand the relationship between the Regional Project and the National STAR Project and how the two projects merge at the national level. Niue suggested that this be included as part of the week's discussion in order to provide clarity insight into how the two projects would support each other so that it is perceptible at the national level.

Dr. Milika Sobey acknowledged the issue raised by Niue highlighting that the issue will be addressed through the Science Workshop scheduled for the afternoon of Tuesday 1 August. The Tuesday workshop aimed to trigger discussions between the two projects on how to coordinate better at a programmatic level to enable the sharing of resources both technical and financial and also where the SPC regional coordination unit could provide support.

In terms of the programmatic approach Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo further added that the activities during the week were expected to stimulate discussion in order to facilitate the identification of synergies between the projects at the national level, and opportunities to share resources.

2.5. Adoption of the Report of Inception Workshop and 1st RPSC Meeting

Cook Islands suggested that the minutes report by country names instead of personal names. After discussion by the RPSC it was unanimously agreed that the 2nd RPSC meeting minutes shall be reported by countries.

RPSC2 reviewed the meeting minutes and articulated the following amendments and comments:

Tuvalu shared an update on the project referring to the country's records on the meeting minutes. The Chair responded and requested Tuvalu to highlight country updates during the country presentations.

Cook Islands raised a correction to be made to page 34 sub-section 8.3.4 so that it reads *"Is the Cook Island's part of this project?"*

Tonga and Kiribati raised that both countries must be included under *Table 3: Baseline assessment requirements in countries* and *Table 4: Baseline and monitoring requirements and capacity in country*.

Federated States of Micronesia raised a slight revision to page 19 on the country project activities related to Component 2 but was something to be discussed separately. FSM further articulated a correction to page 4 sub-section 2.4.2 where the recorded comment was that of FSM and not Cook Islands.

UNDP noted monetary changes to be made under Niue's country presentation referring to page 20; *"the project will run for 5 years with a GEF grant of USD\$4.2 million and co-financing of USD\$10.8 million"*

Samoa requested to remove the "note" indicated on page 42 which followed subsection 10.9.17 in brackets and confirmed that the record was correct. In referring to page 53 subsections 14.48 – 14.49, Samoa also sought advice from the Regional Project Coordination Unit on the possibility of preparing a concept note for the Post Graduate course to serve as a supporting document in country. The RPCU acknowledged Samoa's comment stating that the request has been noted.

Vanuatu referred to page 7 sub-section 4.2.8 in which SPC stated that SPREP would be invited to participate at the next RPSC. Vanuatu followed up on this statement and sought SPC's update on whether SPREP was invited to the 2nd RPSC meeting.

Dr. Sobey responded to Vanuatu confirming that an invitation had been extended however SPREP had indicated that they were not able to send a representative.

UNDP pointed out a statement raised by the UNDP representative on page 7 subsection 4.2.4 in which clarification will be sought in order to clarify what the statement was referring to.

Samoa moved to adopt the minutes for the *First meeting of the Regional Steering Committee and Inception Workshop*. The motion second by the Cook Islands.

The 1st RPSC Meeting minutes was adopted by the RPSC.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

The Chair introduced the Provisional Agenda prepared by the Regional Project Coordinating Unit (RPCU) as document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/1 and the Annotated Provisional Agenda, document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/2.

The Chair then invited members of the RPSC to propose amendments or additional items for consideration, prior to the adoption of the agenda.

The RPSC considered and adopted the RPSC2 meeting agenda.

4. STATUS OF THE GEF PACIFIC RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAMME

Presentation of the Regional program structure:

Dr. Winifreti Nainoca, UNDP presented the '*GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef Programme*' highlighting the interlinked GEF Pacific R2R STAR Projects and the GEF R2R International Waters Project. In introducing the presentation, Dr. Nainoca expressed that the meeting was also aimed at promoting a programmatic approach for countries.

In familiarizing the RPSC to the origins of the R2R Program, Dr. Nainoca conveyed the importance of the Program Framework Document (PFD). The PFD was developed by UNDP following the advice put forward by the GEF Council in order to secure the Pacific funding allocations. UNDP then developed and submitted a PFD to the GEF along with a few project documents, which secured and preserved the Pacific allocations. With the Pacific allocations preserved, FAO, UNDP and UNE would then work on developing individual project documents for the countries STAR allocations, apart from the Regional IW that would be developed by SPC. Dr. Nainoca expressed that she will share the PFD with RPSC members following the meeting.

The presentation also provided an update on the Country STAR Project Updates for FAO and UNE and the Regional & Country STAR project updates for UNDP. [Refer to PowerPoint presentation].

Questions/Comments

Niue – In terms of the Program Coordination Group, Niue questioned if there had been a PCG meeting. Niue further sought clarification from UNDP on whether the STAR project reports to SPC. Dr. Nainoca clarified that STAR projects must work closely with the IW projects, although the IW projects report to SPC. The country STAR projects will report to their GEF implementing agencies UNDP, UNE or FAO. However, she further explained, that SPC has a role in monitoring work on the ground to ensure that the IW is engaging with the STAR project to avoid duplication of efforts.

Responding to the question relating to the Program Coordination Group meeting, UNDP confirmed that a meeting was carried out in 2016 between the three GEF Implementing Agencies – UNDP, FAO and UNE, and that the minutes had been circulated within the PCG. The next meeting was planned for Wednesday 2nd August 2017, during the RPSC2 meeting week.

Niue requested whether there was a possibility to include SPREP as part of the RPSC meetings given that SPREP is an accredited GEF Implementing Agency and also has a biodiversity program in place. Niue continued, therefore, that SPREP must be involved in providing support to countries through some of the project activities. Niue added that it could be something for the committee to consider. Dr. Sobey responded to Niue notifying that SPREP was invited twice and in both cases SPREP had indicated that they would not be available to attend the meeting. However the meeting was informed that the Science Team at SPC had invited SPREP to attend the Experts meeting that took place on June 13th and 14th. SPREP had therefore contributed expertise through that assessment. SPREP is an

important partner in the region and a lot of expertise. The meeting was also informed that SPREP had put forward a request to SPC to sign an MOU, however this process will await the SPC's Regional R2R Project Manager's return to office.

Cook Islands – In relating to the presentation by UNDP where there was emphasis on the need for the country STAR and IW projects to work together, the meeting was informed that for the Cook Islands the IW project is situated within the Ministry of Infrastructure while the STAR project is situated within the National Environment Services. Earlier in 2017, the IW project explored synergies and engaged with the STAR R2R project seeking their support in facilitating some of the assessments on the ground. The two projects collaborated productively discussing opportunities and the way forward. Cook Islands further reminded the meeting that the IW projects are allocated \$US200,000 for each of the countries over 4 years, and of which 70-80% is directed towards the Program Manager's salary, therefore Cook Islands have a little to work with. Taking this into account, the IW project therefore sought the support of the STAR project and looks forward to engaging more on the IW multi-focal areas where the STAR might be able to provide financial and other support.

UNDP – based on the experience shared by the Cook Islands, UNDP shared with the meeting the term '*Incremental Benefits*' (IB). The term reflects the engagement between the two projects where the IW is engaging with the STAR to implement some IW activities. In moving towards this direction, and where there is an activity under each project on the same site, countries could seek a cost-benefit analysis, assess and decide if one or the other activity will provide more benefits when implemented. However the process will involve extensive negotiations and there are rules where GEF has been changing the budgetary provisions within the components. If a country wishes to transfer money from component 1 to component 2, there is a 10% leeway and countries were advised to keep within that 10%. UNDP therefore advised the countries to engage and implement activities between the two projects based on the IB concept.

Tonga introduced the STAR Project Manager from FAO informing the meeting that the two projects have also started engaging. Tonga further sought the support of SPC for the two projects in terms of travel in order to foster and strengthen the engagement between the two projects.

The Vice-Chair acknowledged the RPSC in nominating Tonga as the Vice Chair for the 2nd RPSC and as the Chair for the 3rd RPSC. Tonga further commended the presentation by UNDP acknowledging the concept of Incremental Benefits and storyline of the establishment of the two STAR projects in Tonga. Tonga also expressed that the budget is not sufficient to implement activities that the Ministry wanted to replicate in villages. Therefore the meeting could relook at budget allocations in order to demonstrate the work of the IW project.

UNDP responded to Tonga on the budget allocation advising countries that when changing the budget, it needs to be discussed with the Implementing Agency.

The Chair concluded the session reiterating to countries to keep communication lines open and continue to engage with the STAR project and the Implementing Agencies.

In closing the session, the meeting accorded a minute of silence for the late CEO Tonga Ministry of Lands Mr. Asipeli Palaki, who had contributed extensively to the progress of the R2R Project in Tonga.

4.2. Presentation of the purpose, goals and objectives of the GEF R2R International Waters

4.3. Annual Report on the Status of the GEF R2R International Waters Project

The R2R Officer in Charge, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo and the Regional R2R Project and Science Leader, Dr Milika Sobey presented on the '*Status of the R2R Programme Implementation GEF/UNDP/SPC Pacific*

Regional IW R2R Project' and the *Annual Report on the Status of the GEF R2R International Waters Project'*. Agenda Items 4.2 and 4.3 were addressed together through this session.

The presentation discussed:

- The Programmatic Approach
- 5 components of the GEF Regional Pacific Ridge of Reef project
- Details of the project
- The status of regional project Implementation
- Project timeline and resources

Dr. Sobey also provided a summary of the IW R2R National Demonstration Projects. The meeting was also updated on the Regional IW R2R Expenditure by components as at the end of June 2017 and funds advanced to Countries and Expenditure to date.

Questions/Comments

Cook Island sought clarification on whether all countries need to carry out an Inception Workshop. Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo responded to Cook Islands confirming that the IW Inception Workshop is one of the key deliverables of the project in terms of milestones.

Federated States of Micronesia informed the meeting that SPC and the FSM Government has signed the MOA which has been approved by congress. The RPCU noted the progress by FSM and will update the table presented on the *Regional IW R2R project implementation as at the end of June 2017*. The RPCU was also informed by FSM that Kosrae State has been selected as the Demonstration Site for the IW R2R Project.

PNG acknowledged SPC, the implementing agencies and Tonga for hosting the 2017 RPSC meeting and pointed out that 2 years for the Post Graduate Ridge to Reef course by James Cook University (JCU) might be a tedious time frame due to participant's work commitments.

The RPCU responded to PNG and clarified that the course timeframe of 2 and half years is to allow flexibility for participants by taking 2 units per year. JCU has been advised through the '*Request for Proposal*' document that participants will be full time employees of Government Agencies and will be unable to participate as a full time student like other post graduate students, hence the 2 and half years timeframe. The RPCU also acknowledged the countries for the enthusiastic response to the post graduate course and for taking advantage of the opportunity.

Niue sought clarification on whether the national or regional allocation will cover travel expenses for Post Graduate participants to attend the face-to-face lessons once a year.

The RPCU confirmed that STAR Project participants will be funded by the STAR project while the IW Project participants will be funded by the regional project budget. Both funding support will include travel and accommodation. RPCU further clarified that the Regional Project will fund 28 participants – 2 from each country and taking into account that \$200,000 project activities allocation for each country is not sufficient to include course participant's travel and accommodation.

Kiribati and Cook Islands requested the RPCU for further discussion during week regarding the planned Inception Workshop for both countries.

The Vice-Chair acknowledged and supported the regional budget allocation regarding it as a reserve that can be utilised by countries on project demonstration sites, while the national allocations of \$200,000 can focus on smaller project activities.

4.4. Plans for Mid-Term Evaluation of the GEF IW R2R Project

The Chairperson invited the Regional R2R Project and Science Leader, Dr Milika Sobey, to introduce and summarise the priority needs of the project over the next 12 months to the mid-term evaluation in July 2018.

Dr. Sobey provided an introduction to the session stating that an in-depth session would be covered on Tuesday 1st August and directed the RPSC to the paper on the *Mid-Term review and Mid-Term project reports* that was contained in the documents folder. It was highlighted that the week's program was aimed at achieving two things:

- i. To get the countries thinking more along a programmatic level rather than project;
- ii. To inform and formulate thinking leading up to the midterm review in 11 months' time - June to early July 2018.

The Mid-Term review was appropriate because it allowed projects to take stock of what has been done, what was done well and what needs improvement. As of this meeting, only six countries have an inter-ministerial committee in place out of the 14 countries while some countries have yet to engage a Project Manager. This was pointed out by Dr. Sobey as an area of urgency and that countries would need to work on this for the next 11 months leading up to the IW Project Mid-Term Review.

The Chair acknowledged Dr. Sobey and addressed the countries to take heed of the agreement that has been set in place from the beginning of the project and to work on forming an inter-ministerial committee as well as the engagement of project managers in country for those countries that have not done so.

5. PRESENTATION OF THE REGIONAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE GEF PACIFIC R2R IW PROJECT

The Chairperson invited the Officer in Charge of the GEF Pacific R2R International Waters Project, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo, to present discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/6, 'Regional Work plan and Budget for the GEF Pacific R2R IW Project' – the draft work plan and budget for the period July 2017 – June 2018. The RPSC was invited to review the document and to raise questions or comments on work plan and budget.

Tonga noted that International Consultants had been articulated in Output 1.1.1 and sought clarification on the remuneration of international consultants if it was to apply to other outputs and how would this affect the regional and country allocations. The RPCU clarified that it will affect allocations as it relates to either national or regional activities.

Cook Islands added to the comment raised by Tonga and further inquired if there is an opportunity for a regional funding or component to fund the engagement of consultants instead of utilising country allocations. The RPCU responded to this indicating that the regional project is engaging a consultant as a Gender Advisor whose work will involve all countries, which is an example of the regional funding support for countries.

