

### Q3 2018 GEF PACIFIC R2R PROGRESS REPORT

#### 1 – KEY DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

Regional IW R2R project implementation status @31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018														
PICS	Country Visits	Pro Doc Sign	IW R2R					STAR R2R						
			MOA				Project Manager	Inception Meeting	STAR ProDoc		IA	PCA Status	Project Manager	Inception Meeting
Palau	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Leena Muller	Oct. 25, 2016	Copy	OK	UNEP	Signed	Gwen Sisor	March 3, 2018
FSM	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Faith Siba	Feb. 21-22, 2018	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Rosalinda Yatilman	Mar-17
Marshalls	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Julius Lucky	March 9, 2018		OK	UNDP			March 9, 2018
Kiribati	Completed	Signed	signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Putu Tofinga	March 2018	Copy	OK	FAO			
Tuvalu	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Pesega Lifuka	July 12, 2016	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Mataio Tekinene	Aug-16
Nauru	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Murphy Ribauw	Feb. 22-23, 2016	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Phaedora Harris	Feb-16
Samoa	Completed	Signed	Signed	signed	Signed	Signed	Fata Eti Malolo	Nov. 1, 2017	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed		done
Tonga	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Silia Leger	Feb. 1, 2018	UNDP Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Tahirih Hokafonu	2015
									FAO Copy	OK	FAO	Signed	Isileli Aholelei	Sep-17
Niue	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Crispina Konelio	Sept. 13, 2017	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Shane Tohovaka	Jul-16
Cooks	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Jaime Short	Sept. 25, 2017	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Maria Tuoro	Oct-15
Fiji	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	TBC	Oct. 5, 2017	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed	Local consultant	April 2017
Vanuatu	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Ericksen Packett	Dec. 8, 2016	Copy	OK	FAO			done
Solomons	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Sammy Airahui	Jan. 25-26, 2017	NIL R2R Project					
PNG	Completed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Signed	Senson Mark	May 9, 2017	Copy	OK	UNDP	Signed		2016

2 – PROGRESS AGAINST OUTPUTS

Component 1. National Demonstrations to Support R2R ICM/IWRM Approaches for Island Resilience and Sustainability		
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	<p>Environmental monitoring plans for national stress reduction activities have been completed for Tuvalu, Vanuatu, FSM, and Solomon Islands.</p> <p>A regional water quality monitoring kit has been purchased that can measure physico-chemical parameters including target nutrients. Baseline water quality assessments and initial coastal health monitoring has been completed in Tuvalu.</p> <p>Baseline social and governance data for Palau, PNG, Cook Islands, and Tuvalu has been collected and is awaiting collation into the regional database that is under development and for conversion into various knowledge products as required by the project.</p> <p>A Rapid Coastal Assessment of environmental indicators has been conducted at the pilot site in Vanuatu. Planning for the coastal assessment in Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa and PNG is underway and expected to be completed by December 2018. Data from these exercises contributes to the State of the Coast Report Diagnostic report and Baseline assessment of the pilot sites.</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	<p>As reported before, the national pilot testing plans developed and are currently being implemented though encountered challenges. These challenges were discussed during the RSC Meeting in Townsville held on July 29-August 3, 2018. Despite these challenges, RPCU remained optimistic that the pilot projects will provide significant basis for catalyzing local community action and national where time permits, regional upscaling. Fiji has appointed a Project Manager for the IW R2R Project who will begin office in mid-October 2018.</p> <p>A regional R2R Gender Toolkit has been finalised, ready for design, and publishing.</p>
1.2.1	Priority areas for replication in each of 14 participating PICs characterized in diagnostics for ICM/IWRM reforms, investments and CC adaptation in 14 PICs	<p>Following the RSC meeting in July/August the diagnostic analysis process has been modified and a TOR has been written and submitted for advertisement through the SPC Procurement office. The modified process will enable greater stakeholder engagement with science based policy assessment and will lead in and fulfil part of output 3.1.2 with the formulation of policy options for ICM/IWRM interventions.</p>

