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CAPACITY-DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR THE
PACIFIC REGION ON NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY
STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS,
MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY AND THE
INTEGRATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Nadi, Fiji, 2-6 February 2009

WORKSHOP REPORT

INTRODUCTION

1. Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requires each Party to develop or adapt national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and to integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. Noting the importance of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) for the implementation of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its eighth meeting, called for an in-depth review of progress towards financial, human, scientific, technical, and technological capacity to implement the Convention (goal 2 of the Convention's Strategic Plan) and NBSAPs and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors (Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan). The review process was used to recommend priority areas for capacity-building in relation to the implementation of the Convention and to provide inputs to the process of revising the Convention's Strategic Plan for the period 2011 to 2020, which will be considered at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Nagoya, Japan from 18 to 29 October 2010.

2. As part of this review process, the Conference of the Parties recommended that regional and/or sub-regional workshops be convened to discuss national experiences in implementing NBSAPs and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors, including consideration of obstacles and ways and means for overcoming the obstacles (paragraph 6 of decision VIII/8 and paragraph 17 of decision IX/8). The importance of organizing such regional workshops was also emphasized by the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-2) in its Recommendation 2/1. The Conference of the Parties also called for a capacity-development workshop for small island developing States on the integration of climate change within national biodiversity strategies and actions plans and the implementation of the Convention (decision IX/16).

3. Following these requests, the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) organized a global series of regional and sub-regional workshops on capacity development for NBSAPs during 2008 and 2009. As the tenth of the series, the workshop for the Pacific region was held in Nadi, Fiji, from 2 to 6 February 2009. It was organized jointly by the SCBD and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),

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and the Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Fiji. Financial support was provided by the Governments of Spain and Norway and by UNEP.

4. The purpose of the workshop was to:

(a) Strengthen national capacities for the development, implementation, reviewing, updating, and communication of NBSAPs, providing an opportunity for active learning for the Convention's national focal points or persons in charge of implementing NBSAPs in their country;

(b) Hold focused discussions on the integration of biodiversity considerations into relevant national policies, strategies and planning processes as well as cross-sectoral national strategies (such as those for sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals), including the identification of priorities, sharing information on approaches from across the region, and discussing ways and means for overcoming challenges;

(c) Provide training on the use of relevant tools and mechanisms that support effective mainstreaming;

(d) Build the capacity of participants to integrate climate change into NBSAPs and implementation of the CBD such that, by the end of the workshops participants were:

i. aware of ongoing regional processes for climate change adaptation and the assessment of impacts and vulnerability;

ii. trained in the application of some tools and methodologies that can be employed in order to better integrate climate change within NBSAP planning and implementation, including the integration of climate change impacts and the impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation activities on biodiversity in line with decision IX/16.; and

iii. able to identify challenges and gaps.

(e) Build the capacity of participants to develop and implement strategic CEPA plans that will assist in enhancing the effective implementation of NBSAPs and increase awareness of linkages between biodiversity and climate change; and

(f) Identify steps forward in the development and implementation of NBSAPs that encourage biodiversity mainstreaming at national levels, integrate climate change considerations, and include strategic communication, education, and public awareness.

5. The workshop format featured a mix of presentations with question and answer sessions, discussions in small working groups, interactive sessions to introduce relevant tools, and a field study visit. Each day began with a summary of key points raised during the previous day's discussions. In combination with the other workshops in the series, the workshop aims to provide important input into the revision of the Strategic Plan for the period 2011 to 2020.

6. The workshop was attended by Government-nominated officials responsible for the development and/or implementation of NBSAPs from Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. Additionally, resource persons from the region contributed their expertise in biodiversity conservation, ecosystem assessment, tools and approaches for mainstreaming biodiversity concerns into economic and development sectors, and climate change (including regional approaches to adaptation, adaptive management, and integrating climate change into NBSAPs). Presentations from both country representatives as well as invited experts are available on the CBD website at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/pacific.shtml>. The workshop was conducted in English.

7. Prior to the workshop, a Preliminary Meeting was held on 19 October 2007 in Alotau, Papua New Guinea, on the margins of the 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected

Areas. The meeting was attended by country representatives involved in NBSAP development and/or implementation. Participants reviewed a SPREP regional study on the status and challenges of NBSAP implementation in the Pacific region and recommended that the key theme for focus at the follow-up workshop should be “mainstreaming biodiversity: from national biodiversity strategies and action plans to actual government policy and implementation within the development strategies.” The report of the preliminary meeting is available at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=NBSAPCBW-PAC-01>.

8. The following report provides an overview of the workshop agenda, sessions, and discussions, the conclusions of the meeting, and the wrap-up discussion on the way forward. Annexes to this report provide information on presentations made by participating countries on the status of the development, implementation and updating of NBSAPs, the mainstreaming of biodiversity, and the integration of climate change in NBSAPs in the region (Annex 1), the detailed workshop agenda (Annex II), and a list of meeting documents (Annex III).

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

9. The workshop was opened on 2 February by Ms. Eleni Tokaduadua who welcomed participants on behalf of the Government of Fiji. In her welcoming address, Ms. Tokaduadua emphasized that the Pacific Region continues to face a lack of resources for the implementation and coordination of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and, as such, relies heavily on the technical and financial support from NGOs. In light of this limitation, Ms. Tokaduadua expressed her hope that the capacity development workshop would allow national and regional partners to coordinate efforts in the implementation of the MEAs in order to better capitalize on the limited resources available. Furthermore, Ms. Tokaduadua concluded that the workshop would offer an opportunity for Pacific countries to explore how to better utilize and develop biodiversity resources as a integral part of responses to climate change.

10. Ms. Tokaduadua introduced participants to current efforts in Fiji towards implementation of the CBD, including the development of a number of policy approaches to implement the recently adopted Fiji NBSAP including: a tourism development plan, forest policy and land use policy. Fiji is also taking a number of steps to support the adaptation of biodiversity and associated ecosystem services to the impacts of climate change, such as freshwater and food security plans as well as genetic research in mangroves and coral reefs. Finally, Ms Tokaduadua informed participants that Fiji is celebrating World Wetlands Day through a celebration of the Fiji Ramsar site, highlighting the role of such sites in ameliorating the impacts of floods.

11. Ms. Margaret Oduk of UNEP’s Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, speaking on behalf of Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, expressed gratitude to the Government of Fiji and welcomed all participants. She reminded participants that UNEP is committed to assisting Pacific Islands in meeting their obligations under the CBD in the face of climate change through capacity building and enhanced coordination between the MEAs. Ms. Oduk highlighted the importance of the workshop in finding practical ways to assist Pacific Islands to protect their unique and valuable biodiversity as a contribution to national, regional and global sustainable development. Furthermore, she reminded participants that, in recognition of the vulnerability of SIDS, the UNEP Regional Seas programme has included a particular focus on SIDS through enhancing inter-island communication and cooperation. Finally, UNEP is working with the Pacific SIDS in the implementation of the European Commission funded project on implementation of the MEAs.

12. Ms. Kate Brown – Vitolio addressed participants on behalf of the Acting Director of SPREP and reminded participants that the theme of the NBSAP workshop for the Pacific was identified by the Pacific countries at the margins of the 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, where participants concluded that mainstreaming is a critical issue. Since that meeting, climate change was also added to the workshop agenda as it is an important issue for consideration in the region. She also reminded participants that the Pacific Islands Conference developed a regional conservation

strategy, including a code of conduct on conservation in the region with an emphasis on national strategic planning and national priorities. She highlighted progress in the region including Papua New Guinea's launch of their NBSAP in 2007 and the start of the NBSAP process in the Solomon Islands, Narau and Tuvalu. Additionally, Ms. Brown – Vitolio highlighted a number of recent studies in the region that may be useful for reflection during the workshop. This included the Austral Foundation study on why biodiversity loss is continuing in Fiji and a recent review of SPREP that called on it to provide additional assistance and capacity support to countries with regards to strategic planning and coordination between MEAs. In conclusion, Ms. Brown – Vitolio expressed her hope that the workshop would help identify what further support is needed from international and regional organizations, academic institutions, and NGOs, while also providing an opportunity for reflection on the NBSAP process from development to implementation and review.

13. Dr. Mary Taylor on behalf of SPC, thanked the participants for welcoming SPC to the meeting. Dr. Taylor recognized the increasing importance of linking SPC with CBD processes and with SPREP, including on the theme of agro-biodiversity and climate change adaptation. Dr. Taylor expressed her hope that the workshop would provide an opportunity to better coordinate the use of limited resources in the Pacific, particularly with regards to climate change and its impact on the Pacific Islands, their economies and people. Finally, Dr. Taylor briefly highlighted activities within the Land Resources Division of SPC and made special mention of a GTZ-funded climate change project in Tonga, Vanuatu and Fiji, which will soon be implemented with a focus on the forestry sector.

14. Mr. David Cooper welcomed participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the CBD, thanking partners from SPREP, SPC, UNEP and the Government of Fiji for their support and collaboration in convening this meeting. He stressed that regional organizations have an important role to play in CBD processes. He noted that the theme of World Wetlands Day: “Upstream, downstream, wetlands connect us all” highlighted an important aspect of the Ecosystem Approach – the connectivity among ecosystems. Turning his focus to NBSAPs, he emphasized the role they play as corner stones for the implementation of the CBD, not only for significantly reducing biodiversity loss by 2010, but also as tools for integrating biodiversity into decision-making across all departments of government and all relevant sectors of society and the economy. He stressed that biodiversity, and the ecosystems that it underpins, are essential for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Turning to the issue of climate change, he stated that effective action to mitigate and adapt to climate change must become integrated with efforts to protect biodiversity. Additionally, he highlighted the importance for a greater emphasis to be placed on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) in effectively implementing NBSAPs, in mainstreaming biodiversity concerns across sectors and national planning, and in integrating climate change into NBSAPs. Finally, Mr. Cooper informed participants that this workshop is the 10th in a series of workshops and the second with a particular focus on climate change. Through these workshops the goal is to promote the exchange of experiences between and among Parties and identify lessons learned and case studies that could assist countries as they move forward in the programme of the CBD.

ITEM 2. OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMME FOR THE WORKSHOP

15. Kate Brown, SPREP acted as facilitator for the Workshop, assisted by Ana Tiraa. Ms Brown introduced a discussion on the objectives of the workshop. Participants broke into small groups to discuss common learning objectives for the workshop. These objectives and expectations were recorded on index cards and presented to the entire group. The exercise was followed by self-introductions. Learning expectations were:

- The opportunity to enhance NBSAPs through learning from other countries and identifying opportunities for additional technical and financial support;

- The need to highlight practical examples for implementation of NBSAPs, including tools for implementation of NBSAPs;
- The opportunity to revitalize support for NBSAPs in the Pacific Region, including through linking NBSAPs to communities, resource owners, and other stakeholders;
- The need to better identify national priorities and processes for implementation of the NBSAPs;
- The need for additional information on how to link climate change and biodiversity policy approaches, including through the mainstreaming of specific climate change actions within biodiversity programmes and through a “whole-of-government” approach in order to make better use of limited resources;
- The opportunity to identify options for strengthening NBSAP development, implementation, and review, including by taking into account climate change, agro-biodiversity, and other emerging issues; and
- The need for general capacity building on tools and guidelines for responding to climate change and disaster management.

