



SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RTAG.4/3

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Fourth Meeting of the Regional Technical Advisory Group
for the SOPAC/UNDP/UNEP/GEF Project:
*“Implementing Sustainable Water Resources and Wastewater
Management in Pacific Island Countries”*

Rarotonga Island, Cook Islands, 25th July 2011

**PROVISIONAL MEETING MINUTES
REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (RTAG) 3RD MEETING (SKYPE CONFERENCE)**

1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 Welcome

The Regional Technical Advisory Group RTAG, met by Skype Conference at 1:30pm (Fiji Time) on Thursday 12th May 2011 to consider the items tasked to them. The following provides a brief summary of discussions and recommendations to the Regional Steering Committee.

1.2 Chair

In the absence of the RTAG Chair, nominations were sought from the floor. Mr David Duncan was nominated and elected Chair.

2 RTAG MEETING MINUTES

2.1 Attendees

Marc Wilson (GEF IWRM Project Manager)

Science and Technical Experts

Chris Paterson
David Duncan
Peter Sinclair
Peter Wegener

Other Representatives

Leerenson Lee Ariens (public water utility representative)
Ulukalesi Tamata (USP - CROP Representative)
Jinhua Zhang (UNEP) – listening for part only
Emma Mario (UNDP)
Sopoaga Sam Semisi (GEF IWRM Country representative)
Rhonda Robinson (EU IWRM Project)
Milika Sobey (IUCN – NGO Representative)

2.2 Apologies

Donye Numa on behalf of the Chair
Marius-Adrian Oancea (EU)

3 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action	Lead	When	Status
1. Comments to be provided on the Pacific Islands Freshwater Vulnerability report for UNEP	David Duncan	10 th November	Report submitted to UNEP for review
2. Comments to be provided on the PECCO report	David Duncan	10 th November	Report submitted to USP/SPREP/UNEP
3. The PCU is to work with country project teams to ensure that all indicators are reflected in the country demonstration project logframes	PCU	RSC 3	Ongoing. Indicator framework discussed in session
4. The PCU is to work with country project teams to ensure that the Focal Points are engaging the APEX bodies to deliver national outcomes	PCU	RSC 3	Ongoing. Being undertaken during country missions
5. Country project staff should review their project logframes to ensure that project document indicators are reflected in the logframes	PCU	RSC 3	Ongoing. Being undertaken during country missions
6. The PCU will develop a pilot regional indicator framework and national pilot frameworks for Tuvalu, Cook Islands and FSM by February 2011 for circulation amongst the RTAG	David Duncan	February 2011	Addressed in Agenda Item 4
7. The PCU will seek to organise a science session as part of the RSC sessions, with representation by the Pacific participants on the science in the demonstration projects	Rhonda Robinson / Chris Paterson	RSC 3	Addressed during RSC3
8. The PCU would circulate technical documents for review by the RTAG with a one week comment period	David Duncan	As received	None received
9. A rotating panel of PMU staff be established to peer review 3 lessons learned reports each quarter and provide feedback to the authors	Ruth Urban	February 2011	Completed. Report at RSC 3

4 REGIONAL INDICATOR FRAMEWORK

David Duncan presented document SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RTAG.3/4 "Regional Indicator Framework", an outline of the process to review and update the *Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management* (the Pacific RAP). The links are clear between this process, which will produce national outlooks, regional thematic papers and a regional outlook report, and the regional indicator framework. It was proposed that the Regional Indicator Framework be incorporated into this process as the outlooks would provide core information to inform national APEX bodies in their deliberations. Importantly, the outlooks would provide and summarise information that is not readily available in an accessible form in many countries. It was anticipated that draft Outlook reports for up to eight countries would be available at the RSC 3.

It was highlighted by Mr Duncan that each country was likely to have different issues that were considered critical to IWRM; however there were also likely to be a group of key indicators that were reported in each country (albeit using different methods), including the MDGs for access to improved sanitation and drinking water sources and the diarrhoea statistics. It was suggested by Mr Duncan that these indicators were likely to be able to be broadly grouped and initial working categories were suggested as: security of supply; health; environment; human rights; governance and resilience. Socio-economic development was also suggested as a potential category in discussions. Mr Duncan proposed that the regional indicator framework would need to be flexible to incorporate very different indicators under broad themes.

The RTAG agreed that:

- National and regional Indicators should be developed as part of the RAP review process, informed by the national and regional Outlooks***
- PCU would present a draft version of the regional indicator framework at the RTAG meeting of the RSC***
- The RTAG offered to review the Draft Outlook reports as they became available***

5 PROJECT INDICATOR FRAMEWORK

David Duncan presented document SOPAC/GEF/IWRM/RTAG.3/3 "Project Indicator Framework", a guide for countries and the PCU on reporting against the project logframe targets. The framework was developed according to the principles of:

- using simple, understandable indicators and targets
- using quantitative measures wherever possible
- minimising the use of studies, independent auditors and monitoring for the sole purpose of measuring project progress
- aligning monitoring as much as possible with project activities
- overall reporting was classified into broad categories to reflect the level of reporting required

Examples of simple indicators were presented to provide context for the RTAG. At this point in the Skype conference, the connection with external participants was lost.

It was proposed that follow-up would be undertaken with each of the RTAG members, with the opportunity to provide comments.

6 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING