



GEF IW R2R/ RSC.5/ 05  
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**Fifth Regional Steering Committee Meeting (Virtual) for the GEF Pacific International Waters Ridge to Reef 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*

Suva, Fiji 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

**STATUS OF THE REGIONAL IW R2R PROJECT**

**Summary:**

This document details the Status of Implementation of the Regional International Waters Ridge to Reef (IW R2R) Project. Below is a summary of the assessments by SPC, UNDP and the UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser.

Generally, the overall rating of the project implementation progress has improved to moderately satisfactory since last reported at the RSC meeting year. However, there was no change in the overall rating relative to achieving development objective, currently levelled at moderately unsatisfactory. The contributing factors to the ratings are detailed in the paper.

Overall Rating	July 2018 – June 2019	July 2019 – June 2020
Development Objective (DO)	Moderately Unsatisfactory	<b>Moderately Unsatisfactory</b>
Implementation Progress (IP)	Moderately Unsatisfactory	<b>Moderately Satisfactory</b>

**Recommendation:**

The RSC is invited to review and note progress of implementation as set out in this document and use the highlights as basis for providing strategic focus and advice in the remaining project duration.

## **Implementation Status of the Regional International Waters Ridge to Reef Project**

### **Introduction**

1. The implementation status of the Regional IW R2R project has been generally positive despite the challenges. The overall rating of the project implementation progress has improved to moderately satisfactory since last reported at the RSC meeting year. This was driven largely by renewed commitments and approaches of the national projects taking advantage of opportunities available and technical support from RPCU and partners to progress implementation. Unfortunately, the project is still some time yet to achieve its intended objectives and outcomes, hence, rating of moderately unsatisfactory.
2. The paper provides clear account of the Regional IW R2R project implementation progress. It is largely based on the Annual Project Implementation Report (PIR) that was submitted to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) covering the period July 2019 to June 2020. The reporting coverage is maintained and aligned with the usual reporting coverage of this project to ensure consistency.
3. Below is a summary of the assessments by SPC, UNDP and the UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser.

### **SPC / Regional Programme Coordination Unit – Project Manager/Coordinator**

4. Despite the significant delay, the project was able to bounce-back and regained its momentum during this reporting period. The UNDP-commissioned midterm review (MTR) mission has confirmed several positive results that the project produced. On this basis, a Multi-Year Costed Workplan (MYCWP) of the Regional IW R2R project was crafted with a clear vision for an enhanced and effective implementation. It was also the MYCWP and the MTR recommendations that were primarily used as basis for requesting for the no-cost extension from UNDP.
5. During the reporting period July 2019 to June 2020, the project was able to fulfil the minimum deliverables especially those that were planned for July to December 2019. A number of these outputs are enumerated below: -
  - (i) Review the national logframes of 14 IW R2R projects
  - (ii) Develop the corresponding MYCWP based on the revised logframe and national development priorities
  - (iii) Assess and approved the no-cost extension of the 14 national IW R2R projects
  - (iv) Successfully completed preparation of the R2R spatial prioritization procedures and modelling and conducted the testing and trialling in Vanuatu. Further trialling of the prioritization model in the Solomon Islands already underway.
  - (v) Provide technical and administrative support to all 14 national projects
  - (vi) Assess and approved all progress and financial reports
  - (vii) Successfully provided support in the conduct of the external audit
  - (viii) Commissioned consultancies for carrying out the RapCA for Tonga and Cook Islands
  - (ix) Commissioned consultancy for Fiji RapCA, site diagnostic and ecosystem goods and services (EGS) valuation soon to go out to tender

- (x) Commissioned consultancy for the redevelopment of the Pacific R2R Website and the corresponding Project Management Information System (PMIS)

6. Had it not been because of COVID travel restrictions, majority, if not all, of the planned activities for this period would have been carried out and therefore outputs produced. Notwithstanding, the PCU/SPC continued providing support and advice (on a regular and frequent basis) to the PICs through using email and other IT-based modality such as Zoom, Skype, and teleconferencing.

7. Using the approved MYCWP of July 2019 and the adaptive management employed by both RPCU and SPC to respond to project challenges as basis for rating the overall project progress during this period, a Moderately Satisfactory rating is appropriate.

#### **UNDP – Country Office Programme Officer– Fiji**

8. Since the last PIR reporting period, the project has demonstrated considerable progress towards achieving outputs. Therefore, a rating of marginally satisfactory is recommended. This is indicative of commitment of both senior management of Secretariat of the Pacific Community as well as Regional Program Coordination Unit (RPCU). With the Project Manager and Scientific Adviser recruited, the project was able to fully function as leadership was strengthened in comparison to previous reporting period when some key decision was held back in the absence of these two key positions.

9. Whilst commendable progress is noted, the RPCU will need to persevere with effort to ensure an overall significant achievement in its final year. Several points relevant in support of this statement.

- (i) Firstly, the Covid 19 was a sudden and unanticipated global pandemic. Starting in February 2020, all 14 participating countries gradually started imposing travel restrictions both domestic and international.
- (ii) Secondly, in March 2020, the Project manager resigned, and the scientific manager was appointed officer in charge as an interim arrangement.
- (iii) Thirdly, the RPCU was unable to travel outside of Fiji and therefore restricting practical and hands-on assistance and monitor progress or conduct monitoring and capacity building for national International Waters Demonstration Projects.

10. The findings of the Mid Term Review (MTR) provided an independent and accurate reflection of progress to date. In addition, this was an opportune time for the RPCU to strategize efforts, planning and exploring best alternative way forward. Reflecting on the MTR, there was a moderately unsatisfactory rating towards achieving project progress. For progress towards outcome, ratings were predominantly unsatisfactory, except for outcome 4.1 which was satisfactory whilst outcome 5.1 recording a highly satisfactory rating.

11. The 4th Regional Steering Committee (RSC) meeting was critical, and both UNDP and SPC adopted an innovative approach. Several key relevant points leading to the adopting the approach are as follows: -

- (i) Pre- RSC discussions centred on findings of the MTR, recommendations, and management responses. With this approach, leading up to the RSC, all members have adequate opportunity to constructively debate issues before arriving at a common understanding. To this effect,

the RSC endorsed MTR, management response as well as endorsed requests for a project extension for another 12 months;

- (ii) This approach had positive spin off. There was renewed sense of ownership amongst the RSC members, as evident in the level of discussions and deliberations. For example, the RSC questioned the balance of funds as per national and regional allocations, recommended and endorsed participation (observer status for STAR & IW reps) in the Regional and Scientific Technical Committee. Overall, decision making flowed better compared to the previous RSC meetings.
- (iii) A graduation ceremony was held for 30 students graduating with a post graduate certificate in ridge to reef from James Cook University (JCQU). This is a first of its kind for under the Regional Ridge to Reef Project
- (iv) Successfully introduced a Most Significant Change competition amongst all national IW projects and national Ridge to Reef Projects. The Fiji Ridge to Reef Project (STAR) was declared winners in a voting system democratically applied online by RSC participants

### **Key Highlights**

12. The following are key highlights during this period worth reporting which influence the overall rating of progress of implementation.

- (i) Postgraduate certificate in Ridge to Reef Sustainable Development graduation for 36 students, and twenty of which are females;
- (ii) Completion of preparation of R2R spatial prioritization procedures and modelling (land -sea modelling) and conducted testing and trialling in Vanuatu. Further trialling of the prioritization for Solomon Islands is underway
- (iii) Launch of the Pacific R2R Programme website, and ongoing redevelopment work including project management information system (PMIS)
- (iv) Launch of the Pacific R2R Programme Newsletter
- (v) Pacific R2R Programme lessons learned briefing, and country briefings for Tuvalu, Palau, Samoa, Cook Islands and Papua New Guinea
- (vi) Endorsement of multi-year workplans by the RSC (inclusive of project extension period)
- (vii) Consultancies for conducting RapCA for Tonga, Cook Islands and Fiji was commissioned
- (viii) Log frames for 14 national IW projects reviewed and updated as a basis for extension
- (ix) Water quality training conducted for Kiribati, Marshall Islands and FSM
- (x) RSC endorsing a Revised Strategy for the Island Diagnostic Assessment and State of Coast. This now includes a Theory of Change for steps in country to mainstream and integrate Ridge to Reef concept and identifying and protecting coastal areas for protection and conservation.
- (xi) Convening of the first technical consultations of the Regional and Scientific Committee was conducted at the Tanoa International Hotel from 5 – 7 February. A range of informative presentations were delivered. These ranged from biological assessments/surveys, economic impact and results of research, Freshwater Invertebrate Assemblages and Ecological Status of Ba River, landscape/seascape planning and use of GIS to inform R2R Project decision making. Project participants from Tonga, Tuvalu and Fiji were part of this consultations. It was viewed as a success by participants who called for another round in quarter 3. Participants were amazed the amount of technical expertise and experiences available in the Pacific.

## **Financials:**

13. The project has a Project budget of USD 1.2 Million for 2020. As of June 2020, USD700,000 is acquitted. An advance of USD500,000 was released for quarter 3 (2020). In 2019, the Project recorded an expenditure of USD 1.782 Million. UNDP will continue to keep close tabs with the RPCU as there is potential implications on annual delivery given the impacts of COVID-19. A 2019 annual audit report was recently finalized, with no significant concerns. This represents commitment by RPCU in comparison to findings of the 2018 annual audit which raised several key issues.

14. The Global Pandemic (Corvid 19) is a setback to implementations affecting both activities at the regional and national level. For example, studies of human capacity needs and corresponding mode of delivery as well as consultancy determining options for mainstreaming R2R in the Pacific. The situation is unfolding and unpredictable. Whilst some impacts are obvious, there is more reason for stronger monitoring & adaptive management of the RPCU. Similarly, UNDP will need to closely support progress given its oversight and monitoring responsibility.

## **Adaptive Approach**

15. The COVID19 has had a positive spin-off in that RPCU and UNDP have had to review business as usual procedures, resulting in adaptive management. In the first 2 quarters of 2020, the RPCU has kept close tabs on communications with National IW projects including skype, zoom and teleconference sessions. Timely financial liquidation continues to be an issue. Therefor this is monitored closely including bottlenecks.

16. In response to RPCU requests, UNDP has used it networks in country (especially with Ministry of Finance) to follow up on pending documentation required to complete overdue acquittals. In some of these countries, UNDP supports several GEF funded projects including National Ridge to Reef projects as well as other adaptation initiatives. Moreover, UNDP Pacific Office has continued monthly discussions with the RPCU as well as when the need arises.

17. With the current situation, the 5th Regional Steering Committee Meeting is now taking place virtually. UNDP and the RPCU is exploring ways to have this best conducted. This may be held over few zoom sessions. As one in the 4th RSC meeting, there were plans to have pre-RSC discussions. There were varying degrees of reliability in terms of internet connectivity across the 14 participating countries. Therefore, the Pre- RSC meetings will prove useful.

18. In May 2020, the IW R2R Programme Coordinator resigned. The SPC was timely in its response by appointing Samasoni Sauni (the then R2R Science & National Project Team Leader) as acting officer in charge. By June 2020, SPC confirmed Samasoni Sauni as the IW R2R Programme Coordinator and appointed Dr Jade Delevaux, as the new R2R Science & National Project Team Leader.

## **Recommendations:**

19. Some recommendations are listed below, with aim of expediting delivery and achieving project targets and outcomes: -

- (i) RPCU consider national consultants to support technical assessment due to travel restrictions
- (ii) Ongoing monthly discussions between RPCU and UNDP focal points

- (iii) Significant or pressing matters are brought to the attention of UNDP as soon as possible and ways forward identified
- (iv) RPCU keep close tabs of progress at National IW Project level, given that some will come to closure by December 2020
- (v) RPCU effectively identifies project risks and actions appropriate measures to mitigate them.
- (vi) UNDP and RPCU finalize the date, agenda and mode of delivery for the 5th RSC meeting by end of July 2020. It is suggested that the RSC is held around September or October i.e. avoid November which is a busy period for most national Governments as staff are occupied with annual reporting.

#### **UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser**

20. This PIR is the 4th PIR of the project, 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 (Regional R2R).

21. The project aims to test the mainstreaming of 'ridge-to-reef' (R2R), climate-resilient approaches to integrated land, water, forest, and coastal management in the PICs through strategic planning, capacity building and piloted local actions to sustain livelihoods and preserve ecosystem services. The project manager (PM) and the country office (CO) have rated both Development Objectives (DO) as 'Moderately Satisfactory (MS). Based on the following observations, my overall DO rating is Moderately Unsatisfactory as the project needs to catch up with the cumulative delays. However, my IP rating for this year is Moderately Satisfactory as it has made progress based on its workplan considering the impacts of COVID 19.

#### ***Component 1. National Demonstrations to Support R2R ICM/IWRM Approaches for Island Resilience and Sustainability (OC1.1-1.3)***

22. The overall progress of this component is off-track but slowly catching up from cumulative delays. Progress on pilot project testing, according to the MTR in July 2019, the activities in PICs countries are behind schedule/off-track, e.g., Pacific State of Coast Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Pacific R2R Programme.

23. As previously reported since the MTR, there are only three islands diagnostic analysis (IDA) reports available for Papua New Guinea, Palau & Cook Islands. As reported by PM, the quality of reports previously conducted in FSM, Cook Islands, Samoa, Solomon are poor. Hence, the need to re-conduct the report in those countries.

24. On the ICM-IWRM investments, the refined methodology approved in July last year was piloted in Vanuatu and presented during the RSTC technical meeting in Feb.20. The development of inter-ministry committee's establishment is slow whereas ongoing joint national meetings arranged in Palau, RMI, Kiribati, Nauru, and Fiji.

25. In the past, the project has not initiated with the private sector or donor partnership forums but this year, the project had planned to convene a regional investment forum for R2R investment and planning, instead of 14 individual national investment forums. However, due to travel restriction and the pandemic, it is postponed to 2021. Related to this, the RPCU staff attended the Pacific Ocean Finance Conference convened by the Office of the Pacific Oceans Commissioner (OPOC).

#### ***Component 2. Island-based Investments in Human Capital and Knowledge to Strengthen National and Local Capacities for Ridge to Reef ICM/IWRM approaches, incorporating CC adaptation (OC4,5/2.1-2.3)***

26. Progress under national and local capacity for ICM and IWRM have exceeded the target since last year (at least ten people with post-graduate training in R2R management and at least five women). There are 31 participants (20 women) in the Post Graduate Certificate (PGC).

26. Early this year, the RPCU and USP jointly conducted water quality training for the national IW R2R project in Kiribati; over 50% of participants were women.

27. Progress under incentive structures is off-track since reported during the MTR last year. Due to travel restrictions and COVID-19, the project has postponed the plan to recruit a consultant to assess human capacity in the SIDS on ICM/IWRM.

***Component 3. Mainstreaming of Ridge to Reef ICM/IWRM Approaches into National Development Planning (OC 6,7/ OC 3.1-.3.)***

28. Progress under national and regional strategic action framework for ICM/IWRM is off-track as the IDAs, and the RapCA is still ongoing (in Tonga and Cook Islands).

29. The project has a plan to hire a consultant to conduct the study on mainstreaming R2R in Sept. 2020.

30. Progress on coordinated approaches & stakeholder participation is ongoing. The project arranged a knowledge exchange visit to American Samoa. In July 2019, 45 national STAR and IW R2R related-project participants from 14 Pacific island countries participated in the pre-RPSC workshop. The national IW Project managers will report participation of the IMC members by the end of this year

***Component 4. Regional and National' Ridge to Reef' Indicators for Reporting, Monitoring, Adaptive Management and Knowledge Management (OC 8,9/4.1-4.2)***

31. Progress under this component is on-track. Since the MTR reported last year that there are significant gaps in report submission in many PICS. Hence, the report by STAR projects is feeble. To solve this issue, the RPCU integrates the Harmonized Results Reporting (HRR) into the Project Management Information System (PMIS) and is scheduled to launch within this year. This streamlined process will consolidate all lessons learned prepared and authored by managers from both IW and national R2R Projects.

32. Progress on national and regional platforms: At this reporting period, 1,703 users accessed the Pacific R2R website, which has already exceeded the target of 100 users. The IW LEARN website is also linked to the Pacific R2R website. The project collaborated with Caribbean IWeco and CLME+ (Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem) projects to share experience notes on the project implementation. Tuvalu's, Vanuatu's, and Palau's notes are complete.

33. Other details are also available in the Mid Term Review Update, RSC.5/WP.04.

***Component 5. Ridge-to-Reef Regional and National Coordination (OC 10/5.1)***

33. The Project Manager rates this component as 'off-track.' R2R spatial prioritization procedures and modelling only progressed in Vanuatu, the first country, and expected to extend to the Solomon Islands. There are no new activities for training R2R staff this year.

34. The project provided support to national R2R projects with specific technical assistance to participants from Tonga, Tuvalu, Fiji and RMI national R2R project during the first technical

consultation of the RSTC in Feb. 2020. MTR reports that there are a few requests from STAR projects.

35. Progress on functioning overall R2R program coordination unit: There is an issue with the RPCU staff turnover with the departure of the regional programme coordinator and project science leader. However, both positions were filled within one month. Early this year, the expanded RSTC technical consultation meeting and the RPCU reflection and planning workshop were convened.

#### **Implementation Progress:**

36. The CO has rated the Implementation Progress (IP) as 'Moderately Satisfactory (MS). I concur with the same rating, based on the following observations:

- (i) 2020 Budget is \$1,200,320. The expenditure in the first two quarters is \$802,349, with the delivery at 67%. The highest spent in this reporting period is under Component one on national project managers' costs, and technical staff, which was the same highest expenditure reported last year under this component. The second highest expense this year is with the compilation of 14 National State of the Coast Assessment Reports.
- (ii) As reported by the PM, there are 967 planned activities, to generate 192 outputs. The current status is that 135 activities (14%) are complete; 291 activities (30%), ongoing, and 541 activities (56%), pending.
- (iii) After the MTR, the revision of the national log frame and work plans for the 14 national IW R2R projects had been approved by the RSC.

#### **Main Challenges**

37. The main challenges pertaining to this report are as follows:

- (i) COVID-19 & travel restrictions for consultants and RCPU to monitor progress, provide technical support and conduct capacity building workshops;
- (ii) The project manager resigned, and the scientific manager was appointed officer in charge as an interim arrangement at first then eventually confirmed. To date, all PIU staff are on board, except the Science Officer;
- (iii) Coordinating broader Pacific R2R Programs, the STAR national child projects.
- (iv) Quality and frequency of monitoring vary across countries

#### **Recommendation/Adaptive management plan to improve performance**

38. The UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser recommends the project to:

- (i) Seek alternative options/adaptive management approaches to conduct virtual meetings and evaluations online, while travel restrictions are in place. Options would include hiring national consultants where feasible in lieu of international consultants.
- (ii) Follow up with pending activities as stated in the work plan
- (iii) Fill the science officer position
- (iv) Continue providing support for monitoring and technical assistance in PICs.
- (v) Continue enhancing the collaboration with other relevant projects and engaging with the private sector.



**ANNEX 1 – DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS**

<b>Description</b>					
<b>Objective</b>					
To test the mainstreaming of ‘ridge-to-reef’ (R2R), climate resilient approaches to integrated land, water, forest and coastal management in the PICs through strategic planning, capacity building and piloted local actions to sustain livelihoods and preserve ecosystem services					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
<b>Outcome 1</b>					
Successful pilot projects testing innovative solutions involving linking ICM, IWRM & climate change adaptation [linked to national STAR projects via larger Pacific R2R network]					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>
1.1.1 Number and quality of baseline environmental state and socio-cultural information incorporated in project area diagnostics	1.1.1 Baseline environmental and social data is unconsolidated	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	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.	Off track  Rapid Assessment of Priority Coastal Areas (RapCA) reports generate data that is used for assessing the state of the pilot sites and key conclusions and messages on policy options. Best practice set out in the RapCA reports informs policy discussions and decision-making processes among communities in demonstration sites and introduce or raise awareness of the R2R concept.  RapCA reports have been prepared for Samoa, Solomon Islands, PNG and Vanuatu. Planning for further RapCA work has been completed in this reporting period and will commence in quarter 4 of 2019 and early 2020 for Kiribati, Fiji, Niue, Tonga and Cook Islands.	Off track  Following the RSTC endorsed and RSC approved Science to Policy continuum (Theory of Change), and further endorsed by the RSC meeting in July 2019, the RPCU set out purposive advocacy to enlist project countries to pursue this robust approach. Not all countries are committed to implementing the theory of change in full.  The Pacific State of Coast Spatial Data Infrastructure

			<p>Results of the Vanuatu assessment have been presented to the Vanuatu stakeholders for feedback. Next steps are as may be agreed by these four countries, planning and coordinating activities for the preparation of the diagnostic report, SoC and SAP. As anticipated under Outcome 1, national STAR project information is needed to proceed with production of IDAs, SoCs and SAPs.</p> <p>A major activity currently underway is development of spatial prioritisation procedures and modelling. Along with baselines collected and RapCA reports, this modelling tool adds value towards identifying and prioritising areas for future R2R upscaling investments.</p> <p>Refining survey sampling design and process for remaining countries is underway to streamline activities and harness appropriate levels of data for related outputs (prioritisation models, Diagnostic Reports and SoC Reports) and collaborative planning is underway for RapCA baseline collection and diagnostic analyses for Kiribati, Fiji, Niue, Tonga and Cook Islands.</p> <p>As recommended by the Mid-Term Review (MTR), SPC is re-assessing and revising the IDA/ SoC strategy (theory of change) for the consideration of the RPSTC and RPSC in their upcoming meetings.</p> <p>The application of the full cycle technical/ methodological continuum by country will consider the capacity and willingness of the</p>	<p>for the Pacific Ridge to Reef Programme is currently being built and progressing slowly. It provides a search capability for geospatial data published by other users, organisations and public sources, data for browsing, aggregating, and styling to generate maps. Ostensibly, a database containing primary and secondary data is also established at SPC to serve as basis for generating options for prioritizing development interventions aligned with the Ridge to Reef approach. The Pacific State of Coast Spatial Data Infrastructure, including the database, will be soon accessible to all the PICs after the launch in the second half of 2020. As previously reported, work is continuing with the collection, collating and entering of baseline data into the regional database.</p> <p>To date, in addition to the 4 countries already reported, RapCA of Tonga has just completed field</p>
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				<p>national projects to support the effort, their sub-regional representation and their geophysical characteristics.</p>	<p>work and a draft report will be available soon. Preparation and planning for RapCA in the Cook Islands is currently underway with fieldwork to commence soon.</p> <p>Procurement documents for consultancy services to carry out the RapCA for Fiji, RMI and marine surveys for Solomon Islands are available. The marine surveys will soon start this month in the Solomon Islands following ease of lock down which has ended recently.</p> <p>RPCU will assist in conducting site diagnostic analysis workshops in the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, and FSM – possibly: 3 in 2020 and 3 in 2021. Fiji IW R2R will soon put to tender this work stream with plans to have its diagnostic analysis workshop within the next 3-months back to back with technical work streams on RapCA and ecosystem goods and services (EGS) valuation.</p>
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<p>1.1.2 Stress reduction and water, environmental and socioeconomic status indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal waste pollution reduction (N kg/yr)</li> <li>• Pollution reduction to aquifers (kg/ha/yr)</li> <li>• Area of restored habitat (ha)</li> <li>• Area of conserved/protected wetland</li> <li>• Area of catchment under improved management (ha)</li> <li>• Number of people engaged in alternative livelihoods</li> <li>• Status of mechanisms for PM&amp;E</li> <li>• Number and quality of demonstration projects that have</li> </ul>	<p>1.1.2 Limited community and cross-sectoral participation in the planning of coordinated investments and stress reduction efforts in land, forest, water and coastal management in PICs.</p> <p>(Baseline for water, environmental and social economic status indicators for municipal waste pollution to aquifers, areas of restored habitat, area of conserved/protected wetland, area of catchment under improved management, and number of people engaged in alternative livelihoods, will</p>	<p>(not set or not applicable)</p>	<p>1.1.2 14 national pilot projects test methods for catalysing local community action, utilizing and providing best practice examples, and building institutional linkages for integrated land, forest, water and coastal management, and resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal waste pollution reduction of 5,775 kg N/yr (6 sites)</li> <li>• Pollution reduction to aquifer of 23 kg N/ha/yr (2 sites)</li> <li>• 6,838 ha of restored habitat (4 sites)</li> <li>• 290 ha of conserved/protected wetland (2 sites)</li> <li>• 25,860 ha of catchment under improved</li> </ul>	<p>Off track</p> <p>14 national projects are in various stages of testing methodologies that contributes to their respective stress reduction targets.</p> <p>Refined survey sampling design and processes that encourage community participation and hands-on activities are underway to streamline the activities and harness appropriate level of data for the related outputs (Prioritisation Models, Diagnostic Reports and State of Coast Reports).</p> <p>Review and updating of national logframes, indicators and corresponding end of project targets have been undertaken as an adaptive management measure to ensure relevance, and alignment with current national priorities and opportunities. The initial results of this review and updating exercise necessitates refinement of the end of project targets which were reported in the GEF tracking tool attached to the MTR.</p> <p>The national projects will present their updated logframes and the corresponding multi-year costed workplans (MYCWP) at the Pre-RPSC workshop in July 2019. These will guide finalization of the Regional IW R2R project workplan and budget.</p> <p>An IW: LEARN twinning technology exchange has been in development during Q1-2 2019 with co-financing from GEF IW: LEARN. The exchange focuses on increasing the</p>	<p>Off track</p> <p>As previously reported, national projects are in various stages of implementation of planned activities that will produce outputs. To date, based on 967 planned activities indicated in the 14 MYCWP's, 14% have been completed, 30% ongoing and 56% pending. These 967 activities are expected to generate the 192 outputs that will contribute to the overall project outcomes. Of the 192 expected outputs, 6% have been reported as completed, 53% ongoing, and 41% pending.</p> <p>The abovementioned data is based on the MYCWP stored in the Project Management Information System (PMIS) that the project has currently established (see indicator 4.2.3).</p> <p>RPCU is also happy to report that a new project science leader (PSL) has been appointed by SPC</p>
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<p>incorporated gender analysis as part of the community engagement plans</p>	<p>be obtained at project start.)</p>		<p>management (7 sites)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 charcoal producers (40 % of total) engaged in alternative charcoal production activities</li> <li>• Participatory monitoring and evaluation of environmental and socioeconomic status of coastal areas (9 sites)</li> <li>• 14 national pilot projects demonstrate gender responsive implementation and results</li> <li>• Direct national pilot project beneficiaries equitably shared</li> </ul>	<p>knowledge of governance arrangements for and operations of pig waste management. FSM, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Nauru and Cook Islands will "twin" with American Samoa's EPA to make site visits to piggery farmers using the dry litter waste management method. This is scheduled for Quarter 4 of 2019.</p> <p>Baseline water quality assessment for Tuvalu was carried out and reported in Q3-4 of 2018. Subsequent training for water quality monitoring was carried out in Tuvalu with R2R program stakeholders in Q1 2019, in line with national IW and STAR project objectives.</p> <p>Procurement of water quality monitoring equipment for Kiribati (and possibly Solomon Islands if requested) to meet project objectives is ongoing from Q2 2019.</p>	<p>(see indicator 5.1.1). With the recent appointment of the PSL, the data and other information about the status in achieving the stress reduction targets will be available in the succeeding reporting periods using the GEF IW Tracking Tool. This is planned to be available as basis for evaluating the project outputs and achievements by the UNDP-commissioned independent Final Evaluation mission scheduled for April 2021.</p> <p>Moreover, RPCU is happy to report on progress on water quality training planned for this reporting period. While national training on water quality for FSM and RMI is further delayed, plans for virtual training has been discussed with RMI. RPCU is also providing ongoing technical assistance on RMI procurement of reagents and solution in preparation for demonstration of new water quality test kits. In this reporting period, the</p>
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					<p>training report for Kiribati is completed and uploaded online the Kiribati page within the R2R website. At the same time, the Kiribati water quality monitoring plan currently is being finalised and will be made publicly available soon.</p> <p>Moreover, a consultancy will be commissioned to review and conduct gender audit &amp; assessments of R2R documentations, such as guidelines and manuals, which is consistent to the management response to the MTR recommendation. The RPCU will prepare a TOR as a first step for this work stream.</p>
The progress of the objective can be described as:		Off track			
<b>Outcome 2</b>					
<b>National diagnostic analyses for ICM conducted for prioritizing and scaling-up key ICM/IWRM reforms and investments</b>					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
1.2.1 By end of the project, number of	1.2.1 Choice of sites for GEF and other donor	<i>(not set or not</i>	1.2.1 14 diagnostic analysis for	Off track Some countries, particularly the low-lying atoll countries, have identified specific areas for	Off track.