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1.2.2	Methodology and procedures for characterizing island coastal areas for ICM investment developed	The prioritisation procedure has been drafted and will be finalised through expert consultations in October 2018. Comparable regional data and information has been collected for PNG, Cook Islands, Palau and Vanuatu. A regional database and mapping platform is in development with SPC Geoinformatics department, to conduct analysis and identify priority locations. A TOR for a Geoinformatics Officer to join the RPCU has been developed and submitted to SPC Procurement office for advertisement.
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	The topic on operationalizing the programmatic approach has been extensively discussed during the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) week gathering in Townsville. The RSTC, RPCG and the RSC has been informed of the fundamental requirements for that will ensure a functional R2R Programme. An important conclusion was to hold country visits to explain the relevance and importance of the R2R programme approach. Enhancing coordination and advocacy for R2R approach is the priority focus of the 2018-2019 workplan of the RPCU.
1.3.2	14 national private-sector and donor partnership forums for investment planning in priority community-based ICM/IWRM actions	Same status as previously reported. However, there are positive indications that the national stakeholders are keen of supporting and investing into ICM/IWRM actions seeing it as a must to adapt to the impact of climate change.

#### **COMPONENT 2. ISLAND-BASED INVESTMENTS IN HUMAN CAPITAL AND KNOWLEDGE TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL AND LOCAL CAPACITIES FOR RIDGE TO REEF ICM/IWRM APPROACHES, INCORPORATING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**

2.1.1	Innovative post-graduate training program in ICM/IWRM and related CC adaptation delivered for project managers and participating stakeholders through partnership of internationally recognized educational institutes and technical support and mentoring program with results documented	<p>EV5960 Project Management was completed with 45 students, 8 of whom enrolled late and were granted late submissions. The course was fraught with difficulties especially with communication issues between the course coordinator and the students and the late submission of assignments. The RPCU was called upon numerous times to intervene on behalf of students who were not receiving any responses to their emails. The course coordinator obviously struggled to keep on top of things and also asked the assistance of the RPCU in liaising with different students.</p> <p>The next course EV5963 R2R Tools was launched after the RPSC meeting in Townsville. The course coordinators structured the course in such a way that the students were able to submit 60% of their course assessment by the end of the teaching week. This was done in an attempt to reduce the workload of the students upon their return home and to minimise communication issues.</p> <p>Discussion are currently underway between the RPCU, JCU, FAO, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, RMI, Kiribati and Fiji to re-run the PGC for the STAR-funded participants from these countries as they have only just secured their STAR funds.</p>
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2.1.2	Capacity for civil society and community organization participation in ICM/IWRM and CC adaptation strengthened through direct involvement in implementation of demo activities with results documented	Palau has begun implementation of a community driven PM&E Waterwatch Program. Tuvalu has begun a participatory Coastal Health Monitoring Program that includes science students from local high schools and community members. FSM has begun working with local community members in support of a community designed dry litter piggery system.
2.2.1	National human capacity needs for ICM/IWRM implementation identified and competencies of national and local government units for ICM/IWRM implementation benchmarked, tracked, and capacity building support secured with results documented	Initial discussions with management for the engagement of an adviser to complete competency assessments based on the recently published SPC Pacific Competencies Model.
2.2.2	Existing Public Service Commission salary scales and required functional competencies of key ICM/IWRM personnel analyzed; appropriate guidelines and incentive structures explored to encourage retention skilled and experienced staff	No progress since last report.

#### COMPONENT 3. MAINSTREAMING OF RIDGE TO REEF ICM/IWRM APPROACHES INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

3.1.1	National recommendations for 14 PICs for coastal policy, legal and budgetary reforms for ICM/IWRM for integration of land, water, forest, coastal management and CC adaptation compiled and documented with options for harmonization of governance frameworks	A regional database is in development with SPC's Geoinformatics team to house collected information and data. Policy assessment and recommendations for priority coastal areas has been included in the diagnostic analysis approach implemented through output 1.2.1
3.1.2	Inter-ministerial agreements and strategic action frameworks for 14 PICs on integration of land, water, forest and coastal management and capacity building in development of national ICM/IWRM reforms and investment plans endorsed by leaders	This is an on-going activity, which is based on the RAPCA and IDA, which is planned to be completed by end of 2018. The process of formulating the strategic action frameworks flows from the diagnostic analysis process in output 1.2.1. National stakeholder consultations have begun in those countries that have completed the initial diagnostic analysis workshops; Cook Islands, FSM and Samoa.
3.1.3	National 'State of the Coasts' reports for 14 PICs completed and launched to Pacific Leaders during National Coastal Summits (Yr 3) in coordination with national R2R projects and demonstrated as national development planning tool, including guidelines for diagnostic analyses of coastal areas	On-going activity. Expected to be completed by end of 2019. This is also anchored on the completion of the RAPCA and IDA.  State of the Coast Report contents and annotated report template developed and endorsed by RSTC and RPSC. TOR for consultant to complete 4 countries (Vanuatu, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu) has been submitted for advertisement through SPC Procurement team.
3.2.1	14 national networks of national ICM/IWRM pilot project inter-ministry committees formed by building on existing IWRM committees and contributing to a common results framework at the project and program levels	13 of the 14 IMC has been established. The national logical frameworks guide the board in their decisions.
3.2.2	Periodic inter-ministry committee meetings in 14 PICS conducted and results documented, participation data assembled and reported to national decision-makers and regional forums	Board meetings for both STAR and IW promoted. For those PICS with Joint boards, RPCU is hopeful that a programmatic implementation will be visible in these countries (e.g. Cook, FSM, Fiji, RMI, Samoa, Palau and Tuvalu).
3.2.3	Community leaders and local government from pilot projects networked via periodic national and regional round-table meetings complemented by community tech exchange visits	Ongoing for Samoa, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and PNG.

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3.2.4	Participatory techniques used to gauge learning and change in perception among inter-ministry committee members in 4 pilot PICs (sub-regional, mix of high island, atoll settings)	A regional MSC technique application was planned for during the RSC week in Townsville. However, due to limited preparation time, this was postponed to the next RSC meeting in 2019.
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**COMPONENT 4. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ‘RIDGE TO REEF’ INDICATORS FOR REPORTING, MONITORING, ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT**

4.1.1	National and regional reporting templates developed based on national indicator sets and regional framework to facilitate annual results reporting and monitoring from 14 PICs	The annual progress reporting and the mid-term report templates have been sent to the IW Project managers for their use. These reporting templates complement the planning tool that was introduced in the first and second quarter of 2018.						
4.1.2	Unified/harmonized multi-focal area results tracking approach and analytical tool developed and proposed to the GEF, its agencies and participating countries	<p>Complementing the planning and reporting templates is the Harmonized Results Reporting (HRR) tool. The tool was presented to the RSTC for review and approval. It has been decided that the R2R programme child projects (STAR) including the IW project managers will use the HRR, although some of the R2R child projects are adamant to use this tool and sees this as additional burden in reporting.</p> <p>CKMA and CCMEA attended the UNDESA/UNESCAP/UNDP SDG Forum and Voluntary National Review Workshop relating to analytical and reporting tool to be developed as part of the redevelopment of the website, associated databases and mobile application. Refer also to 4.2.3 for more details.</p>						
4.1.3	National planning exercises in 14 Pac SIDS conducted with relevant ministries on embedding R2R results frameworks into national systems for reporting, monitoring and budgeting	RPCU introduced the MYCWP as a tool to operationalize programmatic approach. A pre-RSC workshop in Townsville was held to demonstrate the application of the MYCWP. Continuous advocacy by both RPCU in collaboration with UNDP Pacific is being done to pursue joint planning and reporting along with the Programmatic approach.						
4.2.1	Regional ‘ridge to reef’ communications strategy developed and implemented and assistance provided to national R2R project including partnerships with national and regional media and educational organizations	<p>Implementation ongoing.</p> <p>The RSC approved USD2000 budget to support the implementation of this output from July 2018 – June 2019, noting proposed partnerships with national and regional media and educational organizations have been removed from the regional project logframe.</p>						
4.2.2	Participation in IW:LEARN activities: conferences; preparation of at least 10 experience notes and inter-linked websites with combined allocation of 1% of GEF grant	<p>Three GEF Pacific Regional IW R2R Project staff-related staff are planned to attend and represent the regional project at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Waters Conference in Morocco in November.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="1144 1238 2163 1394"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1144 1238 1534 1294">1. Mr Ericksen Packett - &amp; Conservation</td> <td data-bbox="1592 1238 2163 1270">Vanuatu Department of Environmental Protection</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1144 1302 1534 1334">2. Mr Pesega Lifuka-</td> <td data-bbox="1592 1302 2163 1334">Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1144 1334 1534 1394">3. Ms. Fononga Mangisi-Mafileo- Community (SPC)</td> <td data-bbox="1592 1334 2163 1366">Regional Programme Coordinating Unit, Pacific</td> </tr> </table>	1. Mr Ericksen Packett - & Conservation	Vanuatu Department of Environmental Protection	2. Mr Pesega Lifuka-	Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu	3. Ms. Fononga Mangisi-Mafileo- Community (SPC)	Regional Programme Coordinating Unit, Pacific
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4.2.3	Established Pacific R2R Network, online regional and national portals containing among others, databases, rosters of national and regional experts and practitioners on R2R, register of national and regional projects, repository for best practice R2R technologies, lessons learned	Proposed redevelopment of website, associated databases and mobile application presented to RSTC for technical review, RPCG as a tool to enhance coordination, communications and knowledge management. RSC decision that the website will not be programmatic, and will focus on delivering the Regional Projects deliverables. The draft TOR submitted for internal SPC Corporate approval as part of the Request for Proposals (RFP) process to be advertised in October.
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#### COMPONENT 5. RIDGE-TO-REEF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COORDINATION

