



Factsheet

About SPREP



SPREP works to preserve and protect the fragile beauty of the Pacific islands and to help its peoples as they address serious environmental challenges.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

SPREP is a regional organisation established by the governments and administrations of the Pacific region to look after its environment. It has grown from a small programme attached to the South Pacific Commission (SPC) in the 1980s into the Pacific region's major intergovernmental organisation charged with protecting and managing the region's environment and natural resources. It is based in Apia, Samoa, with over 70 staff.

The Pacific island governments and administrations saw the need for SPREP to serve as the conduit for concerted environmental action at the regional level. The ongoing support of SPREP also sends a clear signal to the global community of the deep commitment of the Pacific island governments and administrations towards sustainable development, especially in light of the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its Plan of Implementation, the Millennium Development Goals and Declaration, the Barbados Plan of Action, Agenda 21, and, at the regional level, the Pacific Plan.

People are the most important part of the Pacific Islands. The welfare of the region's peoples is the defining value that guides all of the work of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

Vision

That people of the Pacific islands are better able to plan, protect, manage and use their environment for sustainable development.

Mandate

To promote cooperation in the Pacific islands region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve the environ-

ment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations.

Guiding Principles

- SPREP actively participates in efforts to protect the global environment and recognizes the interdependence of environmental issues both within the region and with other regions of the world.
- SPREP encourages cooperation with other organizations to assist Pacific island member countries and territories in developing appropriate programmes, policies and information to solve common problems - at the same time aims to avoid duplication of effort.
- SPREP works through governments, existing institutions and expertise in the region and in cooperation with appropriate regional bodies and mechanisms, SPREP aims to develop national capacity in environmental management at all levels and in all sectors.
- SPREP promotes community involvement in cooperative natural resource management that strengthens local resource ownership rights and uses traditional practices that promote conservation and sustainable development.
- SPREP aims to improve the quality and flow of information and education, including the appropriate sharing of traditional knowledge, on which environmental decisions and policies are based.

Programmes

The Secretariat runs two programmes: Island Ecosystems and Pacific Futures.

Island Ecosystems works to assist Pacific island countries and territories to manage island resources and ocean ecosystems, so they can support life and livelihoods.

Pacific Futures works to assist Pacific island countries and territories to plan and respond to threats and pressures on island and ocean systems.

Fields of Work

Staff are recruited internationally, but most come from SPREP members. Staff operate in fields such as: ecosystems management; species conservation and management; people, institutions, education and knowledge management; climate change; pollution and waste management; and environment policy, planning and reporting.

Who Funds SPREP's Programmes?

SPREP's operations, programmes and activities are funded in three ways:

1. SPREP's core operations are funded primarily through assessed contributions received from its members;

2. SPREP's key programmes, Pacific Futures and Island Ecosystems, are funded mainly on a voluntary basis from a variety of sources. Major donors in this category at present include the Australian Agency for International Development, New Zealand Agency for International Development and the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. Specific projects are supported from donations from a number of sources, including member governments. Currently, some of SPREP's major initiatives are funded through assistance from the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Development Programme, Government of the People's Republic






The 17th annual SPREP Meeting in Noumea, New Caledonia

SPREP and other organisations and agencies

SPREP maintains close working relationships with the United Nations system, regional agencies, and international and regional NGOs, including Conservation International, IUCN, the Ramsar Secretariat, BirdLife International, The Nature Conservancy, Worldwide Fund for Wildlife, and many others.

of China, Government of France, the European Union, The Nature Conservancy, International Maritime Organization, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Conservation International, various US Government agencies, and the Ramsar Secretariat.

SPREP Members

-  American Samoa
-  Australia
-  Cook Islands
-  Federated States of Micronesia
-  Fiji
-  France
-  French Polynesia
-  Guam
-  Kiribati
-  Marshall Islands
-  Nauru
-  New Caledonia
-  New Zealand
-  Niue
-  Northern Mariana Islands
-  Palau
-  Papua New Guinea
-  Samoa
-  Solomon Islands
-  Tokelau
-  Tonga
-  Tuvalu
-  United States of America
-  Vanuatu
-  Wallis and Futuna



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SPREP Factsheet No. CS-001
 First Published July 2008