<p>diagnostic analyses conducted for priority coastal areas</p>	<p>investment in natural resource and environmental management does not adequately represent the range of biological, environmental and socio-economic conditions in PICs</p>	<p><i>applicable)</i></p>	<p>ICM/IWRM and CCA investments conducted to inform priority areas for scaling-up in each of 14 participating PICs</p>	<p>replication and/ or upscaling using future investments. These countries require little diagnostic work to determine priority areas for replication. The diagnostic analyses towards priority areas stems from stakeholder consultations and local knowledge, RapCA results, past studies, and priority areas already identified by communities and government, following their long-term strategic development plans and policy frameworks.</p> <p>Island Diagnostic Analysis (IDA) draft reports for Palau, Cook Islands and PNG are available. IDA workshops were carried out in FSM, Palau, Cook Islands, Samoa and Solomon Islands.</p> <p>As mentioned in 1.1.1 the data generated and information gathered from both the IDA and RapCA will contribute to State of the Coasts reports, which are the basis for ICM/ IWRM and CCA investments.</p> <p>SPC intends to implement the revised IDA/ SoC strategy (theory of change) to capture new opportunities for mainstreaming R2R in planning process and policies. If approved by the RPSTC and RPSC this work will commence with RPCU working with national project managers and national teams and consultants to undertake IDA workshops and prepare SoCs and SAPs in accordance to countries' demands. Several countries have already indicated they prefer to work through existing processes such State of the Environment and other strategic planning reforms and policies, rather than undertaking IDAs/ SoCs.</p>	<p>As previously reported, there are three (3) island diagnostic analysis (IDA) draft reports available for PNG, Palau &amp; Cook Islands. The diagnostic analysis workshops (FSM, Cook Islands, Samoa, and Solomon) undertaken in 2018 and 2019 were found insufficient basis for crafting a diagnostic analysis report. Hence, a validation activity (which could coincide with the RapCA) needs to be conducted.</p> <p>Despite this delay, the RPCU is in parallel implementing these several processes and expects that all RapCA and IDA reports will be available towards the second semester of 2020. These reports will serve as basis for crafting the State of Coast reports and the corresponding Strategic Action Plans for the participating countries. reports will be ready (see indicator 3.1.3).</p> <p>Note that the national diagnostic analysis</p>
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				The MTR recommends “up to 14 countries” and the RPCU plans to produce 6 (or more depending on country demand) in the remaining life of the project.	workshop and the subsequent preparation of an IDA report requires inputs from both IW and STAR R2R projects. This level of collaboration and sharing of data and information was agreed at the RSC-4.
1.2.2 Number and quality of ICM-IWRM investments incorporating baseline environmental state and socio-cultural information for the prioritization of investment sites	1.2.2 Lack of a scientifically sound and objective procedure for the selection of locations for investment in integrated natural resource and environmental management in PICs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	1.2.2 Up to 14 ICM-IWRM investments utilizing methodology and procedures for characterizing island coastal areas for ICM investment developed by the project	<p>On track</p> <p>Scoping discussion were held in Q4 2018 and Q1 2019 with SPC geospatial experts to finalise prioritisation procedure and a contract signed with a consultant in late Q2 2019 for completion of the work.</p> <p>The consultant will present the conceptual model framework to RPSTC 4 in its upcoming meeting for review and approval for trialling.</p> <p>Datasets for trialling the procedure in Vanuatu have been compiled, and enhanced survey sampling design for the Rapid Assessment of Priority Coastal Areas is underway to validate the prioritisation models. Development and trial of the procedure is scheduled for Q3 2019 in Vanuatu, and possibly one other country as data becomes available. Engagement of a Geoinformatics Officer by IW R2R is suspended.</p> <p>The means of verification for this indicator (output) refers to preparation of “Regional guidelines for characterising and prioritising coastal areas for ICM investment”. It is on this basis that SPC proposes to hold one regional</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>As previously reported and following an iterative process, the project continues to enhance the procedures for characterizing island coastal areas for Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) investment.</p> <p>This process is closely undertaken in collaboration with national stakeholders. As a result of this iterative process, a refined methodology for the procedure and required indicator sets driving the linked land-sea model, including sampling design for additional marine surveys, were prepared and approved by RSTC 5 in</p>



				<p>ICM/ IWRM investment forum to present the above-mentioned regional guidelines and demonstrate and train relevant practitioners and stakeholders in the use of the guidelines and application of the spatial prioritisation model in future R2R upscaling investments.</p> <p>On request and agreement, it is expected that 6 countries will utilise the spatial prioritisation model for characterising island coastal areas for ICM investment.</p> <p>The alternative is that countries use other conventional methodologies and procedures, making use of available data and information, local knowledge of specific areas of interest etc., and consultations to discuss and agree on priority areas. This method is appropriate for atoll countries where knowledge of hot-spots and biodiversity is well known and sometimes documented.</p>	<p>July 2019. This was successfully trialled in Vanuatu.</p> <p>Fieldwork to collect information on benthos and fish, which will be used to prepare evidence-based procedures for identifying priority R2R sites, was completed in Vanuatu in November. This work provided the data sets for the final report that highlights hotspot areas where sediment loads can negatively affect coastal areas, identifying hotspot catchments for future R2R investment.</p> <p>Results of the Vanuatu trial was presented during the RSTC technical consultation in February 2020.</p> <p>The same methodology was scheduled to be trialled in the Solomon Islands. This has not happened yet, due to COVID travel restrictions.</p> <p>The RPCU plans to present the results of this work back to the communities during the diagnostic analysis workshops to be conducted in Vanuatu and</p>
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					<p>Solomon Islands. Equally, the highlights of the modelling work will be also presented to the upcoming 'virtual' meeting of the RSC. The draft regional guidelines for implementing the R2R spatial prioritization procedures was briefly tabled for technical consultation of the RSTC in 5-7 February 2020 (see details in RSTC-TC-SC1 WP.9). The draft guidelines will be revised further following completion of trial work in the Solomon Islands later in the year. The draft regional guidelines will form the basis for RPCU to prepare a paper for publication in a journal (tbc).</p> <p>There is opportunity to present all the R2R regional guidelines at the upcoming meetings of the RSTC, RSC and the regional ICM/IWRM investment forum; the latter of which is now planned for next year.</p>
<p>The progress of the objective can be described as:</p>	<p>On track</p>				
<p><b>Outcome 3</b></p>					

Multi-stakeholder leader roundtable networks established for strengthened 'community to cabinet' ICM/IWRM					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
1.3.1 Number of local leaders and local governments engagement/participating in multi-stakeholder leader roundtable networks	1.3.1 Limited engagement of community-based governance mechanisms in national policy and planning	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	1.3.1 Institutional relationships between national and community-based governance structures strengthened and formalized through national "Ridge to Reef" Inter-Ministry Committees in 14 Pacific SIDS	<p>Off track</p> <p>Representatives of various stakeholders who participated in national inception meeting/workshops have also been engaged in project implementation.</p> <p>Communities and representatives from local governments have joined project steering committees (PSC), or Project Boards, or inter-ministry committees (IMCs in UNDP nomenclature). The intention has been to build on previous steering mechanisms under the IWRM project through revitalising (or establishing) of multi-stakeholder leader roundtable networks comprised of local leaders and local governments, aligning with the community to cabinet approach promoted by the project.</p> <p>In some countries, such as RMI, traditional and elected leaders from atolls where project sites are located, are members of the joint R2R Board. In Kiribati, there are plans to use existing governance structures for R2R IW and STAR projects.</p> <p>The MTR recommended refining this indicator to give emphasis to sustainable engagement.</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>RPCU continues to advocate for an inclusive multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder engagement management of the project. National projects are continuously supported in project steering committee meetings, consultation meetings, advocacy and awareness raising to inform and engage stakeholders in project implementation.</p> <p>RPCU continues to support joint project steering committees and similar steering bodies that promotes the mainstreaming of R2R in planning and/or policies. RPCU staff have attended several PSC meetings and convey the necessity of coming together as an R2R Programme and not just</p>

					<p>individual STAR R2R or IW R2R projects.</p> <p>As previously reported, some advances have been made, with joint national meetings established, in Palau and Marshall Islands and two more likely, in Kiribati, Nauru and Fiji, but this remains work in progress.</p>
1.3.2 Number of forums held to discuss opportunities for agreements on private sector and donor participation in PIC sustainable development	1.3.2 Low level mobilization of the private sector in environmental investment and planning in PICs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	1.3.2 Up to 14 new national private-sector and donor partnership forums for investment planning in priority community-based ICM/IWRM actions	<p>To date, no private sector and donor partnership forums have been held.</p> <p>In view of the very limited opportunity for convening 14 effective national investment forums, the project intends to convene a single regional investment forum for R2R investment opportunities and planning.</p> <p>This approach is in line with the MTR recommendation for stimulating private sector investments.</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>A Regional Investment Forum was planned for 2020 at the margins of the RSC5. However, because of the COVID travel restrictions, the RPCU has scheduled this forum next year if hosting a face-2-face meeting is permitted.</p> <p>From July 2019 to June 2020, RPCU staff have actively participated in various fora organized by various stakeholders and development partners to explore opportunities for future financing of priority community-based ICM/IWRM actions and to promote mainstreaming of R2R e.g. the World</p>