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)	RPCU remained understaffed. Recruitment of the Regional Programme Coordinator and the Project Science Leader positions is underway.
5.1.2	Technical, operational, reporting and monitoring support provided to national R2R projects, as may be requested by PICs, to facilitate timely delivery of overall program goals	Constant follow-up and supervision is provided by the RPCU to all 12 IW R2R project managers. Fiji's project manager was appointed and will commence duties on the 29 <sup>th</sup> of Oct. 2018. Kiribati is the only country remaining to appoint a project manager. Country focal points (CFP) provided guidance and technical advice (as appropriate) to the IW project managers in areas of planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of results.
5.1.3	Assistance provided to participating countries in the Pacific R2R network, harmonized reporting and monitoring and other regional and national and capacity building modules, among others	The RPCU remains committed in providing technical and managerial support to the PICs. Specifically, available advice to both STAR (e.g. Fiji, RMI, FSM, and Tuvalu) and IW project managers were provided.
5.1.4	Periodic planning and coordination workshops conducted for national project teams in the Pacific R2R network	RPCU initiated the pre-RSC learning and sharing sessions aimed to inform and enable the national project managers.

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### 4 – PROJECT EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Country	Date MOA Signed	Date of 1 <sup>st</sup> Fund Tranche	Expenditure @ end Q2Y18	% Expenditure @ end Q3Y18
Palau	13/06/2016	20/06/2016	86,835.30	43.4%
FSM	28/12/2016	6/10/2017	30,060.31	15.0%
Marshalls	13/06/2016	20/06/2016	87,786.63	43.9%
Kiribati	10/03/2017	5/09/2017	17,518.31	8.8%
Tuvalu	1/06/2016	2/11/2016	83,310.49	41.7%
Nauru	26/05/2016	5/08/2016	22,222.86	11.1%
Samoa	10/03/2017	27/09/2017	21,591.12	10.8%
Tonga	1/09/2016	13/09/2017	21,338.89	10.7%
Niue	7/02/2017	16/03/2017	59,835.65	29.9%
Cooks	15/09/2016	28/09/2016	40,749.43	20.4%
Fiji	10/03/2017	6/10/2017	926.78	0.5%
Vanuatu	1/06/2016	12/07/2016	38,029.72	19.0%
Solomons	1/09/2016	10/01/2017	66,385.52	33.2%
PNG	9/01/2017	2/03/2017	55,075.24	27.5%
<b>Regional Project</b>	<b>30/07/2015</b>	<b>6/11/2015</b>	<b>3,626,443.78</b>	<b>35%</b>
Component 1			1,651,019.26	37%
Component 2			560,872.02	34%
Component 3			202,670.74	18%
Component 4			347,816.62	35%
Component 5			686,261.43	44%
Component 6/PM			177,803.72	34%

### 5 – CHALLENGES / LESSONS LEARNT

Key challenges and remedial measures taken:

1. The issues and challenges reported in the July 2017 to June 2018 Project Implementation report remained valid.
2. The effectiveness and responsiveness of RPCU in fulfilling its coordination and technical support role hinges on the availability of its key project personnel.
3. The need to complete RapCAs in five countries before the end of the year has placed immense pressure on the consultant whose contract ends at the end of Q4. The IW Project Managers are essentially working on their own and require a lot of help in organising the logistics of the RapCA so two trips are required for each country- one for planning and one for the execution of the RapCA.