



GEF IW R2R/ RSC.6/ IP. 06

Date: 9th January 2022

Original: English

**Sixth 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 20th to 21st January 2022

Provisional Annotated Agenda

DAY 1

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING (10.00 AM)

1.1 Meeting Preliminaries & Opening Prayer

Ms Rhonda Robinson, Deputy Director of SPC's Disaster and Community Resilience Programme will preside over the meeting preliminaries.

- Quick reference to signing in of delegates, and sound or visual checks been sorted earlier from 10.30am. If there are delegates require assistance, please use the chat box to message us at the Secretariat so we can attend to you.

A member of the Regional Steering Committee will be invited to deliver an opening prayer.

1.2 Opening remarks by the Incoming Chair (Palau)

The current Chair, Ms Gwen Sisor, will welcome delegates to the 6th meeting of the RSC currently conducted virtually on a zoom platform. This also means the approach to conducting the virtual meeting will be strictly guided by time allocations set out in the provisional agenda.

Next, the Chair will announce the opening ceremony with remarks from the Pacific Community and UNDP. Time allocation for speeches is limited to approximately 7 minutes each.

1.3 Welcome address on behalf of the Pacific Community (SPC).

Chair will invite the GEM Ag. Director & Deputy Director Disaster and Community Resilience Programme, Mrs. Rhonda Robinson, to give her opening remarks.

Mrs. Robinson will address the Committee and welcome participants to the virtual meeting on behalf of SPC's senior executive management, the GEM Division, and the R2R Project team. Mrs. Robinson will declare the meeting open.

1.4 Welcome addresses on behalf of the Global Environmental Facility Implementing Agencies.

Chair will invite the United Nations Development Programme's Resident Representative for the Pacific Office, Mr Levan Bouadez, for his remarks.

Mr Bouadez will welcome participants to the meeting on behalf of UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the Food and Agricultural Organization.

2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING

2.1 Call meeting to Order (Samoa – Chair presiding)

The incoming Chair from Samoa, Mrs. Lealaisalanoa Frances Brown Reupena - Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment will call the meeting to order. Mrs. Lealaisalanoa Frances Brown Reupena will offer vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair from Palau having served in the Chair's capacity since the last meeting of the RSC.

Given this is the last meeting of the project, the Chair draws the attention of the Committee to its Rules of Procedures which remain in force in the conduct of the meeting.

2.4 Documentation available to the meeting

Chair will invite the GEF Pacific R2R Regional Programme Coordinator, Mr Samasoni Sauni to take the meeting through the meeting papers, a list of which is contained in *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/IP.03*. Provisional list of participants is provided in *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/IP.02*.

2.5 Program of work and arrangements for the conduct of the meeting

The Chair will invite Mr. Sauni to brief the Committee on arrangements for the conduct of the meeting, and the proposed organization of work as outlined in the Provisional Annotated Agenda *GEF IW R2R RSC.6/WP.04* (this document) prepared by the Regional Project Coordination Unit (RPCU).

3. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 4th RSC MEETING & MEETING AGENDA

3.1 Adoption of last meeting record & action items

The Chair will invite the Secretariat, Mr Sauni, to comment on any outstanding matters or action items in the record of the last meeting. The relevant paper is *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/IP.6*.

The Chair will state that the meeting report has been finalized, circulated, and posted online following an iterative process of clearing it out of session. The Committee is now invited to adopt the RSC5 Meeting Report.

3.2 Adoption of provisional meeting agenda

The Chair will refer to the Information paper, *GEF IW R2R/ RSC.6/IP.2*, and will invite the Committee to propose any amendments or additional items for consideration, prior to the adoption of the Provisional Agenda.

The Chair will invite the Committee to adopt the provisional Meeting Agenda.

4. R2R INVESTMENT FORUM & ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION - OUTCOMES

Chair will inform the meeting that there were 3-key sessions which took place at the investment forum the week before – introduction & reflection on R2R products, declaration & framework for mainstreaming R2R approach, and roundtable/case studies.

The relevant papers are the GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.01, WP.02 & WP.03.

The Chair will invite the Secretariat to present the outcomes of the R2R investment forum and roundtable discussion.