16. Mr. David Cooper then presented an overview of the objectives, and expected outcomes of the workshop, and introduced participants to the programme and work plan for the week as outlined in document: UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/1/Add.1/Rev.1

17. In his introductory presentation, Mr. Cooper reminded participants that the 2010 biodiversity target was adopted to focus the attention of governments and other stakeholder on biodiversity and implementation of the CBD. The need for such a target was emphasized by the Second Global Biodiversity Outlook and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, both of which concluded that biodiversity continues to decline and considerable additional efforts are required to halt or reverse this loss. Mr. Cooper emphasized that NBSAPs must be a strategy for driving public policy through addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss and building programmes to affect changes. It is critical for NBSAPs to be developed and implemented by all national actors who have a stake in implementation. Additionally, strategies and plans should be developed to assess and review NBSAP implementation.

ITEM 3. STATUS OF THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND UPDATING OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS, THE MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY AND THE INTEGRATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS IN THE REGION

18. Under this agenda item, participants from 15 countries presented country representatives made short presentations outlining:

- (a) Status of implementation of their NBSAP and information on related strategies, programmes, and national legislation;
- (b) Major Features of NBSAPs;
- (c) mechanisms identified for implementing NBSAPs;
- (d) Obstacles encountered in the implementation of NBSAPs;
- (e) Reviews or evaluations of the implementation of NBSAPs that have been undertaken nationally and assessments of the effectiveness of the strategy;
- (f) How biodiversity considerations have been taken into account and mainstreamed into sectoral and cross-spectral plans, programmes, and policies, including those related to sustainable development, poverty reduction, and achieving the MDGs;

(g) Whether and how consideration of the impacts of climate change and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities on biodiversity have been incorporated into NBSAPs and their implementation; and

(h) The use of communication, education and public awareness activities in NBSAP implementation and the further needs and challenges in this regard.

19. Brief question and answer sessions followed each presentation, with the participants identifying case studies of good practice, tools and methodologies, elements of NBSAPs presented that made them strategic, examples of where implementation of the action plan led to concrete achievements and “made a difference,” and examples of assessments undertaken which reviewed effectiveness of a strategy. To facilitate interactive discussion, as well as small group exercises, participants sat at round tables. Highlights from country presentations on NBSAP development and implementation, mainstreaming, and lessons learned are found in Annex 1 of this report. The original PowerPoint presentations from each country can be found on the CBD website at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/pacific.shtml>.

20. In discussions following the presentations, participants identified the need to link NBSAPs to National Capacity Self Assessments (NCSA) through, for example, parallel processes during development and the design of common actions or mutually supportive activities. Participants also called for guidance on how to define whether an NBSAP has been implemented, for example through assessments that review the status of implementation of activities established in the Action Plan or through setting and analyzing national targets. Finally, in light of difficulties in mainstreaming biodiversity into other sectors, Ministries or Departments, and cross-sectoral national planning, participants identified some tools and processes that can help ensure that biodiversity considerations are better reflected, including (i) better coordination within government agencies and departments, (ii) development of an integrated national action plan for sustainable development, and (iii) cross-sector strategic planning for funding (including annual budget processes).

21. The workshop facilitator, Ms. Kate Brown, led group exercises following each set of presentations. Participants identified and discussed obstacles to NBSAP implementation and good practices for overcoming these challenges. A summary is presented below.

Good Practices

Stakeholder Participation

- Building ownership of NBSAPs among all stakeholders
- Establishment of Memoranda of Understanding between government and NGOs
- Inclusion of a communication strategy in NBSAP implementation
- Fully involving local stakeholders and managers and owners of natural resources (including programming sufficient time for consultations and participation)
- Linking traditional knowledge with other forms of science and information
- Engagement of schools, youth, and traditional leaders to promote greater awareness and implementation of activities related to biodiversity conservation
- Undertaking a review process targeting NBSAP implementation

Mainstreaming

- Integration of climate change adaptation within NBSAP reviews

- Inclusion of NBSAP activities in the plans and strategies of multiple sectors
- Conducting periodic reviews through independent assessments or regional / international standards for evaluation

Enhanced Coordination

- Establishing formal mechanisms for the coordination of activities
- Linking implementation of NBSAPs to regional organizations
- Receiving technical assistance from regional organizations
- Housing of NBSAP and climate change staff under the same administrative arrangement

Funding

- Using NBSAP as leverage to mobilize resources
- Inclusion of NBSAP activities in national budgets
- Leveraging funds through integration with other national plans
- Micronesia Endowment Fund and Micronesia Conservation Trust

Other

- Land tenure systems in the Pacific can support community-based natural resource management and therefore be positive for biodiversity. This needs to be acknowledged.
- Monitoring and evaluation of NBSAP implementation

Obstacles

- Lack of political will especially within other government agencies (NBSAP implementation is often not viewed as a core function)
- Lack of access to financial resources / slow access to resources / lack of long-term sustainable funding / not being strategic in efforts to mobilize and raise financial resources
- Poor coordination between government agencies and with other stakeholders (including overlapping roles and responsibilities)
- Ensuring that NBSAPs are timely and relevant while also giving adequate time to engage stakeholders
- Ensuring that stakeholder participation is productive and constructive and that the NBSAP is included in the core activities of partners
- Lack of capacity to coordinate activities
- Retaining human resources
- Difficult to achieve significant results by 2010
- Non-measurable indicators
- Lack of independent assessment

ITEM 4. TOOLS FOR ENHANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS AND INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY INTO SECTORAL AND CROSS-SECTORAL PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES AND LOCAL PLANNING PROCESSES

22. The importance of integrating biodiversity considerations into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes is underlined in Article 6(b) of the Convention and has been stressed in many decisions of the Conference of the Parties. At its eighth meeting, COP urged Parties and other Governments to promote dialogue among different sectors, to mainstream biodiversity at the regional and national levels, and to address linkages between the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and, among others, international trade, finance, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining, energy and fisheries. Agenda item 4 allowed the participants to focus on the issue of mainstreaming biodiversity concerns into relevant sectoral strategies, plans and programmes, as well as on the use of some tools and methodologies that support mainstreaming. The purpose of this session was to enable participants to:

(a) Identify some cases of the integration of biodiversity into broader national policies and planning processes, for example fisheries, tourism and land planning;

(b) Have an improved understanding of the ecosystem approach and tools for its application, including the framework of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment linking biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being;

(c) Be trained in the application of some tools and methodologies that can be employed in order to better integrate biodiversity into broader national policies, programmes and planning processes and to use NBSAPs as strategic tools for this purpose (including strategic environmental assessment); and

(d) Have an increased awareness of some approaches and methodologies for the strategic communication of NBSAPs.

The original presentations are available on the CBD website at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/pacific.shtml>.

Mainstreaming Experiences from the Region

23. Mr. Seve Paeniu, representing SPREP, outlined some key elements of mainstreaming in the Pacific region, focusing in particular on mainstreaming into national sustainable development strategies. He defined mainstreaming as integrating an action into a strategic area of intervention at all levels in order to achieve a national vision, ensure the provision of all human rights and contribute to good governance. The value of mainstreaming lies in moving from top-down to bottom-up approaches, shifting from output to outcome-based planning, and improving the efficiency of resource allocation. Under a mainstreaming framework, three elements are interlinked: (1) national development plans (2) sectoral plans and (3) medium-term fiscal management connected to sectoral budget allocation. Biodiversity is already integrated into a broad range of international and regional programmes including Agenda 21, the Pacific Plan, and the Pacific Island Framework for Action on Climate Change. Other examples from the region include: national and sector policy processes, monitoring and reporting, and allocation of national budgets. During the presentation, Mr. Paeniu summarized a suggested methodology and stressed the importance of (i) national ownership, (ii) stakeholder engagement, (iii) monitoring and evaluation, (iv) cost benefit analysis, and (v) ensuring the process is both flexible and iterative.

24. One important entry point for mainstreaming is through national development goals, which will be achieved, in part, through sector strategies and associated budget allocations. However, in order to achieve efficient mainstreaming, within each plan, biodiversity must be reflected in objectives, themes, strategies, activities, monitoring and evaluation, and budgeting. Key tools for mainstreaming include the ecosystem approach, environmental impact assessments, and strategic environmental assessments, which allow for the identification of stakeholders and key partners, the framing of problems, the development of solutions and the development of a budget. To illustrate the mainstreaming process, Mr. Paeniu provided

examples from Vanuatu's recent National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management, including strengths as well as identified gaps.

25. Challenges already identified within the region include lack of an integrated approach, lack of national ownership, challenge of building in a flexible process to facilitate adaptive management. In order to address these challenges next steps could include:

- (a) Develop an oral agreement on mainstreaming;
- (b) Identify a lead agency;
- (c) Identify opportunities for and advantages from mainstreaming;
- (d) Identify specific actions that can be implemented;
- (e) Develop Pacific mainstreaming guidelines; and
- (f) Establish a joint programme of action and response facility to provide assistance to countries as needed.

26. Mrs. Fetoloai Yandall-Alama, representing the Planning Urban Management Agency, presented a case study from Samoa on mainstreaming in the context of the National Environmental Policy Framework which encompasses the National Environmental Management Strategy, multi-year Development Plans, and multi-year Strategic Plans. She provided further examples from the Development Consent Process to assess environmental and cultural aspects under existing processes and policies such as environmental impact assessment regulations, and Samoa's Coastal Infrastructure Management Strategy. The Framework for action includes: information gathering, stakeholder consultations, district committees, requirements for district acceptance and endorsement, links to funding through for example, small grants programmes.

27. Next steps to enhance mainstreaming in Samoa include:

- (a) Filling information gaps and improving knowledge sharing to better inform planners on sensitive and vulnerable sites;
- (b) Improving the EIA review processes to ensure effectiveness and better address biodiversity concerns;
- (c) Joint monitoring of adaptation needs and results of actions;
- (d) Strengthening coordination between land use planners and biodiversity managers;
- (e) Enhancing ability to take legal action in case of non-compliance; and
- (f) Investing in land use planning agencies and authorities as key drivers of mainstreaming.

