

SPC Work Plan in Palau



01/01/2017 – 31/12/2017

The following table lists key work areas that SPC is undertaking in 2017 in cooperation with Palau. The country-specific work listed here complements other SPC work undertaken at a regional level to benefit the people of Palau and achieve its national development priorities. SPC's key regional work is presented in the Pacific Community Results Report.

SPC development objective	Divisional business plan objective	Status	Outputs taking place or expected to commence this year	Programme/Project
Goal 1: The Pacific region and its people benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth				
Fisheries				
1. Strengthen sustainable management of natural resources (fisheries, forestry, land use, agriculture, minerals, water)	Enhance data collection and provide data management services for fisheries and marine ecosystems	Ongoing	Support given to data entry in country, through the 'Slack' online collaboration platform	TUFMAN2 database
		Ongoing	Longline logsheet data received and processed at SPC on behalf of Palau	Logsheet data processing
		Ongoing	Observer workbooks received and processed at SPC for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) on behalf of Palau	Observer data processing
		Completed	Participants from Palau attended TDW11 - WCPFC Funding. Annual catch estimates provided by country	Tuna Data Workshop
		Ongoing	Assist country with WCPFC reporting obligations, particularly with the WCPFC Annual Report Part 1 (related to fleet activities in the WCPFC Convention Area)	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Reporting obligations
		Not Started	Collection of biological samples for the tuna tissue bank	WCPFC Project 35b: Tuna Tissue Bank
		Ongoing	Trials of electronic reporting (ER) and electronic monitoring (EM) technologies for improved fisheries data quality and flow. In-country training and support.	Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring
		Completed	Participated in and supported subregional workshop on EM hosted by Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA). Participating countries were Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands (RMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and Palau. Workshop covered plans for and systems to support the implementation of EM in longline fisheries across the subregion including the flow of EM data from countries to SPC's regional database system.	Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring
	Provide analyses and advice for evidence-based fisheries management	Ongoing	Support for Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) decision making	DFAT tagged funding
		Completed	National bio-economic analyses of longline fisheries	Global Environment Facility
		Completed	Report on seasonality and value of longline bycatch	Global Environment Facility
		Ongoing	Support for Palau Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) management arrangements for the longline fishery	Global Environment Facility
		Ongoing	Ongoing work in oceanic fisheries under WCPFC	WCPFC
		Cancelled (by Korea)	Cooperative survey of meso-pelagics in proposed National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) and outside NMS as part of long-term ecosystem monitoring plan (first of three over three years)	Research cruise on tuna ecosystem dynamics
		Ongoing	Technical and scientific advice in support of research plan development and implementation	Palau NMS
	Support the sustainable development of aquaculture	On Track	National capacity strengthened on aquatic biosecurity planning	Pacific Aquaculture Dev
		On Track	National aquatic biosecurity plan developed	Pacific Aquaculture Dev
		Not Started	National aquaculture business investment plan developed	Food and Agriculture Organization/SPC Aquaculture Business Investment Planning and Development