The Chair will then open the floor for discussions on the outcomes presented at the end of the presentations under agenda item 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.

5. REGIONAL IW R2R PROJECT FINAL REPORTS

5.1 Project Final report

Chair will inform the meeting that the Regional IW R2R final project report is a requirement on closing the project and it will benefit from outcome of discussion at this meeting for its finalization before the project closes on 1 March 2022. The regional project report will be updated and finalized upon completion and submission of all national IW R2R project final reports.

The Chair will invite the Secretariat to present to the Committee, for its information and consideration, an update of the project final report. The detailed updates are provided in the meeting paper *GEF IW R2R/ RSC.6/WP.04*.

Chair will open the floor for discussion and guidance in enhancing and finalizing the final report. The paper also recommends that the RSC endorses the report in principle recognizing further enhancements is needed once SPC receives all final reports from national IW R2R projects.

5.2 RSTC Final report

The Chair will invite the Chair of the RSTC, Prof. Marcus Sheaves to present to the Committee, the final report and the outcomes of the 6th RSTC Meeting. The detailed updates are provided in the meeting paper *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.05*.

Chair will open the floor for discussion and seek a decision from the meeting to note the paper.

5.3 Regional Programme Coordination Group (RPCG) Final report

The Chair will invite the Chair of the RPCG Dr. Justin Shone to present the final report and the outcomes of the 5th RPCG Meeting. The detailed updates are provided in the meeting paper *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.06*.

Chair will invite the meeting to note the paper.

5.4 James Cook University (JCU) Final report

The Chair will invite the James Cook University representative, Prof. Marcus Sheaves to provide an update on the R2R postgraduate course. The detailed updates are provided in the meeting paper *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.07*.

Chair will open the floor for discussion and invite the meeting to note the paper.

5.5 Terminal Evaluation report (draft highlights)

The Chair will invite UNDP representative (Floyd Robinson) to present to the Committee the draft highlights of the Terminal Evaluation. The detailed updates are provided in the meeting paper *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.8*.

Chair will open the floor for discussion and invite the meeting the note highlights set out in the paper.

6. LOOKING AHEAD POST R2R & COVID-19

Chair will inform the meeting that the RSC has already approved and agreed to work towards a next replacement project for the current R2R IW R2R project. At this stage a generic project concept was formulated and circulated to everyone last year seeking inputs.

It was intended that the generic project concept is streamlined and covering priority areas discussed and agreed in the past. The generic concept will then revise to meet at least the minimum requirements of potential donors such as GEF-8, GCF and EU. The detailed updates of the current concepts are provided in the meeting papers *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.9*, *WP.10* & *WP.11*.

The Chair will invite the Secretariat & the consultants to present to the Committee for its information and consideration and update on what could possibly be next after R2R. The presentations will follow this order:

- (i) GEF-8 project concept and PIF – Mr Herman Timmermans*
- (ii) GCF project concept and PPF – Mr Luke Moore*
- (iii) EU project concept – Dr. Fononga Vainga Mangisi-Mafileo*

Chair will open the floor for discussion at the end of all the presentations. Chair will also emphasize the importance that countries re-confirm their interest in participating the successor project.

7. E-LAUNCHING OF THE R2R PRODUCTS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Chair and the Secretariat will introduce the paper on the features of the R2R products and publications. A brief background on this project activity is available on the meeting paper *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/WP.12*. The formal official launching will follow.

Chair will invite the Committee to witness and endorse the launching and the handing over of IW/STAR R2R products and publications to PICs. The launching will be facilitated by the Chair, UNDP and SPC.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chair will open the floor for any other matters to be discussed.

Chair may wish to present the final version of the declaration for adoption at this time, and open for signatures.

9. MEETING EVALUATION

The Chair will invite the Secretariat to present a summary of the decisions taken at this RSC-6 meeting. An activity evaluation will be also done with an online link provided to the same questions as done in RSC5 in 2020.

10. CLOSING

Having observed no further interventions, the Chair will thank the Committee for its deliberation and respective contributions. The Chair will close the meeting.

11. JCU GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Chair and the Secretariat along with assistance from JCU representatives will organize and conduct the JCU Graduation ceremony. The final details of the programme are provided in the Information paper *GEF IW R2R/RSC.6/IP.8*.