Tonga sought clarification on the country allocations and whether countries needed to present a proposal to SPC to access the US\$200,000 funding for implementation. The RPCU clarified that the national allocations have been included in the budget – \$60,000 per country. It was explained further

that the total budget presented includes both the national and regional project implementation for 2017-2018.

PNG raised that having the national work-plans will be beneficial in identifying what the linkages are with the regional work-plan and their allocations. The RPCU acknowledged PNGs comments and informed that countries are still working on sending in their annual work-plans which would help articulate national project's activities and expenditure.

PNG also suggested that an extra column be included in the work plan matrix that will indicate planned activities for different countries. The RPCU considers the comment by PNG and expressed that not all national work plans have been received to enable the presentation of an integrated work plan, however this will be addressed once more information is received from countries on planned activities.

Tonga suggested that the budget include the amount allocated to SPC for each component so that countries will be able to identify the amount to work with when developing work-plans. The RPCU clarified that the money budgeted for national projects is US\$60,000 across the board. The other allocations for the regional projects and the RPCUs assistance to the national projects don't affect the national allocations.

Niue raised that the allocated US\$200,000 per country is not sufficient to carry out both coordination and ground activities for all the 14 countries. There is a need for collaboration between the national projects, the regional projects and the implementing agencies for the opportunity to agree and share resources at the national level. Niue enquired if there would be an opportunity for such a collaboration to take place.

UNDP responded to Niue from the perspective of the STAR project stating that the STAR project allocation is to be utilised according to the STAR Project Document. When reporting back, there is a need to indicate to GEF that the funds have been utilised accordingly and that various components has been carried out as articulated in the project document. The STAR is stringent with the use of funds therefore the transfer of funds from the STAR to the IW project is unfeasible.

Vanuatu sought clarification pointing out that the annual work-plans were developed according to a US\$50,000 budget, whereas the national allocation is US\$60,000. The RPCU clarified that the extra US\$10,000 difference is to cover for extra activities or unexpected expenses as implementation activities takes place on the ground.

Tuvalu questioned the chances of reviewing the Project Coordinators salaries if the contract has ended. The first 2 years from the inception of the project is the duration in which a significant amount of activities takes place compared to the 3rd and 4th year of the project. UNDP responded to Tuvalu and informed the meeting that the budget includes a fixed budget for the project coordinator. Different countries have different salary levels so it's advisable to tag the salary level to the government's national salary scale.

Niue moved to adopt the Work plan and Budget for 2017/2018 and seconded by Samoa.

The work plan and Budget for 2017-2018 was adopted by the RPSC. The budget adopted for 2017/18 is US\$ 3,415,100. Individual Component Budgets are presented below and the Project Budget by Output is attached at Annex 4.

Component	Description	US\$
Component 1	National demonstrations to support R2R ICM/IWRM approaches for island resilience and sustainability.	1070750
Component 2	Island-based investments in human capital and knowledge to strengthen national and local capacities for Ridge to Reef ICM/IWRM approaches, incorporating climate change adaptation.	473100
Component 3	Mainstreaming of Ridge to Reef ICM/IWRM approaches in to national development planning.	147700
Component 4	Regional and national Ridge to Reef indicators for reporting, monitoring, adaptive management and knowledge management.	268100
Component 5	Reef to Reef regional and national coordination.	1340200
Component 6	Project Management	115250

UNDP congratulated the RPCU for presenting the work plan and budget for 2017 – 2018 early in the week which allowed for a productive discussion by the RPSC.

6. COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS ON NATIONAL-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GEF PACIFIC RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAMME: ANNUAL STATUS REPORTS AND WORKPLANS

The Chair invited National IW R2R and STAR Project Managers to deliver country presentations on national-level implementation of the GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef Programme. The countries presented as follows.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Solomon Islands IW Project

The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology is the Lead Agency for the Solomon Island's IW R2R project in which the Project Manager is Sammy Airahui and Chanel Iroi as the R2R focal point. There are two pilot project sites for the Solomon Islands and these are the Mataniko River Catchment with 7 sites and the Honiara Coastal Waters with 10 sites. The Solomon Islands IWR2R National Coordinating Committee is responsible for the

oversight of the IWR2R project and the R2R National Coordinating Committee is comprised of various Ministries and groups.

There are three project components to the IW project:

- i. Monitoring Program for pollution and nutrients entering Honiara adjacent coastal waters.
- ii. Pollution and nutrient sources and environmental impacts identified and management measures recommended.
- iii. Institutional and civil society awareness and capacity for action established. For each component a list of outcomes and activities has been drawn up to achieve the outcomes. Some outcomes have been completed while there are on-going activities.

In terms of project highlights and stakeholder engagements, the Solomon Islands held a National Stakeholders Planning workshop and participated in the World Environment Day, World Oceans Day and the Coral Triangle Day. They also launched a Tuvaruhu Multi-Ethnic Community clean-up Campaign.

The Solomon Islands also established a partnership with WWF, CEFAS, PEBACC project, Tuvaruhu Multi-Ethnic Community Association and Mataniko River Clean Up and Rehabilitation Project. In the presentation, Solomon Islands displayed a table listing the communication tools and products being used.

The presentation highlighted challenges with late funds, poor communication, logistic support in carrying out monitoring programs and no baseline assessments data.

Questions/Comments

Niue questioned whether Solomon Islands has any legal frameworks to govern responsibilities since they are involved with many stakeholders. Solomon Islands responded that the Environment Act is the Legal Framework that governs the monitoring of pollution processes while the Environment Health Act governs health monitoring.

Tuvalu sought Solomon Islands experience whether there were challenges in terms of the coordination of the project learning from the presentation that Solomon Islands has two separate bodies: the Technical group, and the National Coordinating Committee. If this was the case, how is this being dealt with? There was a mention of “*lack of data*” as one of the challenges, how is the Solomon Islands tackling that issue?

In responding to Tuvalu, Solomon Islands stated that the challenge in coordinating the project was that of slow or lack of communication with others in terms of reporting. In addition the weak internet bandwidth is also a major obstacle because the data does exist, but the challenge lies in data accessibility due to the challenging internet connection.

Solomon Islands STAR Project

The STAR Project referred to as the *Integrated Forest Management Project in Solomon Islands*, was allocated USD\$6.2 million for 5 years. It is a multi-focal area project which incorporates all the programmatic allocated areas – biodiversity, climate change and land degradation. An Inception Workshop was conducted in March 2017 followed by the recruitment of the Project Management Unit officers in May 2017. It is currently awaiting FAO on the final process.

UNDP acknowledged Solomon Islands update on the STAR project reiterating that developing a project document is a 2 year process.

VANUATU

Vanuatu IW Project

The Vanuatu Department of Environmental Protection & Conservation is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project and the MOA was signed on 30th June 2016. The IW Project Manager is Alick Berry Thomas and the IW R2R Focal Point is Donna Kalfatak. The Pilot Project site is situated at the Tagabe Catchment Area.

The following challenges have been encountered by the IW project:

- a. Governance – this relates to no identification of alternative water sources, the lack of funding, the inadequate hydrology data monitoring, and the unknown demand statistics
- b. Environment – this refers to invasive species, natural disasters, El Nino/ La Nina, climate change, flooding, upper catchment developments.
- c. People – rapid urbanisation, community issues, unemployment/lack of livelihoods, weakened community governance structure, need for ranchers (Zone 1).

Questions/Comments

Tuvalu sought Vanuatu's clarification on '*Unknown Demand Statistics*' as one of the challenges that was highlighted.

Vanuatu - Vanuatu responded that the country is implementing the Capacity Building Phase 2 project with UNDP. The project looks at managing data and information related to UNFCCC and it involves the collection of all the required information to support the needs of the M & E process and for the purpose of collating and centralising all the information. Some data still needs to be gathered from stakeholders. Vanuatu is also developing an Information Sharing Policy to support data sharing.

UNDP commended the extensive and crucial work that has progressed on the ground and encouraged the countries to increase the visibility of all the good work that has been done. UNDP also encouraged the use of Twitter to tag GEF R2R projects as it has the potential to attract the right people and will raise awareness. UNDP also raised the need to have more sex disaggregated data as Gender is becoming a focus area for UN agencies and other organisations.

The Chair acknowledged UNDP for the comment and supported the use of Twitter to promote visibility of project activities. SPC highlighted that there is an existing Twitter handle @PacificR2R and hashtag #PacificR2R that is being used to promote the program's work and to share related knowledge and information. The RPSC was encouraged to take use of these.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PNG IW Project

The Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project and the MOA was signed by the PNG Government in October 2016. It was signed with SPC between December 2016 and January 2017. The IW Project Manager is Senson Mark and the IW R2R Focal Point is Mr. Gunther Joku. The Pilot Project site is situated at Tuna Bay located in the Central Province of PNG.

Three major project highlights by PNG are as follows:

- i. The establishment of the CEPA IW R2R Project Technical Working Group
- ii. Inception Workshop and report which was held 9th May 2017.
- iii. The landowner's consultative meeting

The main challenges encountered by the PNG IW project include:

- a. Institutional/Program level challenges– the delay in the endorsement by the government and signing of the MOA. This was also due to lack of awareness from a programmatic level on the STAR & IW R2R projects.
- b. Challenges at the project site:
 - a. Difficulty in engaging with traditional chiefs and women's group.
 - b. Conflict of interests between stakeholders.
 - c. Communication drawbacks where there is no access to the internet or phone.
 - d. Delay in the implementation of project activities when relevant officers are not available in office.
 - e. The financial reporting spread sheet, there is difficulty in understanding UNDP descriptions. PNG therefore seeks the support of the implementing agency for clarification.

Questions/Comments

Tuvalu – Learning from the presentation by PNG, Tuvalu posed the question to country representatives on how effective it was having an MOU between stakeholders for data sharing. It is a challenging area in Tuvalu, and it was timely to learn from the experiences of other countries.

Cook Islands stated that it depends on who the project engages with. It needs positive dialogue considering that an MOU is not a legal document.

Samoa shared in the case of the STAR project some agencies sought to selling information which was understandable because it was cost-recovery for the agencies. However with the Ridge to Reef project information sharing is very important. There was a lot of dialogue between the two agencies for the IW and STAR projects in country and it became an institutional agreement that cost recovery is reflected but there would be no transfer of cash. The Ministry of Finance became involved as well. Samoa has not developed an MOU on data sharing as it wasn't required however the government and NGO's are entering into partnerships and trying to implement and engage project outcomes.

PNG raised that sharing of data and information is still a major challenge for the country and agreed that data is important for any project and activity and it needs to be made available and accessible.

Conway Pene added to the discussion and shared two perspectives based on the experience with GIS and Spatial Information:

- i. Getting a formalized MOU is often a difficult process and it doesn't often deliver the desired results. Practically personal networks and the acknowledgement of work is better when working through smaller communities and the information/data that is shared is much more efficient and practical than the MOU that is signed.
- ii. The need for open data and having a dedicated person that will collect all the information and data by the projects and making it open and accessible.

Samoa – In Samoa there is an increased interest in accessing Lidar data for most islands in Samoa however accessibility to the data has been a major challenge for agencies. The Lidar data is not sold

but any agency requesting for data is required to sign a release form indicating that the government will be acknowledged in the product and to show that the data belongs to the government.

Cook Islands requested for a copy of the PNG Protected Area Policy that was presented. PNG clarified that the policy was prepared by officers of CEPA and the GEF UNDP project.

In responding to the data sharing discussions, the Vice Chair stated that resources and money is usually committed to the collection of data while information is readily available to share. Projects must therefore engage with stakeholders and colleagues in country to start building networks and creating a culture of sharing information and data.

PNG STAR project

The PNG GEF 5 STAR R2R Implementing Agency is the UNDP and the National Lead Agency is the Conservation and Environment Protection Agency (CEPA). The objective of the project is *'Strengthen national and local capacities to effectively manage the national system of protected areas, and address threats to biodiversity and ecosystem functions in these areas'*.

The STAR project works across 2 main components:

Component 1: Management capabilities of the PNG state entity (CEPA) to support and oversee PA Management

Component 2: Strengthening the Capacity of the state and local communities to cooperatively manage PA sites

There are 3 target sites of the PNG STAR project – the Varirata National Park in the Central Province, YUS Conservation Area in Morobe Province and the Torricelli Mountain Range based in the West/East Sepik Provinces.

The following have been accomplished by the PNG STAR project:

- An Interim Project Coordinator and Chief Technical Advisor has been recruited.
- The Inception Workshop was conducted in May 2016
- The Signing of MOA between the NGOs (YUS and Torricelli)
- The recruitment process of the STAR Project Manager is work in progress

Questions/Comments

UNE questioned if the PNG STAR project had experienced some sort of limitation to merge the 2 Project Steering Committees and how would this impact on the project.

PNG advised that the challenge in merging the two committees is due to the different location of project sites, with different features and different stakeholders. It would be a difficult process altogether. The STAR national project size is small and focused on the terrestrial environment whereas the IW project is focused on the marine component.

UNDP provided a context on the UNDPs STAR organisational structure stating that the organisational structure presented by PNG is a typical organisational structure of UNDPs STAR projects and which is also documented in the project document. For the case of PNG, there is a possibility of merging smaller islands through the Project Board. Where there is a change in activities which doesn't change the main outcome, UNDP would advise STAR to liaise with the project board for approval under the condition

that the change does not exceed 5%. UNDP therefore advised smaller countries to have 1 Project Board but have 2 different Steering Committees for the STAR and IW. However both committees will report to one project board.