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	Identify sustainable alternative livelihood options for nearshore fisheries	Ongoing	Advisory inputs into national fish aggregating device (FAD) management plan	National FAD management plan
		Not Started	Technical inputs into Palau reef fish value chain analysis	Palau reef fish value chain analysis
	Support capacity development in fisheries and aquaculture among PICTs	Completed (February 2017)	Annual workshop to promote coordination and cooperation among observer programmes	ROCRS - Regional Observer Coordinators Workshop 17
		On Track	Two trainees attended first subregional (multiple nationality) observer training	ROCRS - Subregional basic observer training (in Vanuatu)
		On Track	Two trainees to attend second subregional (multiple nationality) observer training	ROCRS - Subregional basic observer training (in Pohnpei)
		Completed (May 2017)	Preselection screening of applicants (10) to attend Pacific Islands Regional Fisheries Observer (PIRFO) training	ROCRS - Observer training preselection screening
		On Track	Training of Bureau of Marine Resources (BMR) staff, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) staff and local fishers in FAD fishing methods and small boat safety	FAD fishing and small boat safety course (funded by MFAT under PFTP)
		Not started	Training of BMR staff, TNC staff and local fishers in seafood safety, hygienic work practices, onboard tuna handling	Seafood safety and tuna handling workshops (funded by MFAT under PFTP)
		On Track	Capacity building of staff from BMR: some work on coastal fisheries policy and legislation	Core, MFAT, tagged
Forestry, land use and agriculture				
1. Strengthen sustainable management of natural resources (fisheries, forestry, land use, agriculture, minerals, water)	Capacity to make evidence-based policy decisions on food security, sustainable resource management and economic growth strengthened	On Track	Regional repository of national agriculture policy banks developed in the Pacific Agriculture Forestry and Policy Network (PAFPNet) portal (infrastructure in place for Palau)	Agriculture Policy
		Completed	Baseline study and national policy inventory and analysis (Palau as part of 15 Pacific countries; to be published)	Agriculture Policy
		Ongoing	Palau consulted in the development of several agriculture policy frameworks (draft Pacific Regional Extension Strategy)	Agriculture Policy
		Completed	Agriculture National Minimum Development Indicators (NMDI) updated through desk-based data collection and analysis Infographic of agricultural statistics, from the household income and expenditure survey, prepared in partnership with FAO	Agriculture Policy
		On Track	Paravet training launched; training progressing	Animal Health - Paravet Training (2013 NZ Services agreement)

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	Natural resources developed and managed and governance strengthened	Ongoing	Ngerikiil Catchment Management Plan upscaling and implementation - pilot project testing methods for catalysing local community action, utilising and providing best practice examples, and building institutional linkages for integrated land, forest, water and coastal management	Global Environment Facility (GEF) Pacific Ridge to Reef Project
Minerals and water				
1. Strengthen sustainable management of natural resources (fisheries, forestry, land use, agriculture, minerals, water)	Strengthened development and management of natural resources, systems and processes	Ongoing	A modern Geodetic Reference Frame that underpins fundamental geospatial systems and applications is adopted	OCG Geodetics
		Ongoing	Capacities and priorities of Lands and Survey Departments mapped	OCG Geodetics
		Ongoing	Printed annual tide calendar received by relevant agencies and available online to public - A tidal fact sheet and additional information and improvements were included with the tide calendar for Malakal following a user survey	Ocean Information and Knowledge Management
	Natural resources developed and managed and governance strengthened	Ongoing	Technical solutions prepared with Pacific Island countries (PICs) for shared/overlapping EEZ - Technical support for preparation for negotiation meetings	Regional Maritime Boundaries Project
		Ongoing	Maritime baseline, zone, limits and boundaries developed for PICs; provision of appropriate maritime boundaries data, support and advice to assist countries to develop technical/legal solutions - Currently supporting the development of baselines and outer limits of the maritime zones for Fiji	Regional Maritime Boundaries Project
		Ongoing	1) SPC Regional Maritime Boundaries Unit and its project partners assisted PICs to complete lodgement of their boundaries data - 2) Providing assistance with review of maritime legislation; once passed by national governments, these domestic laws will be deposited with the UN to fulfil obligations under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)	Regional Maritime Boundaries Project
	Strengthen assessment and monitoring of natural resources, systems and processes	Ongoing	National diagnostic analyses for Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) conducted for prioritising and scaling-up key ICM/Integrated Water Resource Management reforms and investments	GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef Project
Mobility, private enterprises, phytosanitary and biosecurity standards supporting trade				
2. Improve pathways to international markets (mobility, private enterprises, phytosanitary and biosecurity standards supporting trade)	Increased capacity of PICTs to meet standards, guidelines, and conditions for exports and domestic trade	Ongoing	Capacity building support in biosecurity and trade facilitation for North Pacific countries	Biosecurity and Trade Facilitation
		Ongoing	Market access information systems updated and maintained - 2016 WAHIS (World Animal Health Information System): updated 1st and 2nd Semester Country Reports	Biosecurity and Trade Support / Animal Health
		On Track	Coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB - Guam biotype) spread contained	Biosecurity and Trade Facilitation