					Bank-sponsored, Pacific Ocean Finance Conference convened by the Office of the Pacific Oceans Commissioner (OPOC) in partnership with Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), and the Pacific Ocean Alliance (POA) Conference convened by the Office of Pacific Ocean Commissioner.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
<b>Outcome 4</b>					
<b>National and local capacity for ICM and IWRM implementation built to enable best practice in integrated land, water, forest and coastal management and CC adaptation</b>					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
2.1.1 Number of PIC-based personnel with post-graduate training in R2R management. *Data will be gender disaggregated	2.1.1 Zero R2R post-graduate training courses available specific to the Pacific Region.	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	2.1.1 At least 10 people with post-graduate training in R2R management. *At least 5 people will be women.  At least 3 innovative post-graduate training programs for the Pacific Region in	On track  Thirty-one 31 students are expected to complete the Post Graduate Certificate (PGC) with James Cook University. Certificate of attendance will be awarded during the RPSC 4 week, while graduation certificates will be issued at the University's usual graduation in May 2020, which graduates may also attend.  In addition, the project provided inputs into the curriculum for unit EV5963 R2R Tools, to align with national project environmental monitoring deliverables.	On track  The RPCU has previously reported the successful completion by 31 participants (20 women) in the Post Graduate Certificate (PGC) delivered by James Cook University. Highlights of the PGC completion ceremony can be found at the project website <a href="https://www.pacific-">https://www.pacific-</a>

			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		<p><a href="https://r2r.org/capacity-development">r2r.org/capacity-development</a></p> <p>Most participants have continued with the R2R Diploma course. Several students chose to discontinue with the diploma course for personal reasons.</p> <p>Post Graduate Diploma Unit 1 Best Practice Management Tools for R2R was completed in 2019 Semester 2: and Unit 2 Integrated Management of Ridge to Reef Ecosystems in Semester 1, 2020.</p> <p>Unit 3 in Semester 2, 2020 will be dividing students in 2 streams - 1. Management (Policy and Planning); and 2. Technical (Resource Assessment).</p> <p>Website redevelopment Phase 2 will enable online visibility of results in the second half of 2020 (see related indicator 4.2.3).</p>
2.1.2 Number of community stakeholders	2.1.2 Limited national and local capacity for	<i>(not set or not)</i>	2.1.2 At least 14 community stakeholder	On track	On track

<p>(i.e. catchment management committees, CSOs, etc) engaged in R2R planning and CC adaptation activities</p>	<p>ICM and IWRM implementation constrains achievement of best practice in integrated management in PICs</p>	<p><i>applicable</i>)</p>	<p>groups (i.e. Catchment management committees, CSOs, etc) engaged in R2R planning and CC adaptation activities.</p> <p>*Number of trainings (including training on integrating gender into community level R2R and CC planning and implementation) conducted to build capacity for civil society and community organization participating in ICM/IWRM and CC adaptation strengthened through direct involvement in implementation of demo activities with results documented</p>	<p>Pursuing community to cabinet approach, the 14 national projects have established and/ or revitalised multi-stakeholder roundtable networks comprising local leaders, local governments and representatives from various sectors and organisations. These networks meet at least once annually, to discuss the status of the national project milestone, outputs and activities including the results of testing various stress reduction measures.</p>	<p>The Mid Term Review (MTR) commissioned by UNDP, prioritises capacity building through a participatory approach in project implementation. To support this, the regional project mentors project managers as the most effective approach to enhancing managerial skills and technical expertise.</p> <p>For instance, the project supported technical and advisory support to Tonga and Niue in developing appropriate public awareness and outreach materials to promote local social, economic and environmental benefits of the R2R approach in relation to World Water Day 2020: Fiji and Tonga for World Environmental Day (June 2020), and Tonga for World Oceans Day (June, 2020).</p> <p>Water and Climate Change. Nauru project manager has been provided face-2-face mentoring assistance in both planning, reporting</p>
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					including other administrative concerns. The number of individuals and institutions developing improved capacity will be reported in the results dashboards on the Regional IW R2R project website.
<b>The progress of the objective can be described as:</b>		<b>On track</b>			
<b>Outcome 5 Incentive structures for retention of local 'Ridge to Reef' expertise and inter-governmental dialogue on human resource needs for ICM/IWRM initiated</b>					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>
2.2.1 Number of R2R personnel for which functional competencies are benchmarked, tracked and analysed  Number of studies completed identifying the national human capacity needs for R2R (ICM/IWRM)	2.2.1 Required functional competencies of national and local personnel for environment and natural resource management in PIC contexts undefined and untracked	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	2.2.1 Up to 14 R2R personnel identified, with functional competencies are benchmarked, tracked and analysed.  At least one study completed identifying national human capacity needs for R2R (ICM/IWRM) implementation	Off track  The MTR recommended refining this indicator as it was found to be ambiguous and its intention unclear. Hence, the project proposes that this indicator focus on the conduct of a study that identify national human capacity needs for R2R. SPC may engage a capacity-building consultant for this task.  The results of the study will be made available to national agencies as basis for capacity building support.  The project is cognizant that fulfilling output 2.2.1 will not fully achieve outcome 5. This observation is shared by the MTR and SPC, acknowledging the requirement/s for	Off track  A planned consultancy to identify human capacity needs for ICM/IWRM was planned for the first quarter of 2020. However, this was put on-hold due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. This consultancy will be pursued once the travel restriction is lifted.  The RPCU will develop a TOR for this work for procurement. The focus for the study visits would



<p>implementation and benchmarking/tracking competencies of national and local government units for R2R implementation</p> <p>Number of capacity building support secured with results documented.</p>			<p>and benchmarking/tracking competencies of national and local government units for R2R implementation. Based on the study, at least 14 capacity building support provided with results documented.</p>	<p>achieving outcome 5 is beyond the project's capacity and scope. See also proposed action for output 2.2.2.</p>	<p>be on six countries selected from the 3 subregions.</p> <p>The JCU final report of the course would also serve as basis for this indicator.</p>
<p>2.2.2 Number of recommendations on practitioner retention internalized at national and local government levels</p>	<p>2.2.2 Retention of skilled and experienced practitioners in environment and natural resource management low, particularly in project-based investments, including limited dialogue on human capacity needs for cross-sectoral</p>	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>2.2.2 At least 1 regional report with recommendations for R2R practitioner retention at national and local government levels completed. The report will analyse existing Public Service Commission salary scales and required functional competencies of</p>	<p>Off track</p> <p>The MTR recommended deleting this indicator because achieving this is beyond the ability of the project. The MTR also notes that the project's objective is to mainstream R2R and therefore build R2R capacity across all government levels and not to centralize such capacity in individual "R2R" practitioners.</p>	<p>As previously reported, this indicator will no longer be implemented. The study that will be conducted under 2.2.1 is considered sufficient. This decision conforms to the recommendation of the Regional IW R2R Mid-term Review and was approved by the RSC.</p>

			key R2R (ICM/IWRM) personnel; appropriate guidelines and incentive structures for retention of local R2R expertise proposed.		
<b>The progress of the objective can be described as:</b>		<b>Off track</b>			
<b>Outcome 6</b>					
<b>National and regional strategic action framework for ICM/IWRM endorsed nationally and regionally</b>					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>
3.1.1 Number of sectoral governance framework harmonised and strengthened through national and regional development frameworks	3.1.1 Constrained and inadequate sectoral planning and investment of natural and social systems in PICs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	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	Off track  SPC agrees with the MTR recommendation to refine the indicator, making it more explicit refer to incorporating R2R as a strategy for harmonizing and strengthening governance frameworks.  This work will be underpinned by ongoing development of a regional R2R environmental and socio-economic information database with SPC-GEM.  SPC notes that achieving actual harmonisation is beyond the project scope as this encroaches on national policymaking processes. Nonetheless, monitoring reforms and mainstreaming R2R in domestic budgets, policies and legislations can be tracked over	Off track  As approved by the RSC, a consultancy to determine options for mainstreaming Ridge to Reef in the Pacific Region was planned. RPCU prepared the Terms of Reference (ToR) for this consultancy and procurement processes are underway. Consultant to be recruited by September,2020. To ensure the active involvement of the participating national projects, especially the full

			governance frameworks	<p>time. Several countries are already strengthening and improving domestic planning frameworks that reflects R2R best practice, and upscaling R2R investments supported by other external funding supports is already occurring in some countries.</p> <p>For instance, the EU funded bio-gas project for some islands in Tuvalu stems from the successes and gains of the IWRM/ICM R2R dry-litter technology tested in Tuvalu.</p>	<p>support of the respective agencies, the ToR has also been transmitted seeking endorsement and commitment. These two parallel processes are employed under the assumption that COVID travel restrictions will be lifted.</p> <p>This work also responds to MTR recommendation 11 on Lessons Learned, directly contributing to Parts 1 and Parts 2 of the Mainstreaming of R2R into Sustainable Development in the Pacific.</p> <p>Refer to related indicator 4.2.3.</p>
3.1.2 Inter-ministerial agreements and strategic action framework for 14 PICs developed and submitted for endorsement on integration of land, water, forest and coastal	3.1.2 Lack of national and regional policy and plans to support the mainstreaming of R2R approaches in development planning	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	3.1.2 Agreements and strategic action frameworks for the 14 PICs endorsed by leaders	<p>Off track</p> <p>The technical document that informs the formulation of Strategic Action Frameworks (SAF) is available. A SAF is one of the elements under the R2R mainstreaming “theory of change (ToC) strategy. The ToC that underpins the national science to policy work and mainstreaming of R2R in countries was prepared in Q2 2019 and will be presented at the RSTC meeting in July 2019.</p>	<p>Off track</p> <p>This indicator will essentially proceed from indicator 3.1.3. During this reporting period, no new update on this indicator can be reported.</p>