UNDP – PNG highlighted that some NGOs had to provide an opportunity to execute some of the STAR activities. It is a good step and can encourage the national STAR projects to consider the same where possible considering the GEF project timeframe is only between 3 – 5 years and with a budget of several million dollars within a few years. Other agencies would have the advantages of experience, knowledge and skills to execute some activities, therefore UNDP requests that executing agencies consider this as a way forward.

COOK ISLANDS

Cook Islands IW Project

The Infrastructure Cook Islands is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project and the MOA was signed on the 15th of January 2016. It was signed with SPC between December 2016 and January 2017. The IW Project Manager is Keu Mataroa and the IW R2R Focal Point is Ngametua Pokino. The Pilot Project site is situated at the Muri Lagoon which is on the South Eastern side of the island.

In terms of the Coordination Mechanism, the National Sustainable Development Committee is responsible for the oversight of the IW and STAR projects. Linked to that are the Infrastructure Committee and the National Water Committee. The 2 committees collaborate with different Ministries and groups.

There are three components to the project:

Component 1 - Capacity building

Component 2 - Public Private Partnership

Component 3 - Increase Knowledge and management.

All the above components have activities to be carried out to achieve the outcomes. Some are currently on-going while others are still at the planning stages.

The following are highlights of the Cook Islands IW Project:

- Institutional strengthening this involved meeting with the Ministry of Marine Resources and the EU Project and MTVKTV-GHD (Work with EU-MMR.) – Draft Health Card and also a Muri Lagoon Proposed Flyer was developed.
- The establishment of the Geospatial Cook Islands with GIS applications for R2R and Key Stakeholders.
- Environmental investigations
- Inception Meeting with the Muri Lagoon Action Group to establish PPP Initiatives and to promote Community to Cabinet Initiative for a Governance structured entity
- Inception meetings with the Muri Lagoon Action to establish PPP initiatives
- Pacer Plus Trade Agreement, Synergy with ICIs approach to PPP with ADB Assistance and Presented on the NSDP – 2030 Global Agenda and R2R Links to Leaving No One Behind – CICC General Assembly 2017, Muri Tapere.

The challenges encountered by the Cook Islands IW project include:

- Coordination Mechanism – refers to the Ministry and the coordination team working together in order to address IW R2R at the higher level;
- Funds Allocation for:

- Tas/ICs for Logframe Assessment for Gender Mainstreaming-Communications-Knowledge Management;
- The Inception Workshop will be conducted on October 2017;
- The Mini Lagoon Day is planned for October 2017;
- The Science Congress Planning scheduled for 2018 will be hosted by Cook Islands.
- The Muri Lagoon tourism site requires improved infrastructure to promote public health and economic growth. There is an increasing demand for beds – a need to house 25% of beds. The Muri Lagoon Action Group also requested the project to slow down development in area.
- There is consultation fatigue for communities of Muri Lagoon due to the lack of knowledge on current developments in the area. In response to this, the IW project provided a special presentation to the Aronga Mana of area.
- The implications of climate change and extreme weather events – run offs, stream sedimentation discharges in the lagoon, the hot weather.

Questions/Comments

Tuvalu – In referring to the Algae Bloom illustrated by Cook Islands, Tuvalu questioned whether it was an invasive species. Cook Islands clarified that an assessment team will be able to indicate this by examining the cause and type of algal bloom. The bloom is currently affecting the coasts of Rarotonga and the outer islands of the Cook Islands.

UNDP commended the Cook Islands work on establishing stress indicators to show the health of the lagoon ecosystem pointing out that it is a valuable way to monitor the progress of the project. A similar analysis will be executed during the terminal evaluation to examine the impact of project interventions. UNDP advises national demonstration projects in countries to place a particular focus on the key indicators that are applicable to the demo sites and to establish stress indicators such as that practiced by the Cook Islands. It is a mechanism that can be further discussed with the R2R regional technical advisors.

Cook Islands STAR Project

The Cook Islands National STAR Project titled '*Conserving biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem functions through a "Ridge to Reef" approach in the Cook Islands*' is implemented by UNDP through the National Environment Service for a period of 4 years.

The project operates under two components:

- i. Strengthening the management of protected areas – upgrading workplace facilities and strengthening staff capacities.
- ii. Mainstreaming biodiversity into productive landscapes through agriculture and tourism activities such as sustainable agriculture practices training in the Pa Enea in partnership with FAO projects. This includes the production of tourism focused media by the Cook Islands Tourism Cooperation. The National and Regional STAR R2R Projects collaborates under component 1 where the National project will fund the participation of additional project staff/key stakeholders to the JCU course and will support and participate in activities between Projects.

NIUE

Niue IW Project

The Niue Ministry of Natural Resources is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project. The MOA for the IW project was signed on March 2017 and that of the STAR project was signed in March 2016. The IW

Project Manager is Crispina Konelio and the IW R2R Focal Point is the Niue Department of Environment while the pilot project site is situated on Niue Island.

The IW project highlighted the following events which have been accomplished for Niue:

- i. The establishment of the R2R Advisory Group Committee
- ii. The R2R project was introduced at the community level through village consultations which resulted in the development of village proposals by the working committee.
- iii. Local events – village show days, national cultural and heritage festival, Vaka fishing competition and the accomplishment of the Alofi North 3D Model

The following challenges have been encountered by the project:

- Setting up a steering committee for IW R2R
- Maintaining a consistent engagement with the villages
- Cash advances is received 30 days after the quarter has commenced

The meeting was also informed that Niue's Advisory Committee is represented by various stakeholders involved in different activities and the project is further intending to include more technical groups under various components.

TONGA

Tonga IW Project

The MOA for the IW project was completed and signed in September 2016 while recruitment for a Project Manager is currently in progress. The details and timeline of the Inception Workshop and the Steering Committee meeting is yet to be confirmed. The IW pilot sites is the same as that of the STAR ILAM project sites funded by FAO – Haveluliku, Ta'anga, Pukotala and Vava'u, but the IW project will focus on the coastal and groundwater issues while the STAR project will respond to issues relating to agriculture and forestry.

Tonga STAR Project

Tonga currently undertakes two STAR R2R projects:

- i. IEMP-FLC Project where the pilot site is the Fagauta Lagoon Catchment Area and is funded by GEF with UNDP as the Implementing Agency. The meeting was informed that the FLC IEM Plan has been completed and approved by the Project Steering Committee in January 2017, revised in March 2017 and endorsed by cabinet on May 5th 2017. The document is currently awaiting receipt of the Gazette paper.

The project has also established extensive progress on the tracking tools i.e BD1 – Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected area, BD2-Increase in sustainability managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation and LD1-Sustained flow of services in agro-ecosystems.

- ii. ILAMS project is funded by GEF with FAO as the Implementing Agency and the pilot sites are on Haveluliku, Ta'anga, Pukotala and Vava'u. In March 2017, the project managed to accomplish; (i) The first inception workshop (ii) the first steering committee meeting (iii) the approval of the ILAMS Annual Work plan 2017 (iv) the approval of the ILAMS Procurement Plan and (v) the establishment of the ILAMS Project Management Unit. This was followed by the completion of the ILAMS household surveys of all the 4 pilot villages and the launch of the project at the pilot villages of Haveluliku and Ta'anga ('Eua).

Questions/Comments

UNDP acknowledged the work presented by Tonga and advised the countries to collaborate with PNG, Tonga and Tuvalu to learn how the trust funds have been established and funded in each of the three countries.

FSM informed the meeting of the Micronesian Trust Fund. The National R2R Project is providing support to States that have expressed an interest in establishing its own trust funds by contributing money for each State to initiate its own trust fund.

REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS

RMI IW and STAR Project

The RMI Environmental Protection Agency is the Lead Agency for the RMI IW Project and the MOA was signed on June 2016. The R2R Focal point is Ms. Moriana Phillip and the IW Project Manager is Julius Lucky. The pilot project site is at Laura (Lagoon), Majuro RMI.

There has not been any formal establishment of a committee been formally established because the STAR R2R project is awaiting GEF's response on their proposal and therefore has not yet commenced. The Inception workshop for both projects will be conducted in December 2017 but will depend on the GEF Council's approval of the National STAR R2R Project.

The following have been accomplished by the IW project i.e coastal sampling, collection of field data, monitoring of water quality of the Laura lens, community engagements and outreaches, school visits and engagement of local fishermen.

The engagement with stakeholders has been achieved through community consultations and meetings related to coastal, water quality and other environmental issues.

RMI's major challenge has been the delay in transfer of funds which stalls progress on the ground.

TUVALU

Tuvalu IW Project

The Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project. The MOA was signed in June 2016. The IW Project Manager is Pesega Lifuka and the IW R2R Focal Point is Susana Taupo while the pilot project site is Fogafale, the capital of Funafuti.

There are three components of the project:

Component 1 Demonstration of innovative approaches to pig waste management on Funafuti.

Component 2 Targeted scientific approaches to optimize on-site waste management systems and to identify casual links between land-based contaminants and the degradation of coastal water.

Component 3 National and local capacity for waste management implementation built, most of which are at the planning stages.

The following have been accomplished by the IW project since the last RPSC meeting:

- The Inception workshop was successfully conducted in December 2016.
- A quiz competition organised and funded by the project involved all primary schools in Tuvalu.

- The National STAR workshop conducted in December 2016 included participation by outer islands representatives.
- Stakeholder engagement – the IW R2R project has been engaging with the Funafuti community and in consultation with Internet Service Providers.

The Tuvalu IW Project described that a major challenge has been the formation of a Steering Committee which took 9 months to establish.

Tuvalu STAR project

The implementing agency of the Tuvalu STAR R2R Project is UNDP through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tourism, Environment and Labour with the objective to *'Protect the Overall Biodiversity of Tuvalu'*. The project holds an allocation of \$3.7 million over five years and is a whole of island approach where activities is planned to be implemented in all the islands of Tuvalu.

There are four components of the project:

- Component 1 Conservation and protected areas which is the biggest component for the project.
- Component 2 Integrated land and water management
- Component 3 Governance – developing policies and strategic plans for all islands
- Component 4 Data and information system including a GIS system.

A considerable amount of activities is centred on components 1 and 2 and in which significant work has been completed while others are yet to be finalised.

The Tuvalu STAR project highlighted a few challenges that have been encountered:

- The delayed implementation of the 2017 Annual Work Plan has resulted in financial constraints for the project.
- It was identified in the AWP 2017 budget that Tuvalu has been over-budgeted therefore the project will need to plan bigger activities in order to effectively utilise the available funding.
- Engaging stakeholders has been a difficult process however collaboration was achieved.

SAMOA

Samoa IW Project

The Samoa Ridge to Reef Program is comprised of three projects:

1. LDCF Economy-wide Integration of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management to Reduce Climate Vulnerability of Communities in Samoa (EWACC) implemented by UNDP and executed by MNRE. The project focuses on Climate Change issues with a funding of \$12,322,956 for 6 years.

The project site for the EWACC project is the Vaisingano Catchment in Apia and operates under 3 components (a) Strategic integration of CCA and DRM in national policy framework and development planning through an economy-wide approach (b) Enhance resilience of communities as first responders of Climate change-induced hazards (c) Monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management.

The highlights and achievements of the project include: The strengthening of the Climate Resilience Investment Coordination Unit; the procurement of a Climate Finance Expenditure Expert to assist with projects, the review of the Samoa Building and Construction Code and Partnership with other projects – synergies on mainstreaming CC and DRM. Samoa also established an Integrated Watershed Management Plan Development, established construction

of the Vaisigano River Protection wall and set up real-time rainfall and river level telemetry station as an early warning system and Flood modelling using TuFlow 3D Model.

The project experienced a number challenges whilst progressing with activities:

- strenuous National Procurement systems
- increasing workload of stakeholders
- limited capacity of national implementing agencies to work with new technology
- limited capacity of CSOs and NGOs to implement projects.

2. IW R2R Fagalii Ridge to Reef Project implemented by UNDP and SPC and executed by MNRE. The project focuses on International Waters with a funding of \$200,000+GOD for 4 years.

The recruitment process for the Project Manager will progress in September 2017 while the review of the Log Frame and Annual Work plan is scheduled to be completed by October, 2017. The 1st Inception workshop is scheduled for the 1st of November in Apia, Samoa. Although the implementation of IW R2R Log Frame on strengthening the enabling environments has not proceeded, other baseline studies, community consultations, interventions among others have been taking place through Government Funding and co-financing projects (EWACC, SMSMCL, EU, JICA) which has synergies with the IW project.

These include the completion and progress of:

- The Watershed Management Plan, Village By-Laws and MOU
- Tree planting and rehabilitation operations for degraded areas
- Fencing off natural reserve and critical areas
- Installation of awareness and conservation signboards
- Installation community nursery
- Construction of a P3D model
- A Biolog Filter by JICA is under way
- The development of a Prioritisation Map

3. GEF5 : Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Management of Critical Landscapes (SMSMCL) implemented by UNDP and executed by the Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE). The activities of the project focuses on tackling Land Degradation issues with a funding of \$4736, 363 for 5 years.

Questions/Comments

Niue sought Samoa's experience with the use of new technology to use and analyse LiDar data.

Samoa emphasised that in order to have the latest technology there needs to be capacities available to make use of the tool. To obtain LiDar data for Samoa, the Ministry engaged with other projects to procure the use of LiDar technology. In addition the project also engaged experts in areas where there was a lack of capacity, an expensive process. The LiDar data that was obtained has been stored on hard-drives and Samoa is looking at providing trainings for the Ministry.