28. Ms. Elizabeth Munro, representing the National Environment Service (NES), delivered a presentation on the Cook Islands' experience with mainstreaming, emphasizing the importance of understanding the terminology, seeing the benefits that can be achieved through mainstreaming, and identifying who will lead the mainstreaming process. The Cook Islands have instituted four steps towards enhancing mainstreaming that places a major focus on the NBSAP, updating the NBSAP, and integrating it into related national planning. These four steps are:

1. NBSAP developed through public-wide consultation;
2. NBSAP Add-on in the form of pilot projects to identify national and local capacity needs;

3. National Environment Strategic Action Framework (NESAF 2005 - 2009), which is the country's leading policy framework, includes biodiversity programmes, empowers community leadership in biodiversity management activities, and includes an updated NBSAP; and

4. National Sustainable Development Plan, which recognizes the NESAF as an implementation tool provides for mainstreaming and sectoral harmonization.

29. Furthermore, the NESAF is linked to the National Millennium Development Goals, the Draft Tourism Master Plan, the National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management, and the Biosafety Framework. Ms. Munro stated that prior to the NESAF, environmental management was approached in a sectoral way with little coordination leading to duplication of efforts. In contrast, the NESAF has served in streamlining and prioritizing government activities on the environment agenda. Some challenges associated with mainstreaming in the Cook Islands include: (i) instances of paper-mainstreaming only (lack of implementation); (ii) geographic dispersion of islands and limited capacity leading to difficulties ensuring participation; (iii) meeting the need to incentivise participation in the mainstreaming process; and (iv) finding effective means to monitor and evaluate mainstreaming and its effectiveness.

30. In discussions following the presentations, participants agreed that there is a lot of thinking going into mainstreaming at a range of levels. It is also clear that, in the Pacific Region, the involvement of communities in the mainstreaming process is both critical and challenging. However while some implementation is happening, many challenges remain and, as such, there is a need to further explore the tools that are available to assist in enhancing mainstreaming. Participants identified a number of challenges and solutions to mainstreaming NBSAPs in the region, the results of which are summarized below:

Challenges

- It is often also difficult to assign national budget to local actions or local capacity building that are critical for mainstreaming,
- Evaluating mainstreaming, especially at the local level where actions often take place,
- Establishing the value of ecosystem services,
- Identifying how to communicate the importance of mainstreaming through: identifying a common language, framing messages that are relevant to the intended audience
- There is a risk of raising expectations when biodiversity is mainstreamed in planning processes but are not translated into action, and
- Effectively mainstreaming across scales to include both local levels and individual land owners and landscape / seascape levels.

Solutions

- Going through the three tiers of planning can help to reduce the risk of cutting activities when resources become scarce,
- The private sector can have a role to play in mainstreaming as contributors to the economy and holders of knowledge on the use and value of biodiversity,
- Environment reports and other such assessments can be useful for mainstreaming, and
- Country-specific guidelines could be developed on mainstreaming for the Pacific region.

Ecosystem Approach and Strategic Environmental Assessments

31. Mr. David Cooper introduced the ecosystem approach and the conceptual framework of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), highlighting how the consolidated guidance on NBSAPs has requested Parties to take both into account when revising and implementing their plans and strategies. Many ecosystem services are in decline triggered by a variety of direct and indirect drivers. Outlining examples of key provisioning and regulating ecosystem services provided by biodiversity, Mr. Cooper illustrated implications to human wellbeing (including market and non-market values for both local livelihoods as well as broader economies) and discussed the main drivers of change and related impacts. He provided an overview of the benefits from taking an ecosystem assessment approach to management and decision-making, focusing on how this can inform national and sub-national policies and plans, economic and fiscal incentives, sector policies and plans, and overall governance of biodiversity.

32. Sanivalati Navuku made a presentation on the application of the ecosystem based management (EBM) in Fiji, highlighting that ecosystem based management is about addressing multiple threats to ecosystem services (such as unsustainable fishery practices, gaps in legislation, climate change, etc) in order to ensure healthy people, healthy processes and healthy systems. Key messages presented were (i) inland and lowland communities need to manage resources together, (ii) EBM protects habitats for all stages of life, (iii) public health and livelihoods depend on environmental health, and (iv) key cornerstones of EBM are management and policy (including legislation and codes of practice), communication, and data (including traditional knowledge). Ecosystem based adaptation is being applied in two main areas in Fiji. In Macuata a vision for managing natural resources was developed and efforts included the establishment of a network of marine protected areas that were identified based on traditional knowledge. A formal survey of the area was also conducted and included the creation of a demographic profile that helped to forecast future needs with regards to access to natural resources. A study on the connectivity of different ecosystems from headwaters to the marine environment was conducted. This was based on species' conservation needs and the potential impacts of activities on the health of species in other areas. In terms of lessons learned, there is a need for cross-sectoral management based in traditional knowledge, scientific information, and adaptive management.

33. Following the presentations, a group discussion focused on the following issues:

- (a) The need to make use of a variety of approaches building on the positive aspects of each (e.g. ecosystem approach, integrated marine and coastal zone management, ridge to reef approach, etc.);
- (b) The need to be cautious about focusing too much on ecosystem services which may lead to ignoring biodiversity (especially in cases in which many species provide similar services) since the existence value of species is still not well quantified;
- (c) How to address clashes between traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge; and
- (d) How to assess the degree of uptake of the principles and guidelines within ecosystem based adaptation.

34. Ms. Kate Brown facilitated a group exercise focused on five case studies: (1) mangrove forest, (2) wharf built, (3) mangrove forests being cleared for road development, (4) Yela coastal watershed in an high endemism area of the Federated States of Micronesia, and (5) an agroforestry system. During the exercise, participants identified ecosystem services, status and trends, threats, stakeholders, and impacts from various land-use scenarios. Additionally, they attempted to estimate the value of these services as well as the response measures that could be put in place in order to address threats and maximize value. The results are summarized below.

<p>Mangrove Forest</p> <p><i>Beneficiaries:</i> range from individual land owners, to communities, to the global environment</p>

Ecosystem Services in Mangroves: income generation and subsistence (food and raw materials), coastal protection, flooding control, recreation, pollution control, carbon sink, fish nurseries, firewood, biodiversity habitat, bird life, scientific knowledge and education

Status and Trends: climate change; population pressure; unregulated tourism; oil discovery; land-use change

Threats Due to Resort Development: land clearance; pollution (silt and nutrients impacting coral reefs); adjacent human settlements, coastal erosion; tourism development; impacts on wildlife; hydrology flows

Beneficiaries of Resort Development: national economy on the short term; developers; tourists; business community; communities

Value of Sustainable Management: very costly and difficult to restore degraded systems, maintain fish stocks, and provide a sustainable source of firewood

Value of Resort Development: depends on the design; has high economic value to a relatively small group of stakeholders; has a high cost to a larger group of stakeholders

Wharf Built on Mangroves with a Village, Reef, Forest, and Turtle Nesting Nearby

Ecosystem Services: coastal protection; sediment filtration; recreation; food; cultural values; health

Threats with Wharf: pollution from shipping activities; invasive species from ballast; sedimentation; habitat destruction; erosion

High Costs of Rehabilitation After Wharf: coastal protection; sediment filtration; food; cultural values; health

Management Techniques: environmental impact assessments; permit systems to control development; management plans; NBSAP; community engagement; scientific analysis of all potential benefits; health research and statistics

Mangrove Cleared for Road Construction

Ecosystem Services: fisheries; firewood; herbal medicine; tourism; birdlife; coastal protection

Threats: livelihoods lost; increase in illness; loss of income; species extinction; soil erosion

Value: after road construction, the value of various ecosystem services decline; some benefits for tourism and transport

Management Techniques: cost-benefit analysis; environmental impact assessments; social impact assessment; better planning; economic valuation; information sharing with decision-makers

Coastal Watershed and Endemic Ka Forest

Ecosystem Services in a coastal watershed: water supply; fish nurseries; coastal protection; cultural value; carbon sink; ecotourism;

Status and Trends: privately owned; locally managed; natural state;

Threats: infrastructure development and associated habitat destruction;

Benefits of Sustainable Management: global carbon sink that is locally managed

Value: higher value in natural state

Watershed with Agro-Forestry System

Beneficiaries: local community; landowner

Ecosystem Services in Agro-forestry: food security; nutrition; biodiversity; soil fertility; health (traditional medicine); income generation; cultural value; sediment control; flood control; carbon sink; water filtration

Status and Trends: (state 1) taro cultivation and subsistence agroforestry; (state 2) conversion to intensive oil palm cultivation and biofuel production

Values:

- Food security: may decline with move from subsistence to cash-based system
- Biodiversity: decline with monoculture
- Soil fertility: changes with non-organic chemical inputs
- Health and traditional medicine: decline with shift away from traditional agroforestry system
- Cultural value of taro: decline with shift away from traditional agroforestry system
- Income generation: would increase but not at the community level
- Sedimentation control: unsure
- Flood control: unsure
- Carbon sink: higher uptake of CO₂ in plantations
- Water quality and quantity: decline due to high water demand in plantations

35. Building on the concepts of the ecosystem approach and ecosystem services, Mr. Matt McIntyre delivered a presentation on Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) within the framework of mainstreaming biodiversity. The objective of SEA is to take a proactive, strategic, systems approach to evaluating environmental consequences of proposed policies, plans, or programmes, and, as such, tends to be proactive rather than reactive. SEA can consider scale and intensity, the quality of inputs and outputs, and different time scales by focusing on participative approaches, creating information to fill gaps, and integrated planning. Additionally, SEA can help to streamline and focus the incorporation of environmental concerns, including biodiversity, into decision-making during key stages of the planning process. Finally, SEA can play meaningful roles in monitoring implementation once decisions have been taken. Mr. McIntyre highlighted several key benefits of the SEA approach as its abilities to: (i) identify environmental services and allow for an evaluation of how these could be impacted, (ii) address entire sectors, (iii) assess cumulative impacts, (iv) provide a flexible evaluation tool (or set of tools), and (v) balance environment and development by providing an effective conflict resolution tool. In comparing SEA and EIA development pipelines, he noted that EIA is often reactive and project-based, tending to come late in the cycle. SEA moves the consideration of environmental issues further upstream, thereby providing certainty, confidence, and controlled flexibility through guidelines, tools and criteria, consideration of best practices, and early participation. The ideal approach is to combine SEA and EIA within the context of an integrated planning or resource use management regime. He concluded the

presentation by outlining key elements and benefits of integrated assessments and planning approaches, including a discussion on enabling environments.

36. During the presentation, Mr. McIntyre led two short group exercises. In the first, participants were asked to identify environmental problems in their immediate surroundings. The group identified: fertilizer use, carbon emissions, invasive alien species, breeding ground for mosquitoes, noise pollution, over-consumption, sewage, waste, and visual pollution. In the second exercise, the workshop participants discussed environmental considerations associated with a proposed waste site on a volcanic island. These were: further details on biodiversity including status and trends and on and off-site impacts of development, impacts during construction / development, transport, identification of potential ways and means to reduce impacts, and consideration of alternate sites.