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Transport and energy				
3. Strengthen sustainable transport and energy security	Strong leadership in the Pacific's energy sector, with good governance, effective multi-sectoral coordination and strategic partnerships, including monitoring and evaluation	Ongoing	At least 10 trainers took part in Training of Trainers courses on climate change adaptation and sustainable energy	PacTVET - Technical and Vocational Education Training - SPC
		Ongoing	Developed course and unit descriptors for climate change adaptation and sustainable energy in Palau	PacTVET - Technical and Vocational Education Training - SPC
		Ongoing	Developed and established training courses and support facilities in Technical and Vocational Education Training institutions	PacTVET - Technical and Vocational Education Training - SPC
		Ongoing	Partnership agreement signed with national Technical and Vocational Education Training institution	PacTVET - Technical and Vocational Education Training - SPC
		Ongoing	Climate change and sustainable energy training networks strengthened	PacTVET - Technical and Vocational Education Training - SPC
Development statistics				
4. Strengthen access to and use of development statistics in policy development and monitoring progress	Demographic and population statistics; analysis of fertility, mortality and migration	On Track	Draft analysis plan for Palau Disability analytical report, based on the Palau 2015 census results, finalised	Australia, UNICEF: DFAT -Strengthen Pacific Statistics_2016-2017
		On Track	Census population profile analysis completed - Population analysis, including composition, distribution, characteristics, and demography report written and available; includes disability and labour force	Australia: DFAT - Strengthen Pacific Statistics_2016-2017
	On Track	Census population profile analysis completed	Australia: DFAT - Strengthen Pacific Statistics_2016-2017	
	On Track	Census population data dissemination/policy dialogue/data user workshop completed	Australia: DFAT - Strengthen Pacific Statistics_2016-2017	
	Preparation of user friendly and relevant information (paper based)	On Track	Palau Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) fact sheets (general) produced	Australia: DFAT - Strengthen Pacific Statistics_2016-2017

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Goal 2: Pacific Communities are empowered and resilient				
Climate change and disasters				
5. Improve multi-sectoral responses to climate change and disasters	Enhance management and accessibility of information and data by PICTs and strengthen the coordination of knowledge networks.	On Track	Establishment, testing and implementation of a community based Disaster Risk Reduction Framework	Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (EDF 10 ACP-EU)
		On Track	Relocation of high frequency (HF) and very high frequency (VHF) antenna on Dept of Justice towers	Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific (EDF 10 ACP-EU)
		Completed	Letter of agreement signed by SPC and Government of Palau (on adaptation to climate change)	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		Ongoing	Social and environmental safeguards integrated in national work plan	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		Completed	Regional institutional mapping assessment completed by November 2016	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	Policies or plans identified from institutional mapping assessment to guide multi-sectoral approaches to climate change and disaster risk management implemented by December 2019	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	Mainstreaming training on adaptation to climate change identified and successfully delivered by December 2019	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	Establishment and operationalisation of project management office by December 2017 to support multi-stakeholder engagement (government, NGO, CSO and private sector)	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	PWC/Green Climate Fund Institutional Assessment recommendations for project management implemented and operationalised by December 2019	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		Ongoing	Climate Change and Disaster Risk Finance Assessment undertaken with final report developed including recommendations and action plan	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	1-2 recommendations from the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Finance Assessment implemented by 2019 (activities to be determined once assessment is complete)	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	Lessons learned on accessing and managing climate financed projects/programmes reflected in national project management guidelines by December 2019	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	Increase awareness of lessons learned in Palau through participation at project regional meetings/forums by December 2019	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
		On Track	Palau Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management Communications Plan developed, endorsed and implemented by December 2019	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change
	Ongoing	1-2 communications activities to facilitate sharing and incorporation of successes and lessons in future climate change and disaster risk management projects/programmes implemented by December 2019 (initial activity: development of a national climate change portal/website)	USAID Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change	
	Not Started	Inception phase for EU-North Pacific - Readiness for El Niño (RENI) project starts in July and runs to December 2017 - introducing project, hiring project team and designing activities	EU - North Pacific - Readiness for El Niño project (RENI)	

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	Integrated approach to human development fostered at regional and national levels	Ongoing	Innovative post-graduate training program in ICM /Integrated Water Resource Management, related to adaptation to climate change, delivered for project managers and participating stakeholders through partnership with James Cook University	GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef Project
Human rights, gender equality, cultural diversity and opportunities for young people				
6. Advance social development through the promotion of human rights, gender equality, cultural diversity and opportunities for young people	Effective shared agendas, regional platforms and institutions	Ongoing	Technical assistance to support implementation of the gender policy	Progressing Gender Equality in PICTs
		Ongoing	Effective assistance provided to Australian Embassy in FSM to develop and implement Pacific Women activities in FSM, Palau and RMI	Pacific Women
		On Track	Report of recommendations from the regional conference of Pacific women and Ministers and Senior Government Officials Meeting	Progressing Gender Equality in PICTs
		Ongoing	Regional Culture Strategy Working Group Meetings	Funded by Palau
	Pacific peoples adapt to their changing environment while protecting and promoting their rights, assets and identity	On Track	Women's Economic Empowerment Project funded in Palau	Progressing Gender Equality in PICTs
		On Track	Gender and Social Inclusion Analysis (ISSAC)	Progressing Gender Equality in PICTs
		Ongoing	Development of a guide for gender-inclusive grant management	Progressing Gender Equality in PICTs
		On Track	Gender assessment and stocktake in the fisheries sector	Joint activity with FAME
		On Track	Formal labour market gender analysis training workshop	Progressing Gender Equality in PICTs
		On Track	Ridge to Reef gender mainstreaming strategy implemented	GEF Pacific Ridge to Reef Project
	Integrated approach to human development fostered at regional and national levels	On Track		

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Goal 3: Pacific Island people reach their potential and lead long and healthy lives				
Non-communicable diseases and food security				
7. Improve multi-sectoral responses to non-communicable diseases and food security	Improved and resilient food production systems	On Track	Provision of technical assistance on screening, evaluation and documentation of new resilient crop varieties	CePaCT - (FAO Treaty Access Benefit Sharing)
		On Track	Strengthening and promotion of on-farm breeding for aroids and cassava, including establishment	Global Trust Regeneration & Safety Duplication
	Completed	Support for food-based dietary guidelines review and development	PHD Policy Planning and Regulation (activity 7.2.3)	
	Ongoing	Information, education and communication resources - needs identified and information distributed	PHD Policy Planning and Regulation (activity 7.4.6)	
Public health surveillance				
8. Strengthen regional public health surveillance and response	Improve quality of country level surveillance and reporting	On Track	Updated HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) situation in the region, and Global AIDS Response Progress (GARP) reporting facilitated every year	PHD REI work
		On Track	PICTs supported to collate and analyse HIV/STI related data	PHD REI work
	On Track	Support provided for developing/updating HIV testing policy, guideline development and updates	PHD REI work	
		Support provided for strengthening L1 lab capacity for HIV/STI testing and screening, including lab-based surveillance	PHD REI work	
	On Track	Sexual Reproductive Health National Strategic Plan implementation status and updates mapped out	PHD REI work	
Public health surveillance and response in PICTs guided by quality and up-to-date policies and plans				
Education quality				
9. Improve education quality	Strengthening national accreditation and assessment systems	On Track	Relevant technical and advisory support for accrediting agencies and education and training institutions provided	EQAP Accreditation
		On Track	Enhanced alignment of agency quality assurance strategies with the Pacific Qualifications and Accreditation Framework (PQAF)	EQAP Accreditation
	On Track	Technical assistance provided for assessment and monitoring of literacy, numeracy, and life skills in the Pacific	EQAP Assessment	