management and capacity building in development of national ICM/IWRM reforms and investment plans				Noting the delay, the MTR recommended refining this indicator with the primary intention of integrating R2R into existing inter-ministry agreements and/ or strategic action plans. Specifically, the MTR reformulated the indicator to read “at least one relevant agreement and/ or SAF that incorporates R2R endorsed by leaders in each of the 14 countries”.	
3.1.3 Number of demonstrable uses of national ‘State of the Coasts’ or ‘State of the Islands’ reports in national and regional action planning for R2R investment	3.1.3 Limited application of evidence-based approaches in PICs national development planning in the areas of: freshwater use and sanitation; wastewater treatment and pollution control; land use and forestry practices; balancing coastal livelihoods and biodiversity conservation; hazard risk reduction; and climate variability and change’	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	3.1.3 National ‘State of the Coasts’ or ‘State of the Islands’ 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	Off track  On-going activity and dependent on the completion of diagnostic work (IDA). See status of indicator 1.2.1. Expected to start in the third Quarter of 2019.	Off track. As mentioned in indicator 1.1.1 and 1.2.1 both RapCA and IDA are presently undertaken. As a parallel exercise, a database hosted by SPC is also currently being developed and undergoing refinements.  In view of the limited implementation time and the travel restrictions imposed due to COVID, the RPCU is implementing alternative solutions to deliver the outputs without compromising the robustness of the scientific processes, and most importantly data integrity.  The alternative solutions may not necessarily

					<p>conform with the RSTC/RSC approved Theory of Change continuum but certainly will align to established scientific standards and processes. This has been the subject of the RSTC 6 technical consultations held on February 2020 (Refer to indicator 5.1.5).</p> <p>RPCU will commence drafting work on SoCs in the margin of RapCA and IDA work streams, and the plan is to cover six countries – possibly Solomon Islands and FSM in 2020 and Samoa, Vanuatu, Tonga, and Fiji in 2021. As agreed at the RSC-4, the inputs and sharing of data and information of the STAR R2R project are essential in the production of SoCs.</p>
The progress of the objective can be described as:		Off track			
<b>Outcome 7</b>					
<b>Coordinated approaches for R2R integrated land, water, forest and coastal management and CC adaptation achieved in 14 PICs</b>					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>

<p>3.2.1 Number of networks of national R2R pilot project inter-ministerial committees formed and linked to existing national IWRM committees</p>	<p>3.2.1 National IWRM task forces and local coordinating committees in 12 countries and a need exists for strengthened coordination of IWRM plan implementation within broader R2R frameworks</p>	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>3.2.1Up to 14 national networks of R2R (ICM/IWRM) national 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</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>Joint Inter-Ministry Committees (IMC) for both STAR and IW have been promoted through the project (reference: MOA between SPC and Pacific Islands Countries). To date, four (4) countries (Fiji, FSM, Palau and RMI) have joint IMCs. Five (5) countries have IMC solely for IW while the remaining five countries are still in development.</p> <p>The reported data differs from the previous report due to misunderstanding as regards the nature, status and functionality of IMCs. See notes of the MTR on IMCs. The national project managers are mainly responsible for keeping records of IMC composition and functions.</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>Following the recommendations of the MTR mission, the IMC is considered as a body that could serve as the upscaling platform for promoting the enactment of policies and changes to existing processes resulting from testing various innovative R2R approaches. This is viewed as the Project Steering Committee (PSC) or project board.</p> <p>With this premise, the RPCU continues to advocate for joint national STAR and IW steering structure (PSC/Project Board) that would ensure collaborative action for promoting and advocating R2R outcomes.</p> <p>Consistent with the agreements of the RPCG last July 2019, the RPCU expects proactive support from GEF implementing agency (UNDP, UNEP, FAO) in promoting the programmatic approach at the national level.</p>
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					See also related indicator 1.3.1.
3.2.2 Number of people participating in inter-ministry committee (IMC) meetings conducted including scope and uptake of joint management and planning decisions *Participation data to be disaggregated by gender	3.2.2 Limited number and variety of stakeholders participating in national coordinating bodies to ensure community to Cabinet planning of investment in sustainable development of PICs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	3.2.2 The number and variety of stakeholders participating in periodic IMC meetings in 14 PICs are doubled, with meeting results documented, participation data assembled and reported to national decision-makers and regional forums  *50% of participants will be women, youth, and/or from vulnerable groups	On track  SPC considers that IMCs are in effect Project Boards/ Project Steering Committees. There is thus limited opportunity to vary the number or composition. SPC also acknowledges the MTR's concern for wider inclusion and believes this can be achieved through participatory community engagement aligned to the community to cabinet approach. See also indicator 2.1.2.	On track  Participation of IMC members will be reported in by the national IW Project Managers in their respective final reports.  Cook Islands – Sept. 30, 2020 Palau September 30, 2020 Tuvalu September 30, 2020 FSM December 31, 2020 RMI December 31, 2020 Nauru December 31, 2020 Niue December 31, 2020 Solomon Islands Dec. 31, 2020 PNG December 31, 2020 Tonga March 31, 2021 Kiribati June 30, 2021 Samoa June 30, 2021 Fiji June 30, 2021 Vanuatu June 30, 2021 Once, available, this will be consolidated by RPCU for final reporting to UNDP.  For now, no additional update can be reported under this indicator.

<p>3.2.3 Number of networks established between community leaders and local government from pilot projects</p>	<p>3.2.3 Limited exchange between communities on best practices in environment and natural resource management</p>	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>3.2.3 Community leaders and local government create at least 14 networks via national and regional round-table meetings complemented by community tech exchange visits</p>	<p>Off track</p> <p>RPCU has planned for a technical exchange that will provide exposure to a long-term, successful, operational and coordinated approach to pig waste management. This activity is scheduled for September 2019.</p>	<p>On track.</p> <p>A knowledge exchange visit to American Samoa was successfully carried out with co-financing from IW: LEARN. The exchange focused on increasing the knowledge of technology and governance arrangements for pig waste management. A full report and a short video of this exchange visit is available.</p> <p><a href="https://www.pacific-r2r.org/regional-international-waters-r2r-project">https://www.pacific-r2r.org/regional-international-waters-r2r-project</a> (videos)</p> <p><a href="https://youtu.be/PkeOXsh9qZc">https://youtu.be/PkeOXsh9qZc</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.pacific-r2r.org/news/pacific-iw-r2r-regional-knowledge-exchange-improved-domestic-pig-waste-management">https://www.pacific-r2r.org/news/pacific-iw-r2r-regional-knowledge-exchange-improved-domestic-pig-waste-management</a></p>
<p>3.2.4 Number of inter-ministry committee members meeting within the 4 pilot PICs that is engaged</p>	<p>3.3.4 Limited learning on effectiveness of investments in country-driven approaches to</p>	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>3.2.4 At least 20 ICM members total from the 4 pilot PICs (sub-regional, mix of high island, atoll settings) gauge in</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>Inaugural 1-day MSC workshop will be held in the margin of RPSC 4. National projects will apply the MSC technique by collecting and sharing MSC stories. RPCU prepared the MSC</p>	<p>Consistent with the change in this output to participatory techniques applied to members of the RSC, in July, 45 national STAR and IW R2R project-related participants from</p>



<p>in learning and change in perception through participatory techniques</p> <p>*Participation data to be disaggregated by gender</p>	<p>development assistance in PICs</p>		<p>learning, leading to change in perception through participatory techniques.</p> <p>*50% of participants will be women, youth, and/or from vulnerable groups</p>	<p>Overview and Guide, and Story Collection Guide.</p>	<p>14 Pacific island countries took part in the pre-RPSC workshop. The workshop included assessing and selecting the Most Significant Change story from the GEF Pacific R2R programmatic implementation. This was the culmination of a two-month capacity building process (introduction and story collection). The top three stories of significant change were selected from – Fiji STAR, Tonga IW national demo, and FSM STAR. All MSC posters are available, and results of self-assessments improved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Level of familiarity with the MSC technique and its application.</li> <li>2. Understanding of the process and be able to reapply in their local context; and</li> <li>3. Understanding of the R2R guiding principles</li> </ol> <p>A second round of MSC is scheduled at the margin of the 2021 Regional Steering Committee meeting.</p> <p>The newly designed and trialled MSC approach and</p>
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					application had also been presented at the 21st Large Marine Ecosystem Forum in Cartagena, and garnered interest from Conservation International (Nigeria, Ecuador), Regional CSO (CANARI), and GEF R2R projects (IWeco, MAR2R) for a manual/toolkit for replication. CKMA will explore this development with RPCU support.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
<b>Outcome 8</b>					
<b>National and regional formulation and adoption of integrated and simplified results frameworks for integrated multi-focal projects</b>					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
4.1.1 Number and quality of national and regional indicator set with the proposed targets and outcomes of the R2R program	4.1.1 Calls from Pacific leaders for strengthened emphasis on results in the planning and financing of development in PICs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4.1.1 1 simple and integrated national and regional reporting templates developed based on national indicator sets and regional framework to facilitate annual results reporting	On track  RPCU continued disseminating and advocating for the use or application of various planning and reporting templates and tools. Linking planning, implementation and reporting following a results-based management approach is key to effective and efficient use of development funds.  Two of the Pacific island countries (Palau for the GEF 6 project workplan, and Nauru for their Nauru Integrated Environment Policy)	On track  The various planning and reporting tools contained in the Results-Based Monitoring (RBM) system were promoted and disseminated during in August 2019. Both STAR and IW project managers were provided a copy of the RBM system including its attachments/resources.