ITEM 5. INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

37. The impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystems have already been observed in the Pacific, and these impacts are projected to increase. In addition, climate change response measures – both “mitigation” measures to reduce greenhouse gas emission and “adaptation” measures to respond to the impacts of climate change – may have positive or negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems. In light of this, the Conference of the Parties has called for the integration of climate change impacts and the impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation activities on biodiversity within NBSAPs and their implementation (decision IX/16).

38. Participants reaffirmed the need to integrate climate change within NBSAPs since such a process:

- (a) Can identify and help avoid possible conflicts between policies;
- (b) Is necessary to achieve sustainable development;
- (c) Can facilitate access to the increased amount of scientific information on climate change;
- (d) Recognizes that climate change and biodiversity are two parts of the same system;
- (e) Can provide clear practical examples that can increase the understanding of each issue;
- (f) Recognizes that climate change is one of the biggest threats to biodiversity;
- (g) Reflects a need to shift biodiversity management practices in the face of rapid change;
- (h) Can increase the pool of financial resources that can be accessed and achieve ‘value for money;’
- (i) Ensures that mitigation doesn’t become another threat to biodiversity;
- (j) Supports the development of a single message so as to maximize awareness raising effectiveness, especially at the local level; and
- (k) Can take advantage of the involvement of multiple sectors that is already occurring in climate change adaptation.

39. To begin discussions, Ms. Jaime Webbe from the SCBD, reminded participants that climate change is integrated within the CBD in two ways: first through climate change components in the programmes of work (such as coral bleaching in the marine and coastal programme of work), and second through the cross-cutting issue on biodiversity and climate change. Additionally, Ms. Webbe reminded participants that COP 9 adopted the most comprehensive decision on biodiversity and climate change considered so far, including proposals on the integration of climate change activities within the programmes of work of the Convention, options for mutually supportive activities addressing climate

change within the three Rio Conventions, decisions on ocean fertilization, and a summary of the findings of the Global Assessment on Peatlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change. Ms. Webbe further advised participants that it was this decision IX/16 that provided the mandate for the capacity-development workshop.

40. Mr. John Duguman from the University of Papua New Guinea delivered a presentation on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity in the Pacific Region, including El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO), increases in CO₂, climate variability, and sea level changes. Mr. Duguman reminded participants that ENSO is a significant driver of weather patterns in the Pacific, impacting temperatures, rainfall and storms. He also revealed that CO₂ can have positive impacts on some plant species and negative impacts on others. However, increases in CO₂ concentrations are leading to ocean acidification, which is having negative impacts on a wide range of marine species, especially shell forming species. With regards to sea level rise, net sea level rise in 2007 reached as much as 13 mm in some parts of the Pacific region. This scale of increase will impact a number of species and ecosystems, including marine turtles by reducing nesting habitat, and coastal ecosystems through salt water inundation and increased flooding. In fact, storms, when coupled with sea level rise, have been known to destroy the entire ecosystem of small islands in 2 days. Another impact of climate change on biodiversity is increasing water temperatures which can cause coral bleaching and shift tuna migration and breeding sites as well as impacting the nursery function of reefs and mangroves, encouraging increased algal growth, and potentially causing a break in the physical structure of reefs. Mr. Duguman cautioned that while future impacts will depend on emission scenarios, science and policy need to address observed and projected impacts immediately through, for example, adaptation plans and swift action on mitigation.

41. Participants working in small groups identified a number of additional impacts from climate change including, taking into account impacts observed at the community-level in their countries.

Impacts From Climate Change

- Saltwater intrusion;
- Coastal erosion;
- Coral bleaching;
- Increased threats from invasive alien species (e.g. Crown of Thorns starfish);
- Shift in fruiting seasons (e.g. mango season is lengthening);
- Damage to agricultural crops, reduced yields, and changing seasonality leading to a state of emergency;
- More imports of food necessary;
- Shift in tuna migration resulting in additional threats to food security;
- Reduced resilience as a result of too little time between events for ecosystems and communities to recover;
- Prolonged droughts;
- More intense wet season;
- Altered seasons such as longer cyclone seasons;
- Outbreaks of dengue fever and malaria;
- Reduced water supplies;
- Infrastructure damage;

- Increased energy consumption related to increased temperatures;
- Income loss (including losses from the tourism industry);
- Higher insurance costs;
- Increased dependence on outside aid and increased strains on national budgets;
- Increased hardships for women face especially during extreme events;
- Impacts on traditional knowledge and shift from local to international knowledge;
- Human migrations away from coastal areas resulting in a loss of culture associated to coastal living, emotional stress; and
- Inland areas opened-up and natural resources strained with new roads and other human disturbance when coastal communities are forced to move inland.

42. Participants also identified a number of ways in which climate change is impacting on traditional knowledge in the Pacific. For instance, a calendar on the phases of the moon drives marine and agriculture decisions. However, as a result of climate change this calendar is no longer reliable. As another example, in Fiji a calendar based on seasonal production of certain species is used, however these cycles have changed. Additionally, forced human migration as a result of sea-level rise, flooding, and reductions in agricultural production may result in the loss of place-based languages and loss of land-based family genealogy. On the other hand traditional knowledge is supporting climate change adaptation in the Pacific. For example, soil organic content can be improved by replacing harvested taro with banana leaves – this also reduces salt-water intrusion which is a growing problem as a result of sea-level rise and increased storm surges.

43. Following the discussion on impacts, Mr. Espen Ronneberg, representing SPREP, delivered a presentation on regional projects and programmes and links between the CBD and UNFCCC processes. Mr. Ronneberg emphasized that climate change will affect biodiversity directly (e.g. changes in tuna stocks and coral bleaching) and indirectly as biodiversity also will be impacted by the climate change responses that countries take (e.g. reforestation with invasive species, biofuels impact on food production, and sea wall impacts on coastal systems). In discussing the links between biodiversity and climate change, Mr. Ronneberg highlighted the contribution of biodiversity to climate change responses, including mitigation (protecting existing forest and soil carbon stocks, sequestering carbon through ecosystem restoration, and reducing risk of carbon loss through the maintenance of ecosystem resilience) and adaptation (maintaining and restoring ecosystem services). Mr. Ronneberg then introduced a number of projects which are capitalizing on these links.

Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project: PACC covers 13 countries (all in the region except Kiribati) with an aim to increase resilience of key development sectors including coastal zone management food production and food security. The project began by examining a number of studies and assessments in the region in order to link government policies to community needs and concerns which highlighted the vulnerability of coastal zones, water, and agricultural policy. The Federated States of Micronesia component of PACC provides an example of linking science and traditional knowledge through the Kosrae road project which, during the climate proofing efforts, identified the importance of protecting existing mangroves through site selection for the road and improving draining. Other examples include: low voltage currents through iron bars that can attract coral growth and construction of coral protective barriers in the place of concrete sea walls.

Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change: This sets out a governance framework for climate change responses although action, and will take place through regional and national activities under the key regional projects as well as through implementation of NAPAs.

Regional Roundtable on climate change: The Roundtable acts as a coordinating meeting to exchange information and best practices. It is supported by a climate change portal in SPREP.

Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP): The project aims to overcome barriers to the development of renewable energy (hydro, wind, solar, etc) in order to achieve a 33% reduction in fossil fuel emissions by 2015 (equivalent to the output of about one coal plant in China).

UNDP proposed biofuels strategy for Fiji: The strategy is based on the use of ethanol from sugarcane, coconut oil, wood chips from timber production, and woodfuel from short rotation species including some invasive alien species. With the strategy Fiji could reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 90%. However it is currently stalled. The strategy could produce co-benefits through reducing air pollution and reducing demand for the importation of fossil fuels, while also providing an incentive for the harvesting of invasive alien species. However risks to biodiversity could include increased illegal logging (difficult to source genuine waste), increased pressure on land, and/or expanded planting of invasive alien species. Some of these risks could be avoided by certifying the supply.

44. Finally Mr. Ronneberg informed participants of a number of regional financing opportunities, including the Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (GEF) (although it is almost fully subscribed in its first tranche), European Union, Government of Australia (\$200 million for mitigation and \$150 million for adaptation), and the Japan Cool Earth Initiative (US\$ 10 billion target with no priorities yet established).

45. Ms. Mary Taylor then provided an overview of SPC activities on climate change, including a number of assessments of the vulnerability of ocean, coastal, and freshwater ecosystems (including aquaculture), which will be compiled as a contribution to the IPCC report. Within the land resources division, work is focused climate change impacts on food security and efforts to use agrobiodiversity to manage the impacts of climate change. Activities include: building “climate-ready” collection of crops/varieties, mainstreaming climate change within agricultural policy, conducting research on pests of food crops, ensuring the maintenance of soil quality, and providing information for communication and extension. Future activities include research into how climate change will affect different elements of agricultural biodiversity, improving the planting material capacity in countries (to assist in the recovery from disturbances), and examining the links between increased CO₂ concentrations and growth of major crops. These initiatives are supported through a Centre of Excellence in Atoll Agriculture, the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees, a project on using diversity to manage climate change impacts, the establishment of a Regional Climate Ready Centre based on local knowledge including on genetic resources and crop varieties that are resilient to drought and salt water intrusion, and the four-year Adaptation to Climate Change in the Pacific Island project.

Practical tools and methodologies to link responses to climate change to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

46. Mr. John Duguman then delivered a presentation on assessing vulnerability, defining vulnerability using the UNFCCC definition that highlights susceptibility to climate change and the ability to cope with the impacts. Mr. Duguman highlighted that ecosystem vulnerability is a function of the adaptive capacity of both the ecosystem and the social actors using the ecosystem, local livelihoods, and the degree of scientific information available to manage the ecosystem. Some of the factors that contribute to vulnerability of species include: narrow range, inability to migrate, and adaptations to specific conditions. For ecosystems, a high degree of fragmentation, isolation, and pressures from other uses are all factors that contribute to vulnerability.

47. Mr. Duguman introduced participants to the Comprehensive Hazard and Risk Management (CHARM) process for risk management developed by Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission

(SOPAC) for use in disaster management (comprehensive hazard and risk management tool). This process involves the following steps:

- (a) Establish the context (including sensitizing senior political and policy officers);
- (b) Identify the risks (exposure to risks);
- (c) Analysis of the risks, (degree of risk and scale of possible impacts);
- (d) Evaluate the risks (decide on risk acceptability); and
- (e) Treat the risks (managing existing and future risks, coordinate and monitoring).

48. The CHARM tool considers both primary hazards (cyclone, storm surge, high winds) as well as secondary hazards (soil erosion, food shortage, etc.). Additionally, CHARM takes into account physically affected areas and implicated sectors within and beyond these areas. The tool further considers (i) preventative and early warning measures, (ii) mitigation measures that enhance resilience, and (iii) preparedness, which incorporates awareness raising and the establishment and maintenance of emergency services). During the group discussion that followed, workshop participants pointed out that while tools such as CHARM are useful in theory, sufficient resources are seldom available for the effective application of the tools or the implementation of associated response activities.