Conway added to the discussion and provided clarification stating that a lot of technical support is needed to adequately carry out a LiDar survey. The ongoing challenge has since revolved around the procurement of LiDar technology for the Pacific in a cost-effective way. At present it is a costly exercise

for the Pacific since it requires the procurement of LiDar technology providers from Australia, New Zealand or the US. The provider would have to fly in an aircraft that would be based in the islands for a period of several weeks in order to get enough clear sky time to fly. One of the things that could potentially reduce the cost would be to procure providers that are able to base in one country with the use of an aircraft that has enough range to cover a number of nearby countries. Procuring this technical support will require 1-2 years advanced planning and advanced cost-sharing which could be a challenge. A LiDar Dataset will remain useful for a longer period of time because shapes of landscape do not vary much overtime and there are cost-effective ways to acquire technical support to capture areas that have changed.

Tonga shared that it obtained Lidar data through cost sharing, and the project engaged with other existing national projects to share the costs of obtaining the data. The activity was only able to obtain data for some of the islands in Tonga but the IW project is looking at exploring opportunities with other existing national projects with an interest in obtaining LiDar data to continue this work for the other islands.

UNDP sought Samoa's experience on how the country had prepared itself to implement huge grant projects and what adjustments did Samoa commit to in order to spend \$10 million a year to implement huge projects? It is an experience that Pacific Island countries could learn from.

Samoa shared that it is a learning process and that the Climate Resilience Investment Committee (CRIC) located within the Ministry of Finance, coordinates implementation of various huge grant projects. The CRIC works closely with the Ministerial level – the Minister of Finance, Minister of Works and Minister for Environment, to manage implementation through the 14 government sectors. UNDP provides support towards procurement while part of the funding is directed towards the development of capacities to ensure technical assistance and support is provided for by various sectors.

Cook Islands – taking into account the clarification on LiDar procurement expressed by Conway Pene, Cook Islands inquired the support of the RPSC to look at the opportunity of formulating a two year plan to secure LiDar technical support, in particular for countries that have not undertaken a LiDar survey.

KIRIBATI

Kiribati IW and STAR project update

Kiribati will finalize the recruitment of the IW Project Coordinator and will identify members of the Project Steering Committee.

The STAR Project is awaiting FAO's country mission to Kiribati between August-September to schedule the Inception Workshop.

NAURU

Nauru IW Project

The Nauru Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment is the Lead Agency for the Nauru IW Project and the MOA was signed on May 26th 2016. The focal point is Mrs. Mavis Depaune (Secretary for the Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment) while the IW Project Manager is Berrick Dowiyogo. The proposed pilot project site is situated at the Anabar/ljuw District which includes a pig farm.

The Nauru IW R2R project has three components:

- i. Building on Successful Waste management Systems approaches demonstrated in IWRM Project to safeguard groundwater and lagoon water quality.
- ii. Integrating identification of significant heritage sites and traditional knowledge into national coastal planning.
- iii. Incorporating ICM Strategies into national coastal infrastructure planning and regulations.

The project outcomes have been and is planned to be achieved through cost benefit analysis, the development of action plans, information research, the incorporation of IW and R2R processes into coastal fisheries (NFMR.A), coastal management plans.

The IW project highlighted the following achievements:

- a. Assistance provided to the Water Unit (DCIE) project on the installation of the Solar Water Purifiers in some of the Schools around Nauru i.e Kayser College and Anetan Infant School
- b. The identification of two participants for the R2R Postgraduate Course
- c. Joint Community Consultations conducted with the Nauru R2R STAR projects in Meneng District, Anibare District, Ijuw District, Anabar District and Buada District.

Challenges encountered by the Nauru IW project included:

- a. The delay in the acquisition of project equipment due to the change in Government's procurement agency.
- b. The preparation of reports and work plans
- c. Engaging stakeholders due to difficulty in acquiring proper transport and fuel rations for transport.

PALAU

Palau IW Project

The Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project and the MOA was signed on April 6th 2016. The IW Project Manager is Leena S. Muller and the IW R2R Focal Point is Minister F. Umich Sengebau. The Pilot Project site is situated at the Airai State & Belau Watershed Alliance member States.

The Palau IW project highlighted the following achievements:

- IW Presentation to NEPC /High Officials
- The Evaluation of the 5-Year Airai Watershed Management Plan has been completed
- Edited and Printed 100 Copies of Ngerikiil Watershed Brochures
- Consultations with Belau Watershed Alliance and GEF SGP Palau Office

The project have encountered challenges in terms of the availability of people to be able to meet and hold discussions, the challenging government processes where the procurement can be time consuming and the time lapse between the IWRM and the R2R IW project where it was difficult to re-establish networks on the ground.

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

FSM IW Project

The Office of Environment & Emergency Management (OEEM) through the Kosrae Conservation & Safety Organization (KCSO) is the Lead Agency for the IW R2R Project and the MOA was signed in December 2016. FSM is yet to recruit an IW Project Manager while the project focal point is Andrew Yatilman. The Pilot Project site is based in Kosrae and consists of three components:

- i. The demonstration of innovative approaches to Integrated Ridge to Reef Catchment Management in Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia
- ii. The establishment of the Kosrae State Freshwater Resources Management Plan
- iii. Kosrae State and local capacity for Integrated Ridge to Reef Catchment Management built to enable best practice in coastal waters, land and public health protection

FSM STAR Project

The FSM Office of Environment & Emergency Management (OEEM) is the Lead Agency for the FSM STAR R2R Project and the Project Document was signed in May 2015. The STAR Project Manager is Rosalinda Yatilman and the project focal point is Andrew Yatilman. The Pilot Project site is based in the high islands of FSM.

The STAR project consists of 2 components:

- i. Integrated Ecosystems Management and Rehabilitation on the High Islands of the FSM to enhance Ridge to Reef Connectivity
- ii. Management effectiveness enhanced within new and existing protected areas (PAs)

The following have been accomplished by the FSM STAR Project:

- The Inception workshop which was conducted in October 2016 involved key national stakeholders and NGO's and resulted in the development of work plans for each agency.
- A State-Wide planning meeting was organised to seek the community's advice and to foster community participation to take ownership of activities on the ground.
- The project sponsored the Kosrae Earth Day 2017 which was attended by more than 200 participants from across the government sectors and NGOs to take part in clean-activities. The event was a success.
- Participatory Awareness for Kitti Watershed Forest Reserve (Pohnpei)

Country presentations can be accessed at: <http://www.pacific-r2r.org/r2r-documents/rsc-meeting-documents/rpsc2-presentations>

7. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR R2R

Presentation on Post Graduate Certificate for Ridge to Reef Sustainable Development

Dr. Sobey, introduced the session and provided a context on the R2R Capacity Development initiative. One of the main successes of the earlier IWRM project was the Post Graduate Certificate in IWRM. Out of the 22 project participants that were enrolled in the IWRM programme, 18 graduated with a PGC which reflected an 80% completion rate. Four of the 18 candidates progressed to pursuing a Masters in Australia with a DFAT scholarship and who are currently heading different agencies in the region. GEF recognised the PGC achievement and offered to progress the human capacity development initiative with the R2R programme. In light of this, SPC issued an RFP in August 2016 to develop a Post Graduate Certificate and Diploma Programme in R2R Sustainable Development. James Cook University was selected to develop the programme and to make it available for the R2R member countries.

Following Dr. Sobey's introduction, representatives from the James Cook University (JCU) presented on *Building Capacity for R2R: Post Graduate Certificate*. JCU highlighted the following:

- The Ridge to Reef PG Certificate and Diploma is designed for the needs of the R2R program, and also fits into the learning and capacity building program. It places a special emphasis on

developing high levels of expertise across Pacific Island Countries through interactive learning. Therefore the programme is not offered anywhere else apart from JCU.

- The strength of JCU lies in the public comprehensive and research intensity. It was recently ranked No.1 in the world on freshwater and marine biology.
- JCU works across the Reef, Rainforest and Outback systems therefore the conceptualisation of the R2R approach on sustainable development aligned well with JCU's approach to the science program.
- Science and engineering knowledge is better equipped through experience and practical learning. JCU is therefore committed to hands on experience.

JCUs strategic remit and embeddedness create opportunities to expand or leverage the R2R program in a number of ways:

- Tailoring the range of modules to diverse contexts and needs.
- Introducing new material e.g technology in environmental management.
- Expanded experiential learning opportunities e.g field based research projects.
- Provision of 'bite-sized' modules or master classes via online platforms e.g Developing Project Evaluation capacities.
- Stacking modules allowing individuals to pursue higher degree which suit their needs.
- Developing 'Train the Trainer' programs.
- Committed to design a program that is tailored to the Pacific's needs.



All materials are available in pdf formats considering that a number of pacific island countries have weak internet bandwidths to access resources online.

Questions/Comments

PNG raised that the period of the study program might be too tedious for participants due to work commitments. JCU clarified that the online course allows the student to work at their own pace but bearing in mind the deadline of submissions.

Samoa questioned if JCU offered courses that are tailored towards hydrological work e.g short courses for 3 days etc. It is an area that countries identify as a gap in terms of implementation work. Samoa also acknowledged the outline of the program which includes science analysis and tools and also suggested that geospatial analysis and tools is included in the course as it is an area that countries are interested in progressing. It was suggested that there be a forum for the project managers to enable them to follow discussions and participant's progress in case there is a need to encourage participants to take part and make timely submissions.

JCU agreed that dialogue with managers is critical and also informed the meeting that there are programmes available on Master classes in Hydrology and Watershed Management which is a 13 week

programme. Tools and applications that participants to be skilled with in a workplace environment, are covered, however JCU encouraged the meeting to provide feedback on what tools and applications are needed.

UNDP acknowledged JCU for promoting a self-directed learning environment. With the support of JCU, participants will be provided an opportunity to explore technology that could be used in times of disasters in particular for outer islands. Suggested for a blog site with JCU that can be linked to the SPC R2R website. UNDP also sought JCU's advice on the possibility of designing a Master's programme in the next four years that participants can further pursue following the completion of their projects. JCU acknowledged UNDP's response and further expressed that JCU aims to set the foundation for learners to be able to use any new technology with the background knowledge acquired through the programme. JCU also informed the meeting that students completing the PGC or PGD in R2R can be articulated to the JCU Master of Science programme.

The RPCU supported the proposal raised by UNDP to develop a blog that will link to the R2R website. It would be a valuable and critical opportunity to enhance effective programmatic approaches for the STAR and IW by having participants share their experiences and knowledge in the application of what was learnt throughout the two years. The RPCU further sought clarification from JCU in terms of participants that are not being funded by the regional projects and how countries would settle the fees. JCU clarified have a process for direct entry students. The R2R program students are distinguished as a consequence of the JCU and R2R partnership therefore the schedule of published fees do not apply to R2R students.

A representative of the private sector questioned if there was an opportunity for the private sector to be part of the delivery of the programme. JCU concurred that there are opportunities for the private sector and other stakeholders to be involved.

8. MID-TERM REVIEW

8.1. Consideration of draft National Mid-Term Reports

The Chairperson invited the Project and Science Leader, Dr Sobey, to present discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/7 'Mid-Term Review and Mid-Term Project Reports' on the mid-term review of the project that will occur end of July 2018.

In introducing the session, Dr. Sobey explained that the session was aimed at creating awareness and familiarisation of the Mid-Term Review that will take place in under 12 months time. The Mid-Term Review process allows projects to take stock of where the project is, what worked, what were the challenges and how these can be addressed. Dr. Sobey stressed the urgency for countries to appoint an IW R2R Project Manager and to carry out Inception Meetings or Workshops for the STAR and IW projects before the review process. The countries were also advised to invite the SPC-RPCU to the Inception Meetings.

The meeting was advised that a priority for countries following the meeting would be to carry out baseline surveys for environmental stress reduction indicators as it is a critical area that countries will need to report on. A baseline plan would then have to be drafted, presented and finalised at the subregional meetings which will take place late October to early November. Projects will also need to prepare a gender action plan, a stakeholder engagement action plan, update project log-frames and results note, develop awareness materials and capture lessons learnt. Dr. Sobey added that guidelines and templates will be provided to projects for this process.

The PCU will need to read through the project's Mid-Term Review reports therefore countries were advised to send their reports to the PCU by May 2018, before it is submitted to the Review Team in July 2018.

In sharing the scope of the Review Process, it was highlighted that a reviewer will assess and rate the project in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness, its relevance and the sustainability of the project. The reviewer will carry this out by way of meetings with project stakeholders, through questionnaires and interviews or through one on one discussions with different partners.

Dr. Sobey drew the attention of the meeting to Section 3 of the table on '*Structure of the National Mid-Term Evaluation Report*' and shared that Pacific examples have been captured in published literatures, and little has been published by Pacific Islanders on work done in the region. She explained that the review exercise was an opportunity for projects to put together a 1 or 2 page summary of the report.

The meeting was also informed of a paper on the *Roster of Ridge to Reef Experts and Practitioners* that countries can consult to carry out work on technical components of the project. The roster will indicate '*who was doing what*' and for which project.

Samoa – In referring to the priority activities that would need to be implemented at the national level before the Mid-Term Review, Samoa sought clarification on whether the Gender Action Plan and Communications Plan were a compulsory activity given that there are existing Communications Plans under other programs that Samoa plan to implement instead of re-inventing the wheel.

Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo responded to Samoa confirming the need for a Communications Plan to be developed by the projects and informed the meeting that a joint communications planning exercise on Wednesday 2nd August will allow participants to discuss communications planning and opportunities for synergies. However, existing plans to be leveraged will need to be reviewed so that it aligns with the needs of the IW national projects and submitted as part of the mid-term review.

The session continued through a table exercise in which countries were tasked to identify activities that needed to be implemented before the review process which would be presented at the end of the week.

The following session introduced the joint science planning workshop co-facilitated by the Project Science Leader and the Science Officer, Emma Newland. The purpose of the workshop was to get the Project Managers of the STAR and IW projects to go over their work plans and identify areas of potential collaboration including the sharing of resources.

Participants were invited to take note of similar science and technical outputs. Questions included:

1. Identify similar IW and STAR components, output and activity numbers and description;
2. Identify the timeline for undertaking these activities, in particular if they are occurring the 12 months until Midterm Review in July 2018;
3. In what way are these linked? – same equipment needed, similar assessments, same partners etc;



Dr. Sobey and RPSC2 participants.

4. Who are potential national partners that need to be involved for the successful delivery of these outputs/activities? Be as specific as possible e.g. “Dr John Watson from Fisheries will undertake coastal health assessment”

5. What are some resource needs that you may require from the RPCU? Be specific as possible e.g. “Will require assistance developing monitoring plan, sourcing the equipment, provision of guideline or templates etc.”

6. What are the potential knowledge and communication products you can create from these activities e.g “Create a short video on the assessment exercise with interviews of experts; A summary report of assessment findings; Case study on community involvement in monitoring events etc.”

9. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING

9.1. Stakeholder engagement best practice from Tonga

The Chair invited the Tonga National R2R Project Manager Ta’hirih Hokafonu to present on some best practice experiences and lessons learnt of the project in stakeholder engagement. Ms. Hokafonu presented on the significance, elements and degree of stakeholder engagement based on the Tonga experience highlighting that where there is quality engagement with stakeholders, project delivery is successful provided that relevant capacities and expertise is available to execute quality engagement.

Tonga further highlighted:

- Once engagement is broken, a great deal of resources goes into rebuilding relationships.
- A clear communication strategy must be in place and must be interwoven with essential core values of good relationship building, humble posture of learning, timeliness, clear and succinct purpose/information, communication means is adaptable and kept abreast, systematic and transparency, unity of thoughts and successful collective actions.
- It takes one individual to understand and act on change, when systematically followed it can impact a whole community, which can transform a nation. If sustained, thus leading to global transformation. All it needs is a push towards quality stakeholder engagement. It is a process.

Following the presentation by Tonga, Ms. Newland then lead the RPSC through an exercise to identify opportunities for joint stakeholder engagement planning in the National IW and STAR R2R Projects.

9.2. Gender Mainstreaming Progress Report

The Chair invited the Regional R2R Gender Adviser, Ms. Aliti Vunisea to present discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2.1/8 ‘*Gender Mainstreaming Progress Report*’.

The presentation highlighted the following progress so far in working towards Gender Equality in National IW R2R Projects:

- Inception workshop - the R2R Gender Mainstreaming Strategy was presented for endorsement by the committee.
- A questionnaire was sent to the IW Project Managers to gather information about their progress on GM
- IW Projects are progressing at different stages of GM

The enabling mechanism already exists in countries where SPC has done significant work on gender mainstreaming – policies in place, the political will and the commitment to GM exists.

Ms. Vunisea further led the meeting through a facilitated exercise on identifying potential linked entry points for gender inclusive activities in the IW and STAR Projects.

Questions/Comments

Samoa noted that gender mainstreaming is important in project implementation however the review need to consider the cultural diversity in different islands. Through the exercise it was identified that GM at the national level is active in Samoa through the inclusion of women in Samoan parliament where 5 seats are available to women members and there are more women CEOs than men because many men have travelled abroad. In the villages setting there are different community groups and this could be captured through the GM assessment process by having different assessment criteria.

Vunisea acknowledged Samoa’s feedback and added that there is also a need to improve the cultural component of gender relations in the country so that it is easier to identify what can be changed or transformable and ensuring that the changes is applied to both men and women.

Niue raised that youths and children also need to be recognised in gender evaluation and how they influence decision making processes. Vunisea agreed to the comments raised by Niue and added that young people need to be involved in gender related discussions.

PNG has a very complex society with more the 1000 different cultures with a difference in opinion and systems across different households therefore gender is considered mostly matrilineal and some patrilineal. Men tend to take on all masculine duties, while women take on light duties. Similar to most cultures, in PNG when a man marries into a household they would have the deciding power. However PNG has been working on including more women in political power. Vunisea acknowledged PNG’s feedback and advised that gender mainstreaming work is progressing but will not be an easy task due to the cultural aspect of the pacific and this will be addressed through different phases of the project.

Cook Islands raised that promoting gender balance can ensure that there are not more women than men holding exceptional roles in society and vice versa. It is also important to encourage men to participate more in discussions where there are more women participation and vice versa.

Tonga shared that having women hold important roles in the country and in ministries is also beneficial as women tend to be active and deliver productively.

10. GEF RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAMME COMMUNICATIONS

10.1. Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Exercise

The Chair invited the Officer in Charge of the GEF Pacific R2R IW Project, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo to lead the Communications engagement workshop through a communications workshop where the RPSC was asked to reflect on the stakeholder engagement exercise that was carried out under agenda item 9, and to identify the following from a communications perspective to discuss common areas for Joint STAR and IW communications, education and public awareness activities.



Clockwise: Kiribati, Niue and Samoa exploring communications opportunities for project implementation.

10.2 Media and Communications Partnerships

Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo presented discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/9 'Media and Communications Partnerships'. The document presented the context of the media and communications partnerships for the GEF UNDP SPC Pacific Regional IW R2R Project as it relates to activity 4.2.1.1.

The paper presented the rationale for the reconsideration of media and communications public private partnerships and recommendations for the RSPC2 endorsement.

The RPSC was invited to review and endorse the recommendations outlined in the document and to consider the needs of the aspect of the programme.

Questions/Comments

Samoa questioned if the awareness materials developed through the partnerships will be shared with the countries electronically so that individual country logos that are recognised by communities, is included in the materials. Dr. Inga agreed with Samoa's comments and added that the suggestion is being considered. Country logos are a critical aspect of branding materials and allows countries and communities to take ownership of country initiatives.

Niue sought clarification on when the media and communications partnerships work would commence and if the work will later on extend to the national STAR project. Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo informed the meeting that the regional project will articulate a broader partnership strategy that will include media and communications. In terms of extending technical support offered by the regional project and partnerships, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo continued, are accessible to the STAR at their cost.

PNG raised that it is important and supports the consideration to seek financial resources within the STAR allocations to assist in some of the regional IW project such as the media and communications partnerships work.

Tonga suggested to engage and train young media professional that will take on the work of a media and communications work of the project. The RPCU informed the meeting of discussions with the University of the South Pacific School of Journalism, where students could potentially travel back to their home countries to gain experience through work with the National IW R2R Projects. The purpose of the paper is so that the project will move away from a single media outlet and to provide the RPCU with a discretion to explore multiple stakeholder partnerships, as efficient and effective.

Tuvalu is utilising its IW R2R budget to develop awareness materials while at the same time looking at opportunities for staff to receive training and to acquire skills in the development of awareness materials. The RPCU considered the comments raised by Tuvalu.

Cook Islands applauded the paper and moved to adopt the recommendations and the document. The motion was seconded by PNG.

The 'Media and Communications Partnerships' document was adopted by the RPSC2.

11. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND SHARING

11.1. Draft Guide for Online Register of R2R Experts and Practitioners

The Officer in Charge of the GEF Pacific R2R IW Project, Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo presented the discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/10 'Draft Guide for Online Register of R2R Experts and Practitioners'

The RPSC was invited to consider, review and consider endorsement of the draft guide for the development of an online register of R2R Experts and Practitioners.

Questions/Comments

Vanuatu sought clarification from the RPCU if the criteria and minimum requirements to the roster was subject to change and should the nominated expert meet all the listed criteria. The RPCU informed that the RPSC can decide on what the minimum criteria should be.

Niue sought clarification on the nomination of experts to which RPCU clarified that experts from all sectors can be included in the roster and contacts in related programs within the private sectors or CSOs.

Samoa acknowledged the paper presented by the RPCU and suggested '*number of assignments or number of years working in the region*' as one of the criteria to be included. Samoa also raised that *community and M& E* under scientific technical areas, split between social sciences. SPREP and other agencies also have networks of experts that the RPSC could engage with and could be included in the R2R Experts roster. Samoa further questioned whether the experts' roster will be a living document or is it only for the project timeframe. The RPCU responded to Samoa and agreed that in terms of including experts and practitioners from development agencies, regional and international, the purpose of the roster is also to capture all those details whether they are from nominating parties or from SPREP. Countries were encouraged to include experts from other regional and international organisations, because the roster will be absorbed by SPC beyond the life of the project and will continue to be a resource to the region in terms of experts and practitioners for R2R. In terms of the scientific and technical areas, the areas will change over time as it is reviewed by the regional scientific and technical committee of the project.

Niue sought clarification on who would be approving nominations. The RPCU informed the meeting that the approval is attained from the nominating parties and there is a responsibility to ensure that the nominations meet the minimum criteria before they are entered into the roster.

Cook Islands acknowledged the sentiments raised by the RPSC colleagues and expressed that the paper reflected the merits of what the R2R project and SPC is all about. GSD is the largest repository of technical and scientific publications, reports, data and metadata and the RPSC need to be credible with professional experts in these area and to be assured of credible datasets that will improve services to pacific island nationals. The expertise that SPC will provide and the need for certified and credible data is what the countries need and the document presented can be recognised as a living document.

Cook Islands moved to adopt the *R2R Experts and Practitioners* recommendations. The RPSC agreed and the *R2R Experts and Practitioners* recommendations was endorsed by the RPSC2.

12. A SCIENCE-BASED APPROACH RAPID ASSESSMENT OF PRIORITY COASTAL AREAS (RAPCA)

12.1. Planning for the State of the Coasts Reporting

The Chairperson invited the Regional Science Officer, Ms. Newland to present the discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2.1/11 'State of the Coasts (SoC) Draft Table of Contents'. The document provided a brief background on the development and structure of the State of the Coast reporting process and presented a draft Table of Contents for national State of the Coast Reports. Committee members were invited to make comments on the key attributes of the draft State of the Coast Report.

Questions/Comments

Samoa acknowledged the RPCU in including the RPSC for planning in State of the Coasts and the exercises.

UNDP shared with the RPSC about a project in Asia that has been using Integrated Coastal Management as a tool for CCA and advised the RPCU to invite the ICM project in Asia to the next science SPC or at the next RPSC meeting to present their experiences on the project. Mr. Padilla (UNDP) offered to provide a name that the RPCU could send an invitation to.

12.2. SoCs Diagnostic Report Contents and Schedule for Preparation

Further, Ms. Newland presented discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2.1/12 '*State of the Coasts Diagnostic Report Contents and Schedule for Preparation*'. This document provided background on the development and structure of the diagnostic analysis process and presented a draft Table of Contents for national SoC Diagnostic Analysis.

The RPSC was invited to make comments on the key attributes of the Diagnostic Report.

Questions/Comments

Cook Islands was interested in being involved in the next State of the coasts assessment. The assessment needs to be developed in country for all pacific island countries while there is support available to young IW project managers. The Cook Islands also acknowledged the support of the RPCU with the engagement of national consultants that will be paid for by the regional programme component. The work will also require staffing to assist in carrying out the work. Cook Islands further

inquired if there would be regional support provided that will allow for other entities to be part of the assessment process.

Tuvalu informed the meeting that the Tuvalu STAR project will be conducting a coastal assessment in October 2017 and inquired if there would be synergies with the IW assessment process. The RPCU responded and agreed that there will be a number of synergies between the two project's assessments. The IW rapid coastal assessment has a specific set of indicators, therefore it won't be covering the same suite of parameters for the STAR assessments. The IW may be able to use some of the data collected by the STAR project to be fed into the State of the Coasts assessments while some of the data collected through the IW rapid coastal assessments maybe fed into the STAR assessments work.

12.3. Rapid Assessment of Priority Coastal Areas Methodology Piloting

The Chair invited the Project and Science Leader, Dr Sobey, to present discussion document SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/13 '*Rapid Assessment of Priority Coastal Areas (RAPCA)*' which outlined the progress to date on the Rapid Coastal Assessment methodology and indicators developed thus far.

Dr. Sobey elaborated on the Rapid Coastal Assessment process and explicitly highlighted that monitoring in the region is erratic and there is a need for monitoring the monitoring process. Countries need to consider a monitoring program in particular for the baseline surveys that will be included to ensure that there is an existing benchmark by which to measure if the interventions are making an impact.

Power point presentation on the RAPCA can be accessed at:

<http://www.pacific-r2r.org/r2r-documents/rsc-meeting-documents/rpsc2-presentations>

12.4. RAPCA Roll Out Schedule and National Implementation

Dr Sobey than presented a schedule of countries where the Regional Project Coordination unit will seek to conduct the RAPCA before the mid-term review and the preparations required in-country.

Questions/Comments

Cook Islands requested for the opportunity to hold an Inception workshop with the sub regional meeting in November 2018. The RPCU agreed with Cook Islands.

PNG suggested to move the sub-regional meeting to the 1st or 2nd week of December due to the public service end of year breaks. The suggestion has been noted by the RPCU.

Tuvalu will hold the Diagnostic Workshop in 2018 as confirmed by the RPCU.

UNDP sought clarification on how the priority site is determined and if it considered the geological boundary. The RPCU clarified that the priority sites is predetermined by the government and is one of the main outputs of the diagnostics analysis workshop. UNDP further advised the countries to select priority sites that will later on feed into further developments and policies.