			and monitoring from 14 PICs	have indicated interest in using the R2R MYCWP template.	As one of the features of the PMIS, the MYCWP planning tool will be made online. After the launch in August 2020, project stakeholders will be to see the status of activities, outputs, and outcomes in real-time.  See related indicator 4.2.3.
4.1.2 Level of acceptance of the harmonized results tracking approach by the GEF, its agencies and participating countries	4.1.2 Lack of results tracking, and reporting approach tested via GEF Pac IWRM project, including training of a cadre of national WatSan sector staff	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4.1.2 1 unified/harmonized multi-focal area results tracking approach and analytical tool developed, endorsed, and proposed to the GEF, its agencies and participating countries	On track  Both RSTC and RPSC approved the implementation of the Harmonised Results Reporting (HRR) tool. To ensure its full utilisation, the GEF implementing agencies may promote the use of the tool by the child projects of the GEF Pacific R2R program.  Complementing this tool is the GEF Pacific R2R Programme dashboard for visualising financial and technical information. Once the data are supplied by the child projects under the GEF Pacific R2R Programme, the dashboard has the capability to graphically display the results of the GEF investments according to GEF focal areas.	On track  RPCU is integrating the Harmonized Results Reporting into the Project Management Information System (PMIS), see related indicator 4.2.3. This will primarily involve the national STAR project managers. As envisioned, STAR project will provide data and information on the project's plausible contribution to the GEF focal Areas and as deemed appropriate, the Aichi Targets and the SDGs.  As recommended by the midterm review mission, RPCU appeals to the GEF

					IA to request the respective STAR project managers to submit to the RPCU the data and information using the HRR template that was earlier provided.
4.1.3 Number of National planning exercises in 14 Pac SIDS conducted with participants from relevant ministries with a mandate to embedding R2R results into national systems for reporting, monitoring and budgeting	4.1.3 An increasingly large myriad of national level reporting requirements for natural resource and environment agencies constrains the timely and accurate reporting of results of development assistance in PICs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4.1.3 Up to 14 national planning exercises in 14 Pac SIDS conducted with participants from relevant ministries with a mandate to embed R2R results into national systems for reporting, monitoring and budgeting	On track  In October 2018, responding to the request of the Director of Environment, Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment or DCIE, the RPCU held a workshop to apply the MYCWP for the Nauru Integrated Environment Policy (NIEP). There were 13 participants from various departments and divisions, including the DCIE. The preliminary output of the workshop is a NIEP operational plan using the MYCWP template.  As previously reported, project advocacy for these planning, monitoring and reporting tools may see them adopted in national processes, but ensuring take-up is beyond the scope of the present project.	On track  RPCU sees this as an on-demand indicator.  During this reporting period, RPCU personnel visited Fiji and Kiribati to provide technical guidance on programmatic approach and training on the use of water quality equipment, respectively.  Also, as mentioned before, one-on-one mentoring through teleconferencing is constantly undertaken. This is an effective and efficient way for maintaining constant contact with the project managers especially in this time of COVID-19 travel restrictions.

The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
<b>Outcome 9</b>					
<b>National and regional platforms for managing information and sharing of best practices and lessons learned in R2R established</b>					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
4.2.1 Regional communication strategy developed and number of partnerships with media and educational organizations	4.2.1 Absence of public-private partnership in support of communicating benefits of IWRM initiated via GEF Pac IWRM project	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4.2.1 Regional 'ridge to reef' communications strategy developed and implemented, and assistance provided to national R2R project including at least 10 partnerships with national and regional media and educational organizations	<p>On track</p> <p>As previously reported, the communications strategy and guide to developing national communications plans are in place. RPCU also held a communications capacity-building workshop for R2R project managers at the 3rd RSC Meeting.</p> <p>Below are links to the outcome of the Third RSC Meeting in Townsville:  <a href="https://twitter.com/i/status/1024485052153905154">https://twitter.com/i/status/1024485052153905154</a>  <a href="https://www.spc.int/updates/news/2018/08/capacity-building-and-coordination-highlighted-at-third-pacific-ridge-to-reef">https://www.spc.int/updates/news/2018/08/capacity-building-and-coordination-highlighted-at-third-pacific-ridge-to-reef</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_if-uA-neY&amp;t=13s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_if-uA-neY&amp;t=13s</a></p> <p>3rd Inter-Regional SIDS Meeting for SAMOA Pathway MTR in Apia - GEF side (October 2018) 25 years of GEF SIDS support, Experiences and Emerging lessons from GEF Pacific R2R programmatic implementation. Joined by GEF and Samoa SGP recipient.</p> <p>IW R2R national demonstrations project manager's induction and coaching session in May 2019 for 5 project managers, including –</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>Following the approved communications strategy, the RPCU established the Pacific R2R website, which is serving as repository of data and information in the implementation of Ridge to Reef. During this reporting period, the following sub-outputs contributing to this indicator were produced as planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launched of Phase 1 of the Pacific R2R Programme website – including both the development of the site, and the development and curation of all the online content</li> <li>• Online campaign on World Water Day coinciding with the website launch conducted</li> <li>• Participated in IWLEARN5 PPG</li> </ul>

				<p>communications and knowledge management planning and implementation.</p> <p>The MTR has made recommendations to strengthen the communications strategy and implementation, and a paper will be presented to the RSTC on these enhancements.</p>	<p>development global consultations, including invitation of CKMA for membership to Project Steering Committee (2020 – 22)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparations for the Phase 2 of web redevelopment work underway</li> <li>• Provided technical and advisory support to the national project teams of Kiribati for their inception meeting; Fiji project awareness material; Vanuatu project signage; Cook Islands STAR publications.</li> <li>• Tonga IW and Niue STAR R2R Projects in the preparation of awareness products for World Water Day celebration.</li> <li>• Fiji communications and visibility support for World Environment Day (speech writing for Minister of Environment and Project Manager, videography and photography).</li> <li>• Support Tonga for World Oceans Day</li> </ul>
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					<p>towards IWLEARN Special Edition Newsletter highlighting Rapid Priority Coastal Area Assessment work in Tonga,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported Kiribati Water Quality Training by issuance of certificates</li> <li>• Drafting of first edition quarterly e-Newsletter for the Pacific R2R Programme for publication in Q3;</li> <li>• Developed awareness material for R2R spatial prioritization work</li> <li>• Pacific Ocean Alliance 2019 participation and advocacy, the Pacific Ocean Commissioner and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat Secretary General reiterates advocacy message on regional harmonization and Ridge to Reef.</li> </ul>
4.2.2 Number of IW:LEARN experience notes published	4.2.2 Limited regional and global sharing of information on best practice and lessons learned from the GEF	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4.2.2 Participation in IW:LEARN activities: conferences; preparation of at least 10 experience notes	On track RPCU coordinated the attendance of 3 participants to the International Waters Conference (IWC) in Marrakech in November 2018 as part of a Pacific R2R Programme panel presentation. Two draft experience notes	On track Following the approval of the RSC on the regional framework for the compilation of R2R lessons learned, an increase in the total

	Pacific Alliance for Sustainability		and inter-linked websites with combined allocation of 1% of GEF grant	<p>(Tuvalu and Vanuatu) had been submitted to RPCU as the basis of participation.</p> <p>As a result of the IWC presentation, a twinning proposal was developed by the Caribbean IW Eco Project inviting the Pacific IW R2R Regional Project CKMA to present similarly at their 3rd IW Eco Steering Committee meeting in April 2019. The Technical and Monitoring Officer of the IW Eco will participate at the Pacific R2R 4th Regional Steering Committee and a joint experience note will be drafted and published.</p> <p>-Technical brief and guide – Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation</p> <p>GEF International Waters: Learning Exchange Resource Network (IWLEARN) and GEF Large Marine Ecosystem: Learning Exchange and Resource Network (LMELEARN) Twinning Exchange with University of New South Wales and Pacific Ridge to Reef Regional International Waters Project</p>	<p>number of experience notes (expanded to lessons) beyond the end of project target of 10 can be expected.</p> <p>As previously reported, two joint experience notes have been drafted as a result of two twinning exercises, with the IW Eco Project and CLME+ (Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem). Three notes have been drafted from national project implementation experience (Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Palau) for a total of five. Experience note from the twinning with the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency on pig waste management is completed.</p> <p>IWLEARN website linked to Pacific R2R website completed.</p> <p>Concept Note for panel discussion provided at the request of UNDP for Stockholm World Water Day 2020.</p>
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					Preparation of the remaining experience notes is underway.
4.2.3 Number of users, volume of content accessed, and online visibility of the 'Pacific R2R Network'	4.2.3 Need for media platforms and targeted communications in support of efforts to harness support for inter-ministerial coordination and policy and planning elements of the R2R program	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4.2.3 Pacific R2R Network established with at least 100 users registered, 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.	Off track  The procurement process was initiated in September 2018, through an open Request for Proposals, administered by the SPC Procurement Unit. The RFP attracted only one bidder and the price exceeded the national budget significantly, so the procurement stalled. R2R has since been advised to negotiate with a preferred SPC supplier. Technical discussions with the supplier were ongoing at the end of the reporting period.	On track  As previously reported, a preferred SPC provider was commissioned to lead the development of the Pacific R2R website.  Phase 1 of this work was completed in March 2020 (see also indicator 4.2.1). The website functions as a central repository and mechanism for the awareness, advocacy and sharing of information and knowledge related to R2R implementation.  Progress to date as at June 30, 2020: Users: 1703 (exceeding 100 Users target)  Sessions: 2336 Pageviews: 8215 Pages/Session: 4 Average session duration: 4 minutes