49. In a set of two group exercises, participants identified vulnerable species, ecosystems, and ecosystem services (exercise one) and then applied the general principles of risk management to develop a hypothetical management plan to identify vulnerability (exercise two). In discussing sea turtle conservation, the protection of vulnerable bird species, and the protection of seagrass beds that support dugong, the small groups identified a number of criteria that create vulnerability when considering climate change and biodiversity:

- (a) Extensive migration pattern;
- (b) Slow life cycles;
- (c) Vulnerable food source;
- (d) Vulnerability of habitats required for key life events such as breeding and nesting;
- (e) The lack of scientific information on impacts (such as on the links between ocean acidification and reproductive health);
- (f) Governance issues ranging from management and sustainable use at local levels to global governance of oceans; and
- (g) Exposure to other threats such as habitat loss.

Participants also highlighted the fact that additional vulnerability may come from the fact that projected food security challenges resulting from climate change may put increasing pressure on biodiversity.

50. Finally participants identified how NBSAPs could contribute to reducing the vulnerability of biodiversity to the impacts of climate change including:

- (a) Evaluating current status and trends of vulnerable species and ecosystems in order to establish the need for additional activities to ensure adaptation;
- (b) Increasing the frequency and detail of the review of NBSAP strategic objectives and activities;
- (c) Recognizing the possible need for additional one-time interventions following disturbances as extreme weather events become more frequent and intense;

- (d) Improving data on the observed and projected impacts of climate change on vulnerable species and ecosystems;
- (e) Enhancing the application of the ecosystem approach through the inclusion of local governance issues;
- (f) Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders; and
- (g) Creating awareness of the impacts of climate change on biodiversity (including dispelling myths).

Regional Cooperation

51. During the second session under agenda item 5, Mr. Seve Paeniu, Mr. Espen Ronneberg, and Ms. Kate Brown-Vitolio presented on the role of regional cooperation in integrating climate change into national processes. The presentations emphasized that regional approaches can help address the difficulties and capacity constraints in accessing financial and technical resources, can support peer networking, and can create cohesion and enhanced cooperation. The presentation also outlined a number of regional projects such as the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP), which focused on national communications under the UNFCCC and capacity building to respond to climate change, and the Pacific Islands Global Climate Observing System (PI-GCOS) that focused on science, modelling and observation. Additionally, the presenters introduced the planned Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change project (PACC) and AusAID biodiversity and climate change project. Mainstreaming of climate change and biodiversity has, in the past, largely occurred on a project-level basis. Recommendations to address this concern include:

- (a) Address mainstreaming from a programmatic approach through high-level advocacy;
- (b) Create national task forces with broad participation among sectors and stakeholder groups (as relevant to individual countries and focusing on strengthening existing groups and processes wherever possible rather than creating new groups);
- (c) Build support from a core team of experts (environment, finance, planning, etc) who can advise, for example, the assessment of the impacts of climate change response activities on biodiversity and ensure that biodiversity processes are linked to adaptation planning;
- (d) Establish methodologies for cross-sectoral priority setting, monitoring, and evaluation for adaptation measures; and
- (e) Establish institutional decision-making processes that reflect integrated impact assessment and other tools such as EBM, SEA, and CHARM among others.

Such approaches have been implemented in PACC through consultations with multiple sectors and stakeholder groups, in the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP) through discussions on the implications of activities for other sectors, and in the South Pacific Coral Reef Initiative (CRISP) through a full analysis of threats from ridge to reef.

52. With regards to linking CBD and UNFCCC processes through regional cooperation, there are opportunities to provide inputs through capacity building, good practices and lessons learned, and communication and education. However the issues under the UNFCCC tend to be rather contentious, although the need to link climate change and biodiversity has been advocated within the UNFCCC.

Integrating Climate Change into NBSAPs

53. Following the presentations, participants did a group exercise in which they were presented with a sample NAPA and asked to identify the elements that could and should be integrated into NBSAPs.

Using NBSAPs and NAPAs from Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga, participants identified any obvious climate change related issues within the NBSAP, what key climate change links are missing from NBSAPs, and recommendations for strengthening the integration of climate change into NBSAPs. During this exercise, participants discovered that climate change is already included indirectly in some NBSAPs through, for example, goals on food production, soil fertility and agro-forestry, actions on threatened and endangered species, and sector priorities related to ecotourism. The results of the group exercise and discussion are summarized below.

Clearer Linkages Between Climate Change and Biodiversity Required in NAPAs and NBSAPs

- Health is not covered in terms of vector and waterborne diseases;
- Food production (is only indirectly through sections on marine and forest ecosystems)
- Water availability, water quality, flooding, and saltwater intrusion;
- Energy sector;
- The impacts of climate change mitigation on biodiversity

Recommendations identified to enhance the integration of climate change within NBSAPs include:

- Develop a 'climate change proof NBSAP';
- Fill information gaps including on freshwater resources;
- Facilitate peer review of indicators to be included in NBSAPs as well as NBSAP reviews by climate change colleagues;
- Identify where existing NBSAP priorities mesh with Climate Change adaptation priorities;
- Include wording to ensure that actions outlined in the NBSAP "take into account increased climate risks" as well as adaptation actions;
- Include emerging issues such as acidification;
- Ensure that community awareness and engagement is considered in both NBSAPs and NAPAs;
- Enhance communication strategies;
- Conduct a full assessment of climate risks, including identifying impacts within the framework of climate change stressors in a manner that distinguishes between climate change stressors and other stressors (such as overharvesting, pollution, etc.).

Overall Views

- NBSAPs need updating;
- Measurable indicators in NBSAPs need to be strengthened;
- There is a need to produce NBSAPs in local languages;

- There is a need to strengthen engagement and participation of a mix of actors and expertise, including high-level involvement.

Funding Opportunities for Synergies Between Biodiversity and Climate Change

54. The final session focused on funding opportunities for climate change and biodiversity. Ms. Elizabeth Mausolf of the German International Climate Initiative provided an introductory presentation in which she highlighted the Initiative as a contribution to implementation of the Bali Road Map in so far as it intends to support partner countries in implementing mitigation or adaptation activities, conserve biodiversity that contributes to climate change mitigation or adaptation, and explore options for innovative financing. The Initiative was funded through the auctioning of emission certificates which began in 2008, resulting in a current allocation of 400 million Euros of which 120 million Euros has been allocated for international investment. As such, the initiative is paid for by industry. Thematic priorities for the Initiative focus on synergies and include: (i) the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems that are relevant for mitigation or adaptation, (ii) measures for conserving climate-relevant biodiversity, (iii) measures for adaptation to climate change, (iv) REDD, and (v) management of natural resources. Criteria for project selection require that projects: (i) contain adaptation or mitigation activities, (ii) focus on the conservation and sustainable use of climate-relevant biodiversity, (iii) should be innovative and exemplary, (iv) should have reasonable CO₂ monitoring for mitigation projects, (v) should leverage additional resources (multiplier effect), (vi) need support by partners, (vii) should have direct and economically efficient mitigation benefits, and (viii) must occur in ODA eligible countries (no grants to private companies).

55. Ms. Mausolf also introduced the Life Web Initiative set up as an ‘electronic marketplace’ to support the creation of new protected areas and improve the management of existing protected areas through developing partnerships and linking donors to priorities in their areas of interest (thematic or geographic).

56. Participants also discussed the Micronesia Challenge, which is unique because the political will for the Micronesia Challenge is strong and the links between climate change and biodiversity are clearly established through protected areas as well as adaptation and mitigation initiatives. Lessons learned from the Challenge include:

- (a) The establishment of different committees that are set up to address specific issues such as the communication committee, the finance committee, etc.;
- (b) The provision of co-funding from members of the Micronesia Challenge;
- (c) The establishment of an Endowment Fund managed by a board that includes representatives from each country; and
- (d) Fundraising conducted by the entire region and then contributed to a central pot with the objective of providing sustainable financing.

57. As a complement to previous presentations Ms. Mary Taylor, representing the SPC, revealed good practices from the SPC approach for resource mobilization and regional cooperation, including:

- (a) Looking at adaptation as a new funding stream;
- (b) Submitting multi sector proposals (remove the silo mentality);
- (c) Seeking multiple donors under a single programme;
- (d) Ensuring that collaboration is taking place in practice and not just on paper; and
- (e) Linking relevant sectors such as agriculture and the environment, health and the environment, and agriculture, environment and trade.

58. With regards to currently available funding, SPREP reminded participants that funding available in the region includes:

- (a) The GEF PAS (\$98 million total with \$38 million for biodiversity, \$30 million for climate change adaptation and \$14 million for climate change mitigation);
- (b) The Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund;
- (c) The Australia Government Global Initiative on Forests and Climate Change;
- (d) The EU Global Climate Change Alliance;
- (e) The German Life Web Initiative;
- (f) The Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate;
- (g) The French CRISP project on coral reefs;
- (h) The EC MEA Capacity Building Project which is providing 1.3 million Euros to SPREP for capacity building; and
- (i) The AusAID project on biodiversity and climate change that will seek to fill gaps in knowledge related to biodiversity and climate change.

59. Ms. Jaime Webbe and Mr. David Cooper led a wrap-up general discussion on updating and improving national biodiversity strategies and action plans and integrating climate change. Reflecting on the previous presentations, the participants highlighted the following conclusions:

- (a) Climate change and biodiversity are “one system” and should be addressed together;
- (b) Climate change is one of the biggest threats to biodiversity;
- (c) It is important to highlight and avoid conflicting policies
- (d) Linking climate change and biodiversity can provide clear examples that increase the understanding of both;
- (e) There is a need to shift management to reflect the pace of change;
- (f) There can be an increased access to funds and “value for money” by addressing multiple areas of concern;
- (g) Ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation responses do not become yet another threat to biodiversity;
- (h) Avoid creating a more difficult programme to manage;
- (i) Maximize impact in terms of implementation by engaging local communities;
- (j) Develop a single message;
- (k) A NAPA can catalyse the involvement of many sectors, clarifying roles and responsibilities; and
- (l) It is important to note that linking biodiversity to climate change concepts can increase understanding of the latter.

Field Study Visit

60. A field study visit was held on Thursday, 5th February, courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Fiji, The National Trust of Fiji Islands, and local tourism businesses. The group visited Sigatoka Sand Dunes National Park, which encompasses forest habitats and fragile sand dune habitats and protects them from development. However, given it is difficult to fully control access to the Park and wildfires remain a major problem. This problem is addressed primarily through public awareness campaigns. The group also visited a hotel and tourism complex which is aiming to reduce its impact of

the environment. The complex uses artificial wetlands to treat waste water from the hotel which is then used for irrigation of the hotel's grounds, thereby reducing both pollution and total water use. In addition the development of artificial reefs is being encouraged on the beach using concrete substrates. This has benefits both for enhancing tourism (snorkelling) and for enhancing biodiversity.