13. MAINSTREAMING R2R INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

13.1. Presentation from Samoa, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment on integrating R2R into national development planning

13.2 Interactive joint working groups on national development planning

The Regional Project Coordinating Unit (RPCU) facilitated a working group for National IW and STAR Projects where the RPSC were tasked to identify national planning cycles and entry points for mainstreaming R2R.



14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

UNDP suggested that countries report back at the next RPSC meeting on the status of the IW-STAR engagement and synergies. The RPCU agreed and informed the meeting that Chapter 7 of the Mid-Term Review report requires the countries to report back on the synergies.

Venue for the RPSC3 Meeting 2018

The Marshall Islands moved that the RPSC3 meeting be held in Honolulu. Vanuatu seconded the motion by RMI.

Samoa further suggested to take advantage of the partnership that had been established with JCU and to hold the next meeting in Townsville, Australia followed by a short course on campus. Dr. Sobey responded and informed the meeting that Townsville had been considered already due to the Post Graduate course, however with no confirmation yet. The RPCU noted the suggestion by Samoa.

UNDP supported the motion put forward by Marshall Islands to hold the next meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii considering that there will be no ECW meeting in 2018.

Cook Islands echoed the consensus of RPSC2 to hold RPSC3 in Honolulu. It was also suggested by the Cook Islands that a Science Congress be held at the venue in RPSC3. Samoa supported the suggestion raised by Cook Islands and requested SPC's support in providing science products to the RPSC and other services that SPC GSD is able to assist with.

The SPC GSD Interim Director responded to Samoa and informed the meeting of the STAR scientific and technical conference that the RPSC could use as an opportunity to engage in and benefit from. In terms of engaging with GSD for technical support and assistance, the R2R country projects will need to carry out advanced planning with the GSD technical programmes so that any technical assistance requested for by the countries will need to be included in the annual work plan for 2018.

The participants were invited to participate in a 2nd Regional Program Steering Committee meeting evaluation. Please refer to Annex 5 for a summary of the meeting evaluation.

15. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

Ms. Rosamond Bing, CEO for the Tonga Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources delivered the closing remarks with special acknowledgments to the meeting facilitators, presenters, implementing agencies, SPC and the RPCU. Ms. Bing also acknowledged Solomon Islands and the RPSC for acknowledging the passing of the late Tonga MLNR CEO.

The RPSC2 Chair further expressed the sincere appreciation to Tonga for hosting the RPSC2 meeting followed by a few remarks by the Vice Chair.

On behalf of the RPSC2 participants, Cook Islands commended and acknowledged the support and guidance of the SPC Geoscience Division and implementing agencies UNDP, FAO and UNE throughout the week.

SPC Remarks

SPC delivered special acknowledgments to the RPSC2 Chair for guiding the meeting throughout the week and as well to the participants and the presentations that were delivered.

SPC greatly acknowledged as well the presence and support of the R2R GEF Implementing Agencies – FAO, UNDP and UNE. It was further echoed by SPC that one of the major outcomes for the RPCU was managing to impart on countries the programmatic approach, synergies and integration. Countries had somehow demonstrated that progression through the feedback session.

A Special Thanks was also directed to the Government of Tonga for hosting the RPSC2 meeting, the SPC Interim Director for his support and participation and to the RPCU for the considerable effort in ensuring that the week was conducted successfully.



Primary school children observe during a technical site visit to Fua'amotu village.



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



ANNEX 1

SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/Inf.1

Date: 24th July, 2017

Original: English

2nd Regional Programme Steering Committee Meeting for the GEF/UNDP/SPC Project Entitled: “Ridge to Reef – Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries”
Nuku’alofa, Tonga 31st July – 4th August, 2017

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ANNEX 2

SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/Inf.2

Date: 26th July 2017

Original: English

2nd Regional Steering Committee Meeting for the GEF/SPC/UNDP Project Entitled: “Ridge to Reef – Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries”

Nuku’alofa, Tonga, 31st July – 4th August, 2017

PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Discussion Documents

SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/1	Provisional Agenda
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/2	Provisional Annotated Agenda
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/3	RSC1 Meeting Report
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/4	Meeting Report (<i>to be prepared during the meeting</i>)
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/5	Project Implementation Report of the Project Manager on the Status of the GEF R2R International Waters Project
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/6	Regional Workplan and Budget for the GEF Pacific R2R IW Project
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/7	Building Capacity for R2R: Post Graduate Certificate
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/8	Mid-Term Review and Mid-Term Project Reports
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/9	Gender Mainstreaming Progress Report
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/10	Media and Communications Partnerships
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/11	Draft guide for Online Register of R2R Experts and Practitioners
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/12	Rapid Assessment of Priority Coastal Areas (RAPCA)
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/13	State of the Coasts (SoCs) Draft Table of Contents
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.2/14	State of the Coasts Diagnostic Report Contents and Schedule for Preparation

Information Documents

SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.Inf 1	Provisional List of Participants
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.Inf 2	Provisional List of Documents (<i>this document</i>)
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.Inf 3	Draft Programme
SPC/GEF-R2R/PPSC.Inf 4	MSC Training Programme



ANNEX 3

SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/1

Date: 26th July 2017

Original: English

2nd Regional Steering Committee Meeting for the GEF/SPC/UNDP Project Entitled: “Ridge to Reef – Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries”

Nuku’alofa, Tonga 31st July – 4th August 2017

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**
 - 1.1. Opening prayer
 - 1.2. Welcome remarks from Dr Fononga Mangisi-Mafileo, GEF/UNDP/SPC Regional IW R2R project OIC, on behalf of SPC and the Regional Programme Coordinating Unit
 - 1.3. Welcome remarks from Dr Jose Padilla, Chief Technical Adviser, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub on behalf of the GEF Implementing Agencies
 - 1.4. Official opening address by Hon. Semisi Fahau, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Tonga
 - 1.5. Benediction
 - 1.6. Group photos and media interviews
- 2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING**
 - 2.1. Introduction of the Participants
 - 2.2. Election of Officers (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson; and 2 Rapporteurs)
 - 2.3. Documentation available to the meeting
 - 2.4. Programme of work and arrangements for the conduct of the meeting
 - 2.5. Adoption of the Report of Inception and 1st RSC Meeting
- 3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA**
- 4. STATUS OF THE GEF PACIFIC RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAMME**
 - 4.1. An overview of the programme structure, including the interlinked GEF Pacific R2R STAR Projects and the GEF Pacific R2R International Waters
 - 4.2. Presentation of the purpose, goals and objectives of the GEF R2R International Waters
 - 4.3. Report of the Project Manager on the Status of the SPC Regional IW R2R Project
 - 4.4. Plans for Mid-Term Evaluation of the GEF IW R2R Project
- 5. PRESENTATION OF THE REGIONAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET FOR THE GEF PACIFIC R2R IW PROJECT**

- 6. COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS ON NATIONAL-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GEF PACIFIC RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAMME: ANNUAL STATUS REPORTS AND WORKPLANS**

- 7. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR R2R**
 - 7.1. Presentation on Post Graduate Certificate for Ridge to Reef Sustainable Development

- 8. MID-TERM REVIEW**
 - 8.1. Consideration of draft National Mid-Term Reports
 - 8.2. Mid-Term Review Requirements and Checklist

- 9. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING**
 - 9.1. Stakeholder Engagement best practice from Tonga
 - 9.2. Gender Mainstreaming Progress Report

- 10. GEF RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAMME COMMUNICATIONS**
 - 10.1. Media and Communications Partnerships

- 11. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND SHARING**
 - 11.1. Draft guide for the development of an Online Register of R2R Experts and Practitioners

- 12. A SCIENCE-BASED APPROACH RAPID ASSESSMENT OF PRIORITY COASTAL AREAS (RAPCA)**
 - 12.1. State of the Coasts (SoCs) Draft ToC for Consideration and Endorsement
 - 12.2. SoCs Diagnostic Report Contents and Schedule for Preparation.
 - 12.3. RAPCA Methodology Piloting
 - 12.4. RAPCA Pilot Results and Recommendations and Endorsement
 - 12.5. RAPCA Roll Out Schedule and National Implementation

- 13. MAINSTREAMING R2R INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**
 - 13.1. Interactive working groups between IW and STAR Project Teams

- 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 15. CLOSURE**

ANNEX 4

TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

Award ID:	84701	Project ID(s):	92601
Award Title:	Ridge to Reef - Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries		
Business Unit:	FJI10		
Project Title:	Ridge to Reef - Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries		
PIMS no.	5221		
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency)	SPC's Geoscience Division		

WORKPLAN Output	2017		2018		Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount (USD) Year 1	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)	2017/18
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2									
Output 1.1.1 - 14 national pilot project area diagnostics based on R2R approach including: baseline environmental state and social data incorporating CC vulnerabilities; and local governance of water, land, forests and coasts reviewed					71200	International Consultants	26,230	26,230	26,230	26,230	-	104,920	24000
					71300	Local Consultants	52,500	52,500	52,500	52,500	-	210,000	50000
					71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	628,676	628,676	628,676	628,676	-	2,514,704	600,000
Output 1.1.2 - 14 national pilot projects test methods for catalyzing local community action, utilizing and providing best practice examples, and building institutional linkages for integrated land, forest, water and coastal management					71600	Travel on official business	135,094	135,094	135,094	135,094	-	540,376	172950
					72100	Contractual Services - Companies	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	-	84,000	20000
Output 1.2.1 - Priority areas for replication in each of 14 participating PICs characterized in diagnostics for ICM/IWRM reforms, investments and CC adaptation in 14 PICs					72200	Equipment and Furniture	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	-	700,000	150,000
Output 1.2.2 - Methodology and procedures for characterizing island coastal areas for ICM investment developed					72400	Communications and Audio-Visual Equipment	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	-	30,000	7000
					72500	Supplies	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	-	84,000	20000
Output 1.3.1 - Institutional relationships between national and community-based					72800	Information Technology Equipment	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	-	70,000	16800

WORKPLAN Output	2017		2018		Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount (USD) Year 1	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)	2017/18
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2									
governance structures strengthened and formalized through national "Ridge to Reef" Inter-Ministry Committees in 14 Pacific SIDS					74200	Audio-Visual and Printing Production Costs	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	-	84,000	5000
Output 1.3.2 - 14 national private-sector and donor partnership forums for investment planning in priority community-based ICM/IWRM actions					74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	-	28,000	5000
Total Component 1							1,112,500	1,112,500	1,112,500	1,112,500	-	4,450,000	1,070,750
Output 2.1.1 - Innovative post-graduate training program in ICM/IWRM and related CC adaptation delivered for project managers and participating stakeholders through partnership of internationally recognized educational institutes and technical support and mentoring program with results documented					71200	International Consultants	62,500	62,500	62,500	62,500	-	250,000	60,000
Output 2.1.2 - Capacity for civil society and community organization participation in ICM/IWRM and CC adaptation strengthened through direct involvement in implementation of demo activities with results documented					71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	54,892	54,892	54,892	54,892	-	219,568	58500
Output 2.2.1 - National human capacity needs for ICM/IWRM implementation identified and competencies of national and local government units for ICM/IWRM implementation benchmarked, tracked, and capacity building support secured with results documented					71600	Travel on official business	122,467	122,467	122,467	122,467	-	489,868	110,000
Output 2.2.2 - Existing Public Service Commission salary scales and required functional competencies of key ICM/IWRM personnel analyzed; appropriate guidelines and incentive structures explored to encourage retention skilled and experienced staff					72100	Contractual Services - Companies	140,141	140,141	140,141	140,141	-	560,564	243600
					74100	Professional services	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	10,000	1000
					74200	Audio-Visual and Printing Production Costs	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	120,000	
Total Component 2							412,500	412,500	412,500	412,500	-	1,650,000	473,100

WORKPLAN Output	2017		2018		Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount (USD) Year 1	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)	2017/18
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2									
Output 4.2.3 - Established Pacific R2R Network, online regional and national portals containing among others, databases, rosters of national and regional experts and practitioners on R2R, register of national and regional projects, repository for best practice R2R technologies, lessons learned etc.					74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	18,500	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	98,500	15,500
Total Component 4							198,800	200,300	200,300	200,300	200,300	1,000,000	268,100
Output 5.1.1 - Functioning overall R2R program coordination unit with alignment of development worker positions contributing to coordinated effort among national R2R projects (Year 1)					71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	122,960	122,960	122,960	122,960	122,960	614,800	800000
Output 5.1.2 - Technical, operational, reporting and monitoring support provided to national R2R projects, as may be requested by PICs, to facilitate timely delivery of overall program goals					71600	Travel on official business	167,124	167,124	167,124	167,124	167,124	835,620	517000
Output 5.1.3 - Assistance provided to participating countries in the Pacific R2R network, harmonized reporting and monitoring and other regional and national and capacity building modules, among others					72400	Communications and Audio-Visual Equipment	10,116	10,116	10,116	10,116	10,116	50,580	8,000
Output 5.1.4 - Periodic planning and coordination workshops conducted for national project teams in the Pacific R2R network					74100	Professional services	13,118	13,116	13,116	13,116	13,116	65,582	10,200
					74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000	5000
Total Component 5							315,318	315,316	315,316	315,316	315,316	1,576,582	1,340,200
Project Admin and accounting					71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	74,509	74,507	74,507	74,507	74,507	372,537	75000
Office running					72200	Equipment and Furniture	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000	1950
Equipment maintenance					72400	Communications and Audio-Visual Equipment	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000	4000
Office supplies					72500	Supplies	5,037	5,037	5,003	5,037	5,003	25,117	6000
Communications/Connectivity					72800	Information Technology Equipment	6,116	6,116	6,116	6,116	6,116	30,580	6100
					73400	Rental and maintenance of other equipment	800	800	800	800	800	4,000	1300
					74100	Professional services	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	60,000	20000