					<p>Bounce rate: 46%</p> <p>Phase 2 work is currently underway including the Project Management Information System (PMIS) with planning and results reporting tools for national IW R2R projects and national STAR projects.</p> <p>Phase 2 will be launched on the margins of the next regional steering committee meeting in quarter 4 2020.</p> <p>Regional framework for the compilation and development of lessons learned for Pacific R2R Programme endorsed by the RSC4 (August 2019).</p> <p>TOR for report writers provided to IW/STAR project coordinators and managers (December 2020).</p> <p>Country briefings on lessons learned have been conducted for Tuvalu, Palau, Samoa and Cook Islands (Q2 2020).</p>
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					<p>Countries have requested extensions from June 30 for submissions on titles and summaries. This will carry forward to Q3 for reporting to the RSC5.</p> <p>Also refer to related indicator 3.1.1</p>
<b>The progress of the objective can be described as:</b>		<b>On track</b>			
<b>Outcome 10</b>					
<b>Effective program coordination of national and regional R2R projects</b>					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>
5.1.1 Program coordination unit recruited, and staff retained	5.1.1 No coordination unit and full-time personnel established	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	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)	<p>On track</p> <p>Immediately following RPSC 3, the GEM Deputy Director served as the Regional Programme Coordinator.</p> <p>As of February 1, 2019, RPCU has had a full staff complement with the engagement of the Regional Program Coordinator and the Science and National Project Leader.</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>The project had experienced staff changes since July 2019. Changes in the RPCU staff are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resignation of Regional Programme Coordinator in May 2020. Newly appointed RPC as of June 1, 2020</li> <li>- Science &amp; National Project Team Leader position vacant in May 31, 2020. A new PSL took over as of June 22, 2020</li> </ul>

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Science Officer position became vacant on 5 February 2020</li> <li>- Project Finance Officer resigned in September 2019 but was finally replaced in March 2020.</li> <li>- Two Interns have been engaged to support the science team</li> </ul>
5.1.2 Number of requests for regional-level support to national project delivery and management met by program coordination unit	5.1.2 Limited national level experience and capacity in delivery of large integrated natural resource and environment projects and programs	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	5.1.2 Technical, operational, reporting and monitoring Unit is operational to provide support to national R2R projects, as may be requested by PICs, to facilitate timely delivery of overall program goals. At least 14 requests per year are met effectively.	<p>On track</p> <p>From August 2018 to June 2019, onsite technical and management advice to national project managers, agency focal points and supervisors. In limited cases, RPCU staff also met with STAR project coordinators to discuss opportunities for collaborative implementation and joint advocacy for mainstreaming of R2R in national planning and policies.</p> <p>In addition to the country visits, an induction for new project managers and coaching session for selected national projects facing significant implementation delays was held in Suva on May 27-31, 2019. This included Nauru, Kiribati, RMI, Niue, and Tonga. The 5-day session resulted in national managers gaining a better understanding of the GEF Pacific R2R Programme, the Regional IW R2R project, its various technical and management requirements, including refined national logframes, end of project targets and corresponding MYCWPs.</p>	<p>On track</p> <p>During this reporting period, RPCU provided guidance, coaching and mentoring support to all project managers in the preparations of supporting documents for the no-cost extension. Following the guidance notes, participating countries were assisted in updating their national IW R2R logical frameworks and the corresponding multi-year costed workplans. These two main documents were used as basis for granting of no-cost extension. All national IW R2R projects requested no-cost extensions of varying duration.</p>

					<p>In addition, the RPCU reviewed progress and financial reports, quarterly workplans and processed funds requests for all participating countries. Apart from the country visits conducted by some RPCU staff, several other countries were supported through telecoms.</p> <p>During this period specific technical support was also provided to participants from Tonga, Tuvalu, Fiji, RMI national R2R projects during the first technical consultation of the RSTC held on February 5-7, 2020.</p>
5.1.3 Number of R2R staff trained resulting in effective results reporting and online information sharing	5.1.3 Low-level familiarity with GEF minimum standards for results-based management, monitoring and evaluation, and financial and progress reporting requirements of GEF and its	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	5.1.3 At least 14 R2R staff are trained (in harmonized reporting and monitoring and other regional and national and capacity building modules, among others) resulting in effective results reporting	On track  A pre-RPSC meeting/ workshop was held in Townsville. One of the workshop objectives was to revisit the rationale for the GEF Pacific R2R Programme, and the programmatic approach to implementation. STAR coordinators and IW project managers together with the national agency representatives and GEF focal points participated. It was also during this meeting that the HRR was presented together with the other planning and reporting tools. See also	On track  RPCU staffs attended national STAR Project Steering Committee or Project Board meetings. This is where the results-oriented reporting following the programmatic approach has been advocated.

	implementing agencies		and online information sharing.	<p>status of indicator 4.2.1 (on communications capacity-building workshop).</p> <p>Overall, the interactions among child projects of the GEF Pacific R2R Programme are limited and remained a challenge for SPC. As mentioned in previous reports, full programming requires support from all GEF implementing agencies through the RPCG and should feature in the agenda of all project board or project steering committee meetings. SPC takes every opportunity to encourage programmatic implementation to promote in-country collaboration at the minimum between national IW R2R project and STAR project.</p> <p>SPC also needs to be informed or consulted on any planned reviews or evaluations of the child projects. ToR for national STAR project reviews/ evaluation should at a minimum indicate or refer to the GEF Pacific R2R Programme and note the need to consult with SPC.</p> <p>SPC continues to advocate for the establishment of joint Project Boards/ Inter Ministry Committees or, or Project Steering Committees, whenever feasible. To date, only four countries have established joint steering/ governance bodies at the national level: Fiji, FSM, Palau, and RMI. The first PSC meeting in Solomon Islands yielded no decision on whether the Solomon STAR project will agree to a joint board/ IMC. Such joint boards will provide platforms for programmatic</p>	<p>Apart from the regular technical support provided to participating countries, no additional activities can be reported against this indicator</p>
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				implementation through joint planning and reporting.	
5.1.4 Volume and quality of information and data contributed by program stakeholders to online repositories	5.1.4 Existing GEF IWRM interactive website with a cadre of national project stakeholders trained in its operation	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	5.1.4 At least 4 quality information and/or data contributed/ updated per year (total of at last 16 throughout the project) to the online repository, as a result of support provided to PICs for the development and operation of the Pacific R2R Network and regional with national R2R web pages as a repository of information, documentation and for sharing best practices	Off track  No new progress since last report. See also indicator 4.2.3 (RFP on website development)	On track  See related indicator 4.2.3.  During this reporting period, 14 country portals were enhanced with resources as part of Phase 1 web re-development. The science portal has also been developed, linking to the R2R website. Data collected from the trial application of RAPCA in Vanuatu will be uploaded and available on the portal in QTR2.  Please refer to <a href="http://www.pacific-r2r.org">www.pacific-r2r.org</a> for details under top menu – Projects. Further country contributions to Online Discussion Forum which is undergoing development under Phase 2 with anticipated launch at RSC5.
5.1.5 Number of planning and coordination	5.1.5 Limited sub-regional and regional	<i>(not set or not)</i>	5.1.5 At least 4 (1 per year) planning and	On track	On track.

<p>workshops conducted for national projects teams to ensure timeliness and cost-effectiveness of IW pilot project and STAR project coordination, delivery and reporting</p>	<p>coordination and planning workshops conducted in association with inter-governmental meetings for cost efficiency purposes</p>	<p><i>applicable)</i></p>	<p>coordination workshops conducted for national project teams in the Pacific R2R network</p>	<p>A Results-Based Monitoring (RBM) System for the GEF Pacific R2R program was produced during this reporting period. A copy of this document was made available to the Midterm Review mission.</p> <p>RPCU held an internal reflection workshop from December 3-5, 2018. The workshop aimed to take-stock of the project implementation in preparation for the independent midterm review (MTR) of the project. UNDP participated and provided guidance to RPCU.</p> <p>From May 27-31, 2019, the RPCU also held an induction and coaching session for national project managers of Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, RMI, and Tonga (See also status of indicator 5.1.2).</p> <p>During the margins of the RPSC week, RPCU will provide opportunities for identification of joint activities that will foster and enhance national level collaboration across STAR and IW R2R projects and programmatic implementation of the R2R Programme.</p>	<p>Annually, a Regional Steering Committee (RSC) is held. The aim of which is to take stock of the programme and project outputs and achievements towards the envisaged outcomes. The RSC held in July 2019 was considered as a milestone RSC since most of the strategic and management issues were exhaustively discussed. A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the MTR findings and recommendations.</p> <p>The recommendations were presented for which RSTC and RSC reaffirmed/acknowledged and endorsed as bases for implementation in the remaining project period.</p> <p>Recommendations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in the relevant indicators</li> <li>• Strategic approach to Science and Policy</li> <li>• No-cost extension, and most importantly</li> </ul>
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The joint approach to GEF Pacific R2R Programmatic implementation.</li> </ul> <p>Complementing the annual regional stakeholders gathering, RPCU staff also held in-country visits to provide backstopping support to the national projects. Results of this country visits and virtual sessions were a refined national logframes and the corresponding multi-year costed workplans which were then used as bases for granting the no-costs extension.</p> <p>In February 2020 two important activities were held, namely: the expanded RSTC technical consultation meeting and the RPCU reflection and planning workshop.</p>
<p>The progress of the objective can be described as:</p>	<p>On track</p>				