Communication Education and Public Awareness Strategies for NBSAPs

61. Following the Field Study visit, communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA) expert Seema Deo, of IUCN, led a discussion on the importance of developing strategic communication strategies for reaching out and involving various stakeholder groups. Following an introductory presentation, in a small group exercise, participants were asked to analyze several cases where communication to stakeholder groups would be important. For each scenario, the groups identified (i) the overall objective, (ii) which key actors or target audience should be involved in a communication strategy, and (iii) the key message that should be communicated. The results are summarized below.

Group 1: Fiji workshop

Objective: Promote community support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use through improving public understanding and awareness.

Action: minimize wildfires in Sigatoka.

Actors: Community

Action: The group proposed a poster campaign with a simple message for members of local communities.

Group 2: Samoan NBSAP

Objective: Develop and enhance new and existing programmes for the preservation of traditional species.

Target audience: Local farmers, youth, visitors, returning relatives, traditional leaders, extension workers.

Action: collect seeds, share, propagate plants, provide traditional species to customary events and festivals, networks with healers.

Group 3: Turtle Conservation in Tonga

Objective: protect turtles in Tonga.

Target audience: school kids, fisherman, tourism industry, restaurants, traditional leaders, policy makers

Helping to communicate the message: CROP agencies, radio, communication experts, department of education

What to achieve: behaviour change: reduce turtle meat consumption in restaurants and at home.

Questions: need to find out who the customers are and why they eat turtle.

Group 4: Logging in Fiji

Objective: Introduce sustainable forest management by 2015 and reduce logging over 70% of the area by 2015.

Actors involved: logging companies, department of forestry, landowners, NLTB, market.

Messages: alternative options for logging; sustainable forest management; forest certification

Process: stakeholder consultation to ascertain needs and priorities; identify a contact person; follow protocol with leaders

ITEM 6. PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORTS

62. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat introduced the guidelines for the Fourth National Report, which focuses on implementation of NBSAPs and progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target. The Secretariat also introduced a reference manual developed to assist with the preparation of the Fourth National Report, and reminded participants about technical support that is available from UNEP and UNDP in addition to financial assistance available from the GEF for eligible Parties. The Fourth National Report will provide an important opportunity to assess progress towards the 2010 target, drawing upon an analysis of the current status and trends in biodiversity and actions taken to implement

the Convention at the national level. It also will assist Parties in evaluating and considering what further efforts are needed. The National Reports are used to provide guidance to the Conference of the Parties, and information contained in the Reports will also be used for the Global Biodiversity Outlook 3. There have been a number of changes made in the format of questions in the Fourth National Report, compared to the Third Report, which will allow more flexibility. The Reports are also of use to Parties for activities at the national level.

63. In his presentation, Mr. Cooper stressed the relationship between the preparation of the Fourth National Reports and the revision and updating of the NBSAPs and how these processes can be linked efficiently and effectively. Representatives from Tuvalu and Kiribati shared experiences with developing National Reports. Countries that had begun the process of developing their Fourth National Reports were invited to share their experience with other countries. The Secretariat also presented on the role of the Clearing-House Mechanism in supporting the exchange of information within and between countries.

ITEM 7. THE WAY FORWARD: NEXT STEPS IN IMPLEMENTING AND UPDATING NBSAPS AND IN MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY

64. Mr. David Cooper provided a brief overview of the roadmap to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-10) in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010 where the Conference of the Parties is expected to review progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target and agree on an updated and revised Strategic Plan, including an updated post-2010 target. The Conference of the Parties has indicated that all Parties should have NBSAPs in place by then, and updated if necessary. Following the presentation by the SCBD, Ms. Kate Brown-Vitolo briefly outlined SPREP's support to COP-10 preparation referring to regional preparatory workshops and training programmes.

65. Building upon work in earlier sessions, workshop participants turned their attention to ways forward and key next steps for implementing and updating NBSAPs, including the integration of climate change, and mainstreaming biodiversity in national strategies and planning processes. Each of the country representatives were asked two questions: (1) What concrete actions to further the development, updating and implementation of NBSAPs will you plan to in your countries following this workshop? And (2) What is a priority area where support is required from the international community? The results are reflected in conclusions listed under item 8.

ITEM 8. CONSIDERATION OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

66. Under this item, participants were invited to consider the conclusions of the workshop for incorporation into its final report.

67. Reflecting on a draft list of conclusions, participants focused initially on the issues of strengthening the development, and implementation of NBSAPs and encouraging effective sectoral and cross-sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns. Following this, the group turned their attention to future challenges, including updating NBSAPs and integrating climate change considerations. Finally, the participants highlighted a number of examples of good practice from the region. The results of this discussion are summarized below.

Status, Development, and Role of NBSAPs

- Most countries have adopted NBSAPs. Solomon Islands and Nauru have draft NBSAPs and expect to have the final NBSAPs to be adopted this year. Tuvalu is beginning to develop its NBSAP;
- The development of NBSAPs needs a substantial period of time to allow for effective participation of all stakeholders;
- In developing NBSAPs, it is important to establish an overall vision early in the process so that

all stakeholders can grasp the purpose of the NBSAP;

- Reviews of NBSAPs have been carried out by Australia (2001, 2006); Fiji (2006), Vanuatu, and at the regional level, by SPREP (2007).
- Most countries considered that NBSAPs needed to be revised and updated, *inter alia* to integrate threats and opportunities provided by climate change and responses to climate change;
- NBSAPs provide a framework for national action, establish priorities, and can help to support and coordinate actions by all actors, including communities and NGOs as well as government. It would be useful to have this nationally agreed framework when conducting budgeting processes;
- NBSAPs have catalysed the development of legislation in some countries; and
- In some countries (e.g. country examples from Cook islands and Kiribati), NBSAP add-ons have been useful in developing more focused strategies and action plans on specific themes (such as traditional knowledge and Invasive Alien Species).

Implementation

- There is a need for a greater focus on implementation;
- Community-based natural resource management is particularly important and effective in the Pacific Islands. This flows from traditional community tenure systems. For example, many marine protected areas have been established by traditional leaders of communities (including no-take zones and closed seasons). These are generally respected, though legal status can be important to improve compliance by out-of-community actors;
- The human resource constraints of small countries in the region and the isolation of many outer islands further adds to the importance of actions by communities and NGOs;
- National committees consisting of stakeholders from multiple sectors are important for coordination. However high-level committees rarely find time to meet;
- NCSAs provide useful information on capacity needs for NBSAPs. NCSAs are now being completed for most countries in the region. It is important that NBSAP capacity-development needs are reflected in NCSAs;
- Setting quantitative goals and targets is important. However, this is largely absent except in the case of targets for protected areas (with the exception of Australia);
- Measurable indicators need to be developed;
- There is a need for clearly defined roles and responsibilities, which can be formalized through Ministry operational plans (e.g. country example from Kiribati) or Memoranda of Understanding (e.g. country example from Fiji and as illustrated in NISP-POWPA);
- Sustainable financing mechanisms are needed but often missing. However some solutions have already been piloted in the region such as endowment funds (e.g. Micronesia Challenge) and the inclusion of NBSAP activities in national development plans;
- More resources are needed for front-line implementation rather than more meetings;
- There is a need to develop specific actions for capacity support on mentoring and evaluation, reporting, programme development, and NAPA/NBSAP integration;
- NGO support with Fourth National Reports, for instance through NBSAP steering committees or through direct engagement, would be helpful; and
- It is important to share NBSAP drafts with NGOs to facilitate their input. MOU's between government and NGOs should help facilitate this process.

Mainstreaming

- Mainstreaming is important at several levels: (i) Overall national development strategies; (ii) Climate change mitigation/adaptation; (iii) Sectoral strategies; (iv) Budgeting/fiscal framework; (v) Spatial planning; and (vi) Community natural resource management;
- In several countries the principles and actions within NBSAPs are well reflected in broader national environment strategies, and sometimes also in broader national development strategies. However this “mainstreaming on paper” does not always result in mainstreaming on the ground;
- It is important to get key NBSAP principles and actions reflected in the plans of the sectoral ministries;
- It is important to get NBSAP priorities reflected in the manifestos of political parties;
- A challenge for biodiversity is that the priorities for governments and regional groups as reflected in national and regional strategies is usually focused on economic reform and growth, rather than broader sustainability;
- Because of the central roles communities play in land, resource, and biodiversity management, as well as the traditional community-based land tenure systems that predominate throughout the region, it is important to recognize that mainstreaming often occurs at the community level;
- EIA is widely used and required by legislation in many countries. There is a need to: (i) the review and improvement of EIA processes, including the integration of biodiversity into EIA; (ii) conducting SEA of policies, plans and strategies. Currently SEA is generally absent in the region;
- There is a need to develop communication strategies during both development and implementation stages of the NBSAPs; and
- Within sectors, there is a need for sector advocates to promote biodiversity and promote mainstreaming.

Future Challenges, Updating NBSAPs, and Integration of climate change

- Business as usual is not adequate;
- There is a need to build understanding of the ecosystem approach and of economic valuation;
- Maintaining resilience of ecosystems (e.g. country examples from Australia, Cook Islands) and the continued provision of ecosystem goods and services is important. There is a need to manage biodiversity and ecosystems with the recognition that change is inevitable (as reflected in the ecosystem approach);
- There is a need for the rehabilitation of degraded areas;
- In many cases, in-direct links between climate change and biodiversity are in place. However, direct links would help better coordinate activities and mobilize resources; and
- There is a need to ensure additionality of resources (and thus be careful about simply relabeling of biodiversity as climate change).

Why integrate climate change into NBSAP?

- Climate change is already impacting biodiversity, and continues to emerge as one of the biggest threats. As such, climate change is a threat that needs to be addressed;
- We are no longer managing ecosystems in a steady state. Changes are more rapid and must be recognized in management;
- It is important to ensure that climate change responses do not themselves become an additional

stress on biodiversity (e.g. as in the case of biofuels);

- Biodiversity provides ecosystem services that help us to mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts. Implementation of NBSAPs can contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Therefore there is a need to integrate activities for multiple positive environmental outcomes;
- Climate change and biodiversity objectives can be addressed together at the community level. We need to engage and collaborate with communities and increase awareness on actions that people can take to address both;
- There are important opportunities to raise awareness of biodiversity through its links with climate change;
- There are important opportunities to access climate change response funds by demonstrating that we can cover multiple concerns; and
- Biodiversity can draw upon the many scientific studies on climate change and vice-versa

Steps and Elements to Integrate Climate Change into NBSAPs

- Compile information on climate change impacts and the vulnerability of species, ecosystems and ecosystem services (including reviews of NAPA and national communications if available);
- Review NBSAPs for existing activities relevant to climate change (e.g. reducing impacts, contributing to adaptation and mitigation). Some vulnerabilities to pressures other than climate change may be relevant, and these may require only modest changes;
- Clearly indicate the linkages;
- Identify gaps, such as vulnerabilities not listed specifically, and conduct a risk assessment;
- Identify opportunities for additional climate change rationale for biodiversity/ecosystem management;
- Prioritise; and
- Involve relevant expertise and stakeholder groups.