WORKPLAN	2017		2018		Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount (USD) Year 1	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)	2017/18
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2									
Output 3.1.1 - National recommendations for 14 PICs for coastal policy, legal and budgetary reforms for ICM/IWRM for integration of land, water, forest, coastal management and CC adaptation compiled and documented with options for harmonization of governance frameworks					71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	119,896	119,896	119,896	119,895	-	479,583	30,000
Output 3.1.2 - Inter-ministerial agreements and strategic action frameworks for 14 PICs on integration of land, water, forest and coastal management and capacity building in development of national ICM/IWRM reforms and investment plans endorsed by leaders					71600	Travel on official business	58,740	58,741	58,741	58,741	-	234,963	30,000
Output 3.1.3 - National 'State of the Coasts' reports for 14 PICs completed and launched to Pacific Leaders during National Coastal Summits (Yr 3) in coordination with national R2R projects and demonstrated as national development planning tool, including guidelines for diagnostic analyses of coastal areas					74100	Professional services	74,614	74,613	74,613	74,614	-	298,454	65,700
Output 3.2.1 - 14 national networks of national ICM/IWRM pilot project inter-ministry committees formed by building on existing IWRM committees and contributing to a common results framework at the project and program levels					74200	Audio-Visual and Printing Production Costs	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	-	112,000	22,000
Output 3.2.2 - Periodic inter-ministry committee meetings in 14 PICS conducted and results documented, participation data assembled and reported to national decision-makers and regional forums					Total Outcome 3		281,250	281,250	281,250	281,250	0	1,125,000	147,700
Output 4.1.1 - National and regional reporting templates developed based on national indicator sets and regional framework to facilitate annual results reporting and monitoring from 14 PICs					71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	79,700	79,700	79,700	79,700	79,700	398,500	158100
Output 4.1.2 - Unified/harmonized multi-focal area results tracking approach and analytical tool developed and proposed to the GEF, its agencies and participating countries					71600	Travel on official business	46,000	46,000	46,000	46,000	46,000	230,000	18000
Output 4.1.3 - National planning exercises in 14 Pac SIDS conducted with relevant ministries on embedding R2R results frameworks into national systems for reporting, monitoring and budgeting					74100	Professional services	54,600	54,600	54,600	54,600	54,600	273,000	95000

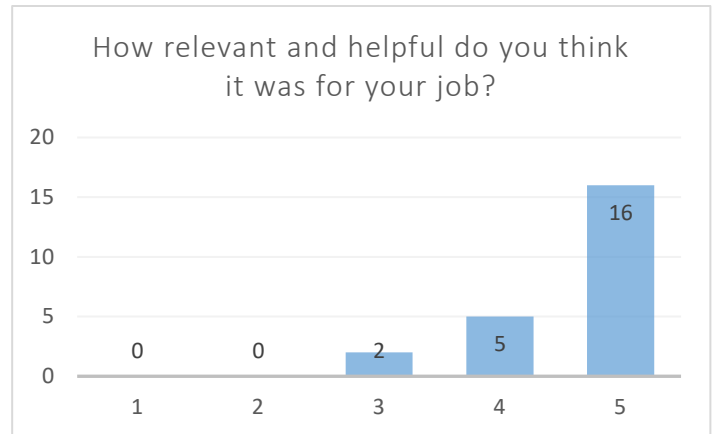
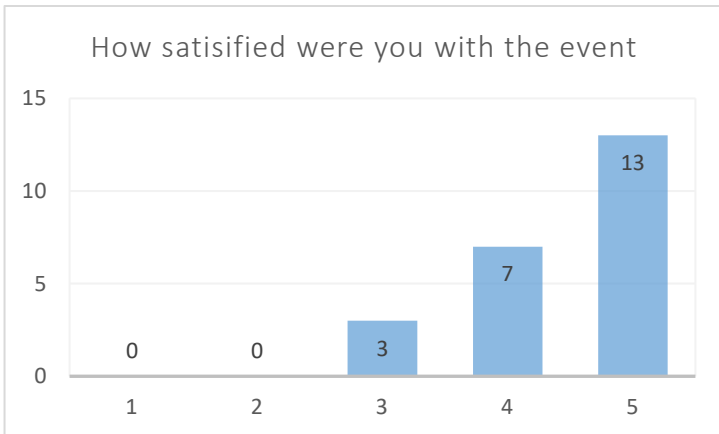
WORKPLAN	2017		2018		Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount (USD) Year 1	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)	2017/18
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2									
Output					74500	DPC (Cost Recovery Charge)	714	714	748	714	748	3,638	900
					Total Project Management		103,176	103,174	103,174	103,174	103,174	515,872	115,250
							2,423,544	2,425,040	2,425,040	2,425,040	618,790	10,317,454	3,415,100

ANNEX 5

GEF Pacific R2R RPSC2 Meeting Evaluation

Thank you for participating in the 2nd GEF Pacific R2R Regional Programme Steering Committee. We hope you had as much fun attending as we did organizing it.

We want to hear your feedback so we can keep improving our logistics and content. Please fill this quick survey and let us know your thoughts (your answers will be anonymous).

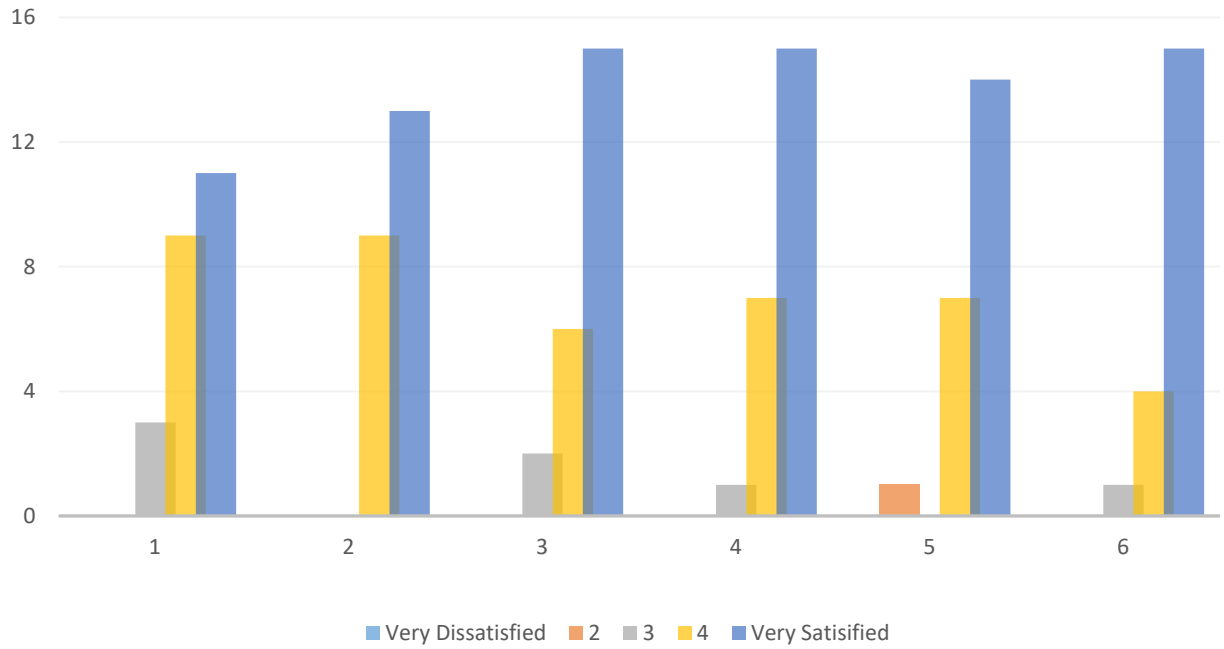


1 = Not very
5 = Very much

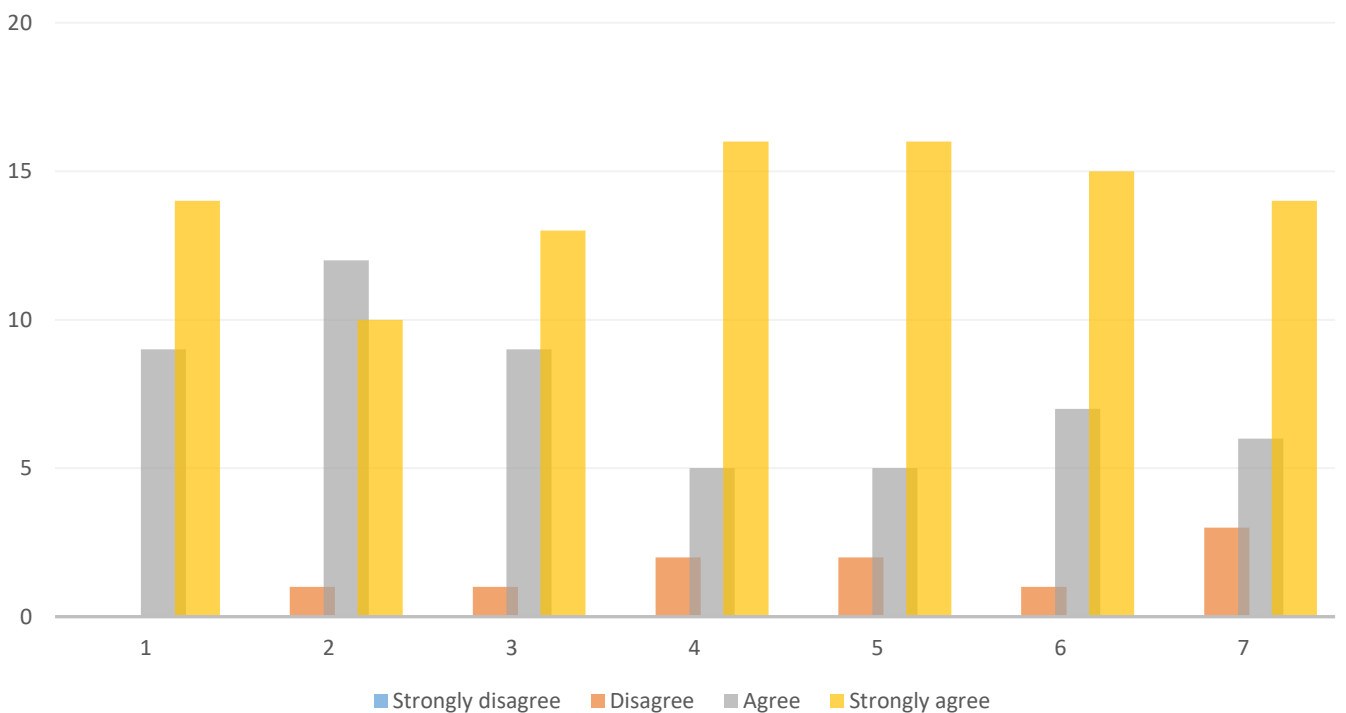
What were your key take aways from this event?



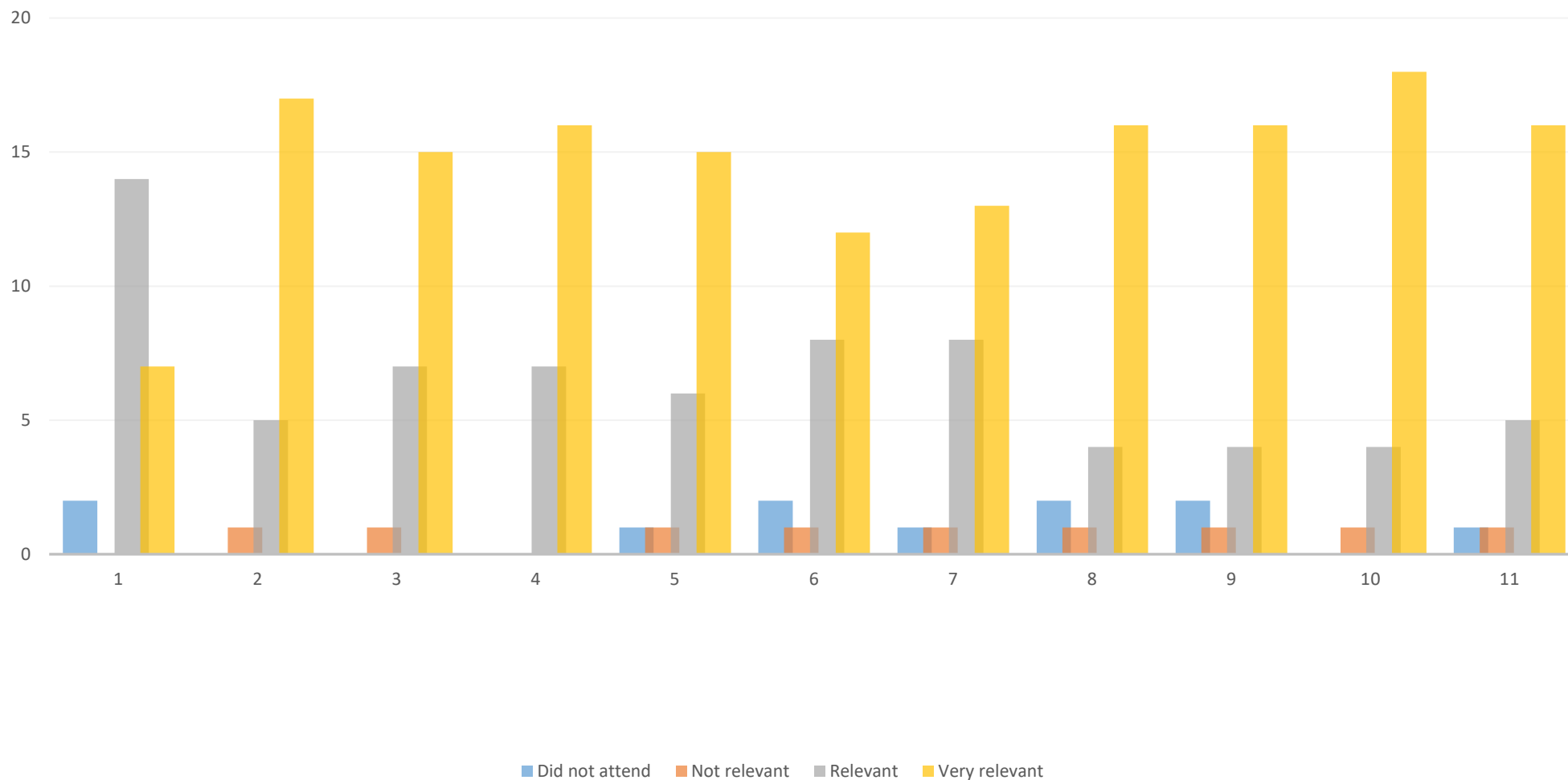
How satisfied were you with the meeting logistics?

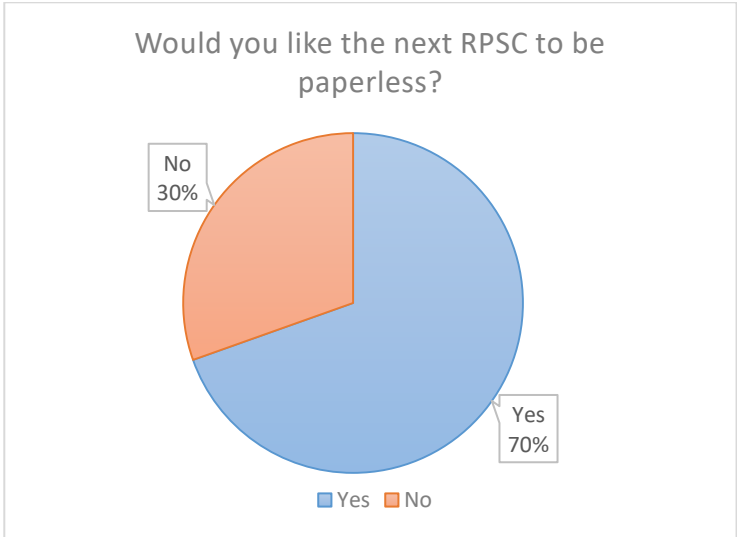
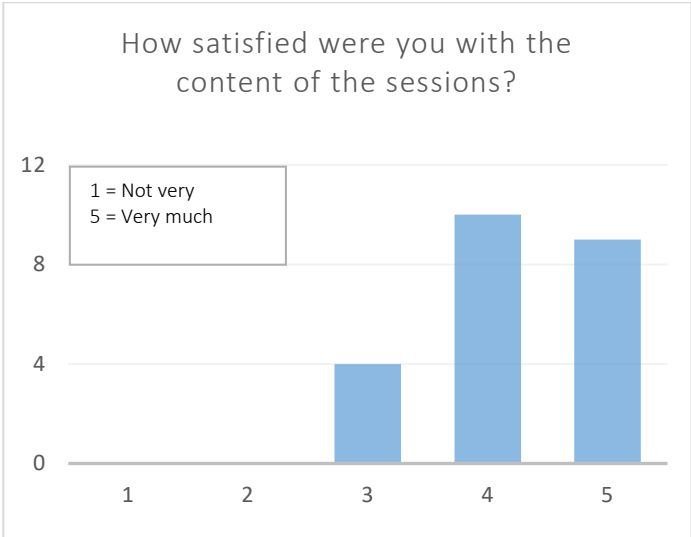


Meeting proceedings



Which sessions did you find most relevant?





Overall feedback for the event



What were your key take aways from this event?

- Better coordination with the IW project
- Try to find out Synergies between IWR2R and STAR project. Also Rapid Assessment of Priority Coastal Areas (RAPCA)
- 1. Good partnership framework process, lessons learnt on project management, communication skills and good planning.
- There is a link between IW R2R and STAR R2R
- Adding regional activities to our annual work plans
- discussions with experts
- Understanding the significance of looking at the IW and STAR projects at a programmatic approach rather than treating them as separate projects -- to avoid duplication of activities and maximize benefits of our limited resources.
- There are a lot of/significant synergies within the Pacific R2R Program between the IW and STAR Projects. These synergies allow for collaboration and resource sharing ensuring the success of the project and achievement of results.
- Experiences from other countries with their implementation of IW R2R and star projects
- Marrying the two projects together (i.e R2R IWP and STAR) is possible to ensure the maximum positive impact of the two projects on the community's livelihoods
- Collaboration, The coordinated Structure of the RSC to realize focused dialogue, the workshop exercises to create understanding of the synergies between R2R IW and R2R STAR
- 1. Using programmatic approach to implement both IW and STAR projects in the countries; 2. The IW R2R national projects should marry the STAR and other opportunities in the country to support implementation of work.
- Synergies between STAR and IW R2R Projects, and the Funding support from RPCU on Regional Component Activities
- The opportunity to share experiences is always appreciated. I enjoyed the open discussions throughout the meeting.
- Harmonize R2R IW with R2R STAR
- The importance of IW R2R Regional Project and STAR R2R project to work closely together to implement activities accordingly without any duplication of activities. In addition, sharing resources is important.
- Better understanding of the project linkages between the IW and STAR projects
- Gaining a better understanding of both the IW R2R and the Star R2R Projects and how my role in my current position and activities we implement can complement both projects.
- Know how the IW R2R finance system works
- Synergies
- Being able to identify linkages between the IW R2R and the National STAR Projects
- Significance of linking the STAR and IW projects (marriage)
- Networking with other star and IW staff learning that we have the same challenges and issues

Additional feedback on logistics

- Travel issue was with GEF
- All satisfied
- Satisfactory arrangement
- No
- If possible activities start on time.
- nothing
- Too many sites in such a short period of time, hence, participants were exhausted and lost interest.
- Logistic
- credit to SPC PMU team, Tonga and Vere for the well done logistical arrangements
- The complete set of meeting documents should be well prepared in advance prior the meeting.
- Well organised
- Just want to reiterate my utmost appreciation to Team Tonga and RPCU staff for putting us in this nice hotel and taking us on the best fieldtrip ever.
- None

- Tonga proved to be a great host and SPC giving them that freedom didn't go unnoticed. Thoroughly a well organised week.
- Well done
- To have all participants to remain in the host country until the meeting is closed as some of the participants left on the last day in which they have to leave the meeting while it is still commencing in order to catch their flight back home.
- it was nicely executed!
- All staffs were awesome and very interactive with country participants
- None
- All good
- There is no clear housekeeping announcements at the beginning of the meeting in terms of internet access and inclusions of breakfast to the accommodation.
- Some participants would prefer giving them the options for choosing their own accommodation and meals
- I was very satisfied with everything

Additional feedback on meeting proceedings

- none
- satisfied
- Satisfactory arrangement
- No
- N/A
- nothing
- The meeting purpose was clear, with the objective being achieved at the end of the week.
- This year's meeting was a great success. It was an open dialogue with Gender equal discussions and the field trip was very useful and interactive. The flow of the program was clear as well as the presented papers requesting decisions.
- none at this time
- Meeting conduct in accordance with the agenda should also be looked into.
- The Chairman top table should be where the podium is and the setup maybe in the next RSC be more in a half circle so that we can see whose speaking
- The proceeding was OK.
- The meeting was well organized and coordinated. I have no further comment to offer.
- I appreciated the frank discussion on the budget and work plan in the beginning. It was a great opportunity for STAR to also see their linkages with the IW project.
- Well done
- To ensure that the length of the meeting stays within the allocated time in the agenda and programme to avoid finishing late and not being able to have tea/coffee breaks.
- should be facilitated and run mainly by the participants
- Meeting proceedings was good.
- None
- Particularly enjoyed the sharing environment that was created during these sessions that allowed participants to feel comfortable enough to ask questions, engage, discuss and form relationships between countries.
- Proceedings are satisfactory
- The Chair should be in control of the discussions instead of letting the participants controlling.
- Excellent

Any additional comments regarding the sessions or overall agenda?

- Some of the sessions were too long and exhaustive.
- This year's Agenda is much better than the 1st meeting. Malo Aupito to Tonga and SPC for the great Organisation.
- This well-structured and tiered to reflect the next agenda item
- None
- The team from SPC, UNDP did a great job with organising the sessions.
- If possible to send all presentations and meeting documents a week prior to the meeting dates for participants to have enough time to go through the meeting documents and presentations.
- I learned a lot from the sessions. Very relevant take home message.
- None
- Overall agenda was fine. The prints should have been available a day in advance for pre read before the actual sessions

Has the meeting enhanced your understanding of the R2R programmatic approach? Please explain

- yes, in how we can better coordinate between the two projects
- Yes the meeting has broaden my knowledge in project planning and effective management.
- Exactly
- Yes
- Yes. Following an overall plan or approach may prove advantageous
- the emphasis on the presentations
- Yes. I now have a better understanding of how these two projects can be integrated to ensure activities are not duplicated.
- Yes. It has reinforced our understanding of many parts of the R2R implementation.
- Yes through the synergies/linkages presentations with the two projects and linkages to national sustainable development plans
- Yes. The meeting provided an opportunity to learn how to address a particular environmental issue through an integrated approach through the community, council and government engagement.
- Yes, it contributed to improved understanding of the need for the wellbeing of a village, Island and the Nation as a whole
- It most certainly enhance my understanding. I now know that the IW and the STAR are not separate projects but one program.
- Sure did.
- Yes it has, understanding the complexity of how this will roll out was good. The need to highlight that the IW project is to be considered Demo projects to reflect impact on the ground was well received. This needs more iteration.
- Yes
- Yes.
- finding the linkages - helped with future development and collaboration of projects and national mandate activities
- Yes, meeting enhanced my understanding and I now see where I can contribute more to both projects.
- I know when and how to apply for adequate funds to keep the work momentum
- Yes
- Yes this meeting has made the programmatic approach clear through identification and examination of the linkages between IW R2R and STAR Projects
- Yes. Very much
- Star and IW working together to make a better sustainable Nauru

Any ideas for future meetings?

- time limit on country presentations
- NO
- Appreciate similar arrangement and field trips is highly recommended.
- Paperless, everyone is equipped with laptops and network or internet is getting better.
- Please provide individual country face time with RPCU
- None
- For future meetings, it would be good to stretch out each session to allow participants time to fully review what is required from them. Also, the amount of information provided was very overwhelming for one week worth of work.
- Perhaps to test a paperless meeting. The internet access was good and can allow for paperless meetings in the future.
- Summarise the activities of the group exercises and present in the next meeting
- Meeting documents required RPSC's endorsement shall be discussed separately with the exercises group works.
- We commence with an Opening Prayer, we close with a Closing Prayer. All Meals will need the Blessings also. Second, I seek that no workshop is conducted on a Saturday to give participants a free day to include Sunday. If there is a need, a one on one is proposed should the countries require that
- As much as possible, we should try to go paperless in our meetings.
- None
- Where possible, to have paperless (or papers) emailed or downloadable online before the meeting.
- Keep going
- For group work to have a mixture of countries in groups to enable countries to learn from other countries and to share experiences as well as assisting other countries in the implementation of activities for those countries who have successfully implemented activities.
- should be an overall pacific owned - not too complicated and frustrated!
- To have future meetings be very similar to this meeting in Tonga well-arranged and very educational for me as a new comer to the R2R projects.
- None
- Retain this organisational team for future RPSC meetings, better communications in the interim would be appreciated
- Future meetings should have project management refresher workshop for project managers
- In future meetings, please send meeting documents to all of us the officers registered to attend rather than just to the Project Managers.
- All's good

Any overall feedback for the event?

- Thank you for an informative and interactive workshop
- The event was all good
- Thanks for the overall arrangement and the hospitality of the host country.
- None
- Grateful that workshops were not held at night like last year. Overall very good RPSC.
- Financial support to participants must be considered to be more helpful
- I loved the SC meeting. I learned more about integrating and aligning synergies between STAR and IW R2R.
- Malo 'Aupito nothing more to add. Hoping that future meetings will be as impressive as this one.
- None at this time
- Generally the whole session is interactive where we had the opportunity to share and learn lessons from other Countries' R2R successful programs.
- This is an excellent meeting.
- I do want to thank Dr. Inga, Dr. Milika, Vere, the RPCU media group and our Tonga counterparts, and members of the committee for a great meeting. See you all in Honolulu next year.

- none
- The team involved including the host country went above and beyond during this meeting and we truly appreciate it.
- Well done
- To have breakdown of DSA available for each participant and if possible to give an opportunity for participants to choose their preferred hotel and to pay full DSA including accommodations to all participants.
- felt achieved with more interaction in comparison to other/previous meetings - should be kept and feel "locally" run
- The event was awesome, host country was well organized and very friendly staff and food was awesome too. All sessions were never boring and always something to learn from. I really enjoyed the meeting and having free access to internet was very convenient as well. Meeting was awesome overall!
- None
- Much much better than the 1st RPSC so let's build on this level of engagement and capacity built for all participants to deliver and communicate great results.
- Overall the event was successful in providing a clear understanding of the programmatic approach
- It was an awesome experience for me as a first timer to the Kingdom of Tonga. MALO!
- Every day was productive with discussions and activities