Examples of Good Practices (non-exhaustive list)

- Setting priorities among NBSAP actions with the communities (Tonga);
- New caring for Our Country Initiative to implement NBSAP and other priorities (Australia);
- All NBSAP principles and priorities incorporated into the National Environment Strategic Action Framework (NESAF), and this, in turn, reflected in National Sustainable Development Plan (Cook Is);
- NBSAP fed into Strategic Development Planning (Federated States of Micronesia; Papua New Guinea);
- Integration of NBSAP outcomes and data in National Communications for the UNFCCC (Kiribati);
- Integration of biodiversity/ecosystem based “soft” adaptation measures in the Kiribati Adaptation Project (KAP II);
- Development of State-level BSAPs (Federated States of Micronesia);
- Micronesia Challenge: 30% near shore-marine, 20% terrestrial, by 2020 (Palau, RMI, FSM);
- Coral Triangle Initiative (Papua New Guinea);
- Setting targets (Australia: 2001 exercise as well as current exercise; Marshall Islands);

- Preparation of NAPAs (e.g. Samoa) and National Biodiversity Vulnerability Assessment (Australia, in progress);
- Management of Sovi Basin (Fiji) involving local communities, the private sector (mineral water), conservation organizations, and the government;
- Conducting reviews of NBSAP implementation, either as a standalone activity or in conjunction with a NCSA process (Vanuatu, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Australia)

Some Useful Tools (non-exhaustive list)

- Rapid ecological assessments (Vanuatu; Federated States of Micronesia, Palau);
- Eco-regional planning to identify sites of ecological significance (Federated States of Micronesia and the Reimaanlok process in the Marshall Islands);
- Coastal infrastructure management (CIM) strategies;
- Risk assessment tools; and
- Participatory approaches, (e.g. climate change in Cook Islands using CV&A/VCA red cross training partnerships)

Regional Bodies, Networks, and Programmes (non-exhaustive list)

- PIMPAC Pacific island managed protected areas community (Palau, FSM, RMI and US pacific flag islands) <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/pimpac.html>;
- LMMA (locally managed marine areas);
- MIC (Micronesians in Island Conservation) organization leadership;
- PILN (Pacific Invasive Learning Network);
- PIC (Pacific Island Committee to Council of Western State Foresters www.islandforestry.org);
- Micronesia Challenge <http://new.MicronesiaChallenge.org>;
- USP;
- SPREP, SPC, SOPAC; and
- AOSIS, SIDS.

ITEM 9. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

68. During the closing session, the expectations that had been outlined at the beginning of the workshop were briefly reviewed. Participants agreed that the workshop had met all the expectations. They noted that the following learning objectives had been partially met and could use additional attention: (i) tools and guidelines to revise NBSAPs (including gaps and climate change); (ii) the issue of engaging and linking to communities; and (iii) guidance on how to effectively implement NBSAP and climate change synergies. Participants welcomed the important opportunity provided by the workshop to learn about the progress achieved by neighbouring countries and “remotivate” the process of information sharing related to NBSAPs.

69. On behalf of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Cooper thanked all participants for their commitment and participation in the workshop and Fiji, SPREP, SPC, UNEP, and IUCN for their significant support. Ms. Brown-Vitolo delivered closing remarks on behalf of SPREP. She also thanked the workshop participants for their active participation and stressed the importance of applying lessons learned upon return to their respective countries.

70. Following the brief closing statements by the organizing partners, the workshop was closed at approximately 2 p.m. on Friday, 6 February 2009.

*Annex I***COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS ON THE STATUS OF THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND UPDATING OF NBSAPs, THE MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY, AND THE INTEGRATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN NBSAPs IN THE REGION****Solomon Islands (Mr. Joseph Hurutarau)***NBSAP Development:*

The development of the NBSAP began in March 2007, and the review and finalization was expected to be completed February 2009 for submission to Cabinet in March 2009. During the development of the NBSAP, an on-going consultation took place at the provincial and community levels through a stakeholders meeting. Mr. Hurutarau stressed that key considerations during development included the need for the NBSAP to be grounded in CBD goals and objectives, nationally driven and practical, adopted with wide consultation and stakeholder participation, and linked to sustainable livelihoods. While communication, education, and public awareness (CEPA) has been included as one of the NBSAP targets, there is limited experience on how to implement this.

NBSAP Implementation

Although the NBSAP has not yet been adopted, an implementation framework including priorities, indicators, a timeline, and the identification of implementing organizations and partners has been put into place. Additionally, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Meteorology (MECM) has consulted lessons learned from neighbouring countries in its NBSAP planning.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP will be linked to other national policies and planning processes such as the Ministries corporate plan, strategies for achieving the MDGs, NAPA, NAP, and the National Capacity Self Assessment (NCSA) Action Plan (2008-2012). Mainstreaming will be further enhanced during implementation through legislation for biodiversity protection, integration of biodiversity into other sector policies and programmes, and building partnerships for implementation with relevant stakeholders. Finally, the NBSAP has been linked to climate change through a specific strategy goal “to ensure that pressures and impacts are addressed and climate change adaptation and mitigation measures are adequately supported to protect the country’s biodiversity.”

Lessons Learned

The development of the NBSAP took much more time than anticipated because of the need to involve all interested stakeholders. In moving towards implementation, there is a need for more awareness raising on the NBSAP and associated actions. Challenges include difficulties in generating active participation of sector Ministries and associated stakeholders, limited technical, institutional and financial capacity within responsible agencies, limited capacity related to coordinating NBSAP implementation and monitoring, and the availability of financial resources to support NBSAP implementation.

Vanuatu (Ms. Touasi Tiwok)*NBSAP Development*

The NBSAB was developed between 1997 and 2000 based on a compilation of research and reports, rapid biodiversity assessments in freshwater and mountain ecosystems, consultation workshops at the provincial level to identify community concerns and priorities, and information gathered on traditional natural resource management systems.

NBSAP Implementation

A review of implementation is currently being undertaken of actions within the NBSAP including 7 capacity building workshops for communities, which have already been convened. Specifically,

implementation has been carried out through five focal areas: (i) biodiversity protection and conservation, (ii) application of policy planning and legal mechanisms, (iii) research assessment and biodiversity monitoring, (iv) capacity-building for environmental management, and (v) environmental education awareness and information sharing. The high level of implementation of the NBSAP has contributed to improved recognition of the importance of biodiversity within local communities with an increase of awareness realized during the first eight years of implementation. Furthermore, an indicator that capacity-building efforts have had success is the establishment of environmental committees at the local level throughout the country.

Mainstreaming

In order to support mainstreaming, the NBSAP was drafted in parallel with the Environmental Law Drafting Consultancy in order to identify legal measures that would assist conservation of biodiversity.

Lessons Learned

The country is now conducting a review of the NBSAP. It was revealed that the NBSAP would be strengthened if its base in local knowledge can be enhanced, including through and building on existing local programmes. It was also recognized that climate change and natural disasters need to be better included within the NBSAP and that capacity for research and monitoring within the Government must be strengthened. Finally, a main obstacle in implementing the NBSAP is galvanizing the political will from government to address biodiversity issues.

Cook Islands (Ms. Elizabeth Munro)

NBSAP Development

The NBSAP was completed in 2002 with eight strategic actions ranging from endangered species management to financial resources and mechanisms for biodiversity. The NBSAP was developed through public consultations in order to ensure stakeholder buy-in.

NBSAP Implementation

Achievements in implementation include the establishment of a specialized biodiversity unit, draft memoranda of understanding with a number of stakeholders, a comprehensive information database, and enabling the adoption of EIA processes. Furthermore, from 2003 – 2005 a NBSAP Add-on project was undertaken in order to enhance implementation. Pilot projects tie closely with the goals of the NBSAP such as traditional knowledge, invasive alien species, protected areas, and a number of activities focusing on education and awareness. These are conducted on both the main island and the outer islands.

Mainstreaming

It is well recognized that mainstreaming biodiversity can form the basis of long-term cross-sector cooperation. Accordingly, Cook Islands has focused efforts on mainstreaming the NBSAP within national strategies and legislation such as the National Environment Strategic Action Framework for 2005 – 2009 which mandates the integration of biodiversity management into national and sectoral legislation, policies, plans and programmes. The NBSAP is also linked to MDG actions (MDG 7) and the National Sustainable Development Plan. These mainstreaming efforts are further supported by the fact that the Biodiversity Unit is institutionalized within the National Environment Service (NES) and integrated into the 2007 / 2008 budget. Through these and other processes, mainstreaming has occurred already in some sectors such as the pearl industry, tourism (both in terms of infrastructure as well as ecotourism practices), and agriculture (particularly with programmes and regulations targeting agro-biodiversity, biosecurity, biosafety, and invasive alien species management).

Lessons Learned

Ms. Munro summarized a number of successes, among them the fact that the NBSAP is widely promoted across sectors, there is an avenue for improvement of the NBSAP, and EIA processes take into account biodiversity. Among a number of lessons learned is the reaffirmation that high-level buy-in is critical,

mainstreaming promotes important partnerships and engagements with other sectors, and clearly identifying the main actors and priority issues facilitates mainstreaming. In terms of challenges, project-based funding for NBSAP implementation is often not sustainable. Furthermore, while mainstreaming has proceeded well at the legislative level, cross-sector monitoring and evaluation is difficult. Furthermore, stakeholder participation must extend beyond development while high-level buy in is critical, especially if mainstreaming is to be successful throughout implementation.

Tonga (Ms. Tupeope Samani)

NBSAP Development

The NBSAP was launched in 2006 after three years of development including a stocktaking report in 2004. The vision of the NBSAP is to ensure that Tonga's biological diversity and natural resources are protected, conserved and enriched and are appreciated and enjoyed by its present and future generations and the rest of the world. The NBSAP is organized primarily around biomes.

NBSAP Implementation

Some of the main avenues for implementation of the NBSAP include the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, the Sustainable Land Management Project to develop a national land use plan, the formulation of a National Forest Policy, annual ecological surveys, and national activities during World Environment Day and National Environment Awareness Week.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP has been linked to the Strategic Development Plan, EIA requirements, and the National Environment Coordination Committee. Climate change related activities are integrated into the NBSAP (e.g. protection of primary natural forest, public awareness activities, review of marine resources plans and policies in order to incorporate measures to address climate change impacts, and reduction of other threats to biodiversity), but not explicitly.

Lessons Learned

The National Environment Coordination Committee is important for implementation. However, when convened at a high level it is often difficult to find times to meet thereby reducing effectiveness.

Fiji (Ms. Eleni Tokaduadua)

NBSAP Development and Review

The development of the NBSAP was a long process starting in 1997 with the first draft produced in 1999, submission to cabinet in 2003, and the official launch in 2007. Six technical groups were convened during the development phase in order to provide inputs to the NBSAP such as by analyzing existing legislation and providing an overview of the status and trends of biodiversity. A review process was undertaken between 2003 and 2006, which led to the compilation of 170 reports focusing on implementation. Additional reviews were conducted on the implementation of the NBSAP, identifying the need for a national process for community engagement and for further focus on a financial mechanisms for conservation. The review process also recognized challenges such as the lack of information and information exchange and the need for institutional capacity-building to support NBSAP processes.

NBSAP Implementation

The NBSAP recognizes the unique circumstances of Fiji as a centre of high endemism and as the centre of a large portion of trade in the region. The NBSAP also has a strong focus on linking scientific research and traditional knowledge to policy development. For the purpose of further enhancing implementation, the NBSAP includes the review of both a strategic framework and an implementation framework.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP has been included within the NCSA review process as well as the reviews of the Forest and Land Use Policies. Critically, the NBSAP was integrated into the formulation of the Tourism Development Plan and environmental impact assessment processes under the Environment Management Act, 2005. Furthermore, the Climate Change Policy adopted in 2006 includes activities integrated into the NBSAP on protected areas, species protection, and community awareness raising programmes.

Lessons Learned

The NBSAP built on on-going projects and programmes. Additionally, Fiji's NBSAP recognizes the importance of community participation, reflecting community governance and ownership over resources. In terms of challenges, it became evident during the development process that differences in capacity between stakeholders (including relevant government agencies) needs to be acknowledged. Furthermore, there is a need to share responsibilities and better coordinate implementation and monitoring at the national level in light of limited resources, including through partnerships with NGOs. When developing partnerships with NGOs, it is important to establish formal administrative agreements that facilitate coordination and monitoring of activities and outcomes, ensuring that they address national priorities. Finally, Ms. Tokaduadua noted the need for a financial mechanism.

Samoa (Mr. Setoa Apo)

NBSAP Development

The NBSAP was developed between 1999 and 2001 under a multi-sectoral steering committee consisting of government and NGO representatives. The development process also benefited from five technical groups and 16 stakeholder workshops including an accompanying public awareness campaign.

NBSAP Implementation

Implementation of the NBSAP has occurred with the involvement of a broad range of stakeholders including government ministries, NGOs, regional and global environment organisations, and local communities. Implementation has resulted in the establishment of three new national parks along with a three-year project on enhancing capacity for the management of national parks and reserves. Other achievements include the continuous increase of marine protected areas, enhanced community involvement in protected areas, the establishment of EIA processes, and an enhanced monitoring programme. However it is recognized that a review building on the SPREP review in 2007 is an important next step.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP is integrated within multiple Division Management Plans within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE). Furthermore, biodiversity considerations and the guiding principles outlined by the NBSAP have been integrated into the Strategy for Development of Samoa 2008 - 2012 (SDS) under Goal 7 on Environment Sustainability and Disaster Risk Management. This addresses, among other issues, chemical contamination, solid waste management, and renewable energy. The NBSAP also has been considered during the reviews and revision of relevant legislation (e.g. Forestry Management Bill, Natural Resources Management Bill, Waste Management Bill, and Water Resources Bill). Finally, while climate change was identified as a rationale for the development of the NBSAP itself, climate change adaptation and mitigation were not directly integrated within the NBSAP's strategic priorities or associated actions. Since the endorsement of the NAPA, various adaptation and mitigation activities have been ongoing. However these are yet to be reflected by the current NBSAP.

Lessons Learned

Mainstreaming at a more extensive level is difficult when the NBSAP is not integrated into other Ministry Plans or corporate plans. However some of these difficulties can be overcome through a greater emphasis placed on ecosystem services such as those provided by watersheds. Updating the NBSAP is urgently needed and may be the only path for integrating climate change.

Nauru (Mr. Tyrone Deiyee)*NBSAP Development*

The NBSAP development process began in 2007 with a stocktaking exercise that revealed a very significant rate of biodiversity loss. As a result of these findings, the first national consultation was conducted in October 2008 in order to garner the support and participation of a broad range of stakeholders. It is hoped that the NBSAP will be adopted by July or August 2009.

Lessons Learned

The first consultation during the development of the NBSAP revealed a number of challenges including (i) the lack of an appropriate legal framework, (ii) perceived inconsistency with national priorities focused on economic and socio-economic development, (iii) lack of coordination among principle sectors and stakeholders, and (iv) a lack of awareness at the community level.

Federated States of Micronesia (Ms. Ailssa Takesy)*NBSAP Development*

The NBSAP was adopted in 2002. Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (BSAPs) at the State-level have also been adopted and, in their role as important policy instruments, provide more detailed goals and targets that build links between Federal, State and local levels. Much of the implementation of the NBSAP occurs through these BSAPs, including identification of areas of biodiversity significance, implementation of CBD work programmes, coordination with state-based environmental and conservation organizations, and multi-sectoral coordination.

NBSAP Implementation

In implementing the NBSAP, an eco-regional assessment and planning Add-on exercise was included and produced the “Blueprint for Conserving the Biodiversity of FSM.” This blueprint identified and prioritized ecological areas of particular significance. Additionally, FSM has conducted rapid assessments of marine ecosystems, protected areas network gap analysis, rapid ecological assessments with State BSAP teams, NCSA on the biodiversity theme, and are planning a legislative review. Moreover, the national eco-regional assessment plan will be updated. The NBSAP is being interfaced with the Micronesia Challenge to effectively conserve 30% of near-shore marine resources and 20% of terrestrial resources by 2020. Some funding for the Micronesia Challenge has already been made available under the Life Web Initiative based on guidance and priorities identified during regional meetings in 2006 and 2008. Other regional networks with which FSM engages are:

- Pacific Islands Marine Protected Areas Community (PIMPAC) (Hawaii to Guam)
- Local Management of Marine Areas Network (LMMA)
- Micronesians in Island Conservation (MIC)
- (Pacific Invasives Learning Network) PILN
- Pacific Islands Centre (PIC)
- Regional intergovernmental organizations such as SPREP, SPC, SOPAC

Mainstreaming

The NBSAP is mainstreamed within the Strategic Development Plan 2004 - 2023, which is focused on achieving economic growth and self-reliance. Under the Environment Sector Planning Matrix, the NBSAP is also linked to the NCSA and to activities under a number of Government agencies including the President’s Sustainable Development Council and similar state resource management committees.

Lessons Learned

The NBSAP builds on existing community processes and initiatives, including ridge to reef approaches. In order to be effective, however, it is important to have clearly defined roles and responsibilities such as the National Implementation Support Partnership Agreement for the Protected Areas Programme of Work. Furthermore, NBSAP implementation needs to be supported by sustainable financing, include

comprehensive communication strategies, and be based in transparency, not only in order to facilitate early identification of problems as well as opportunities, but also to adapt according to emerging issues.

Marshall Islands (Ms. Deborah Barker-Manase)

NBSAP Development

The NBSAP was developed from 1999 - 2000 and was initially reviewed through the National Conservation Area Planning Process, which included a comprehensive gap analysis. A further review is being undertaken through the NCSA process.

NBSAP Implementation

Implementation is supported by the Reimaanlok Process, which established comprehensive conservation targets, developed tools for the collection of traditional knowledge, and emphasized the important role of community led conservation programmes. Implementation of the NBSAP is often carried out through community-based, process-driven approaches, which extend not only to resource management (for instance through fisheries management plans, conservation management plans, and sustainable livelihoods plans), but also to the creation of several protected areas under local government ordinance. Implementation activities have a strong focus on education and public awareness raising, including the establishment of an environmental science teachers manual and environmental education guide for grades 7 and 8. Marshall Islands' Clearing House Mechanism (www.biormi.org), has also played an important role in supporting biodiversity as well as climate change-related initiatives.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP has been integrated into NCSA stocktaking and sub-regional processes such as the 10th Micronesian Chief Executives Summit, which recognized the Micronesia Challenge as a model for regional collaboration and encouraged jurisdictions to work with climate change focal points to incorporate the Micronesia Challenge as a key strategy for climate change activities. In particular, the Micronesia Challenge recognizes the link between the effective conservation of natural resources and climate change responses. Recent funding has been secured through the German Life Web Initiative for securing natural carbon sinks and to increase resilience to climate change through a network of protected areas across the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau.

Lessons Learned

The NBSAP builds on existing regional processes such as the Micronesia Challenge which was used to set minimum conservation goals. The NBSAP has also benefited from broad community support and participation at the local level.

Palau (Mr. Joseph Aitaro)

NBSAP Development

The NBSAP is currently with Congress awaiting adoption after overcoming a number of challenges, including the definition of a common vision amongst all stakeholders.

NBSAP Implementation

A major obstacle in the implementation of the NBSAP was the fact that the NBSAP coordinator was under the OERC under the Office of the President rather than in a line ministry. To address this issue, Palau will soon have a new Ministry, the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Tourism that will house the NBSAP team. However, activities within the NBSAP have been independently on-going such as actions on solid waste management, protected areas, invasive alien species, etc.

Mainstreaming

Palau is already holding discussions on how climate change will be integrated within NBSAPs, including through a stakeholder workshop to be held in 2009.

Lessons Learned

There is recognition of the need for an NBSAP coordinator to mainstream implementation with other responsible agencies and for continued strong partnerships. Partnerships with international NGOs such as TNC and with local state governments have already yielded results in the expansion of protected areas.

Australia (Ms. Carey Robinson)*NBSAP Development*

The first NBSAP was adopted in 1996 with six strategic elements. So far, two NBSAP reviews have been conducted. The first was in 2001 during which an assessment report was published and national quantitative and time-bound objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation for the period 2001 – 2005 were established. A number of areas of improvement were identified under this first review, including the need to better recognize the contribution of indigenous peoples, the need to further develop and adopt ecologically sustainable management practices for fisheries, agriculture, and pastoral management, and effective controls on native vegetation clearance. Substantive progress has since been achieved in the sustainable management of fisheries and the cessation of broad-scale land clearing. A second review of the NBSAP was conducted in 2006 by the Review Task Group, with participation from state and territory governments, the Bureau of Meteorology, and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO). Accordingly a new draft second NBSAP will soon be released for public consultation focusing on ecosystem resilience, connectivity, landscape and seascape scale management, mainstreaming biodiversity, involving Indigenous Peoples, information, and climate change.

NBSAP Implementation

Implementation of the NBSAP requires coordination between state, territorial, and federal agencies. The review of implementation so far has revealed a number of areas requiring additional effort including dealing with uncertainty and identifying thresholds and tipping points, integrating climate change adaptation, linking ecological and social systems, acting at the right scale, and improving the recognition of the value of ecosystem services.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP is integrated into a variety of legislation including on vulnerable, threatened and endangered species and communities, migratory species, regional forest agreements, sustainable agriculture policy, and the Caring for our Country Initiative (jointly administered by the department of environment, water, heritage and the arts and the department of agriculture ministers). There is also a national approach to marine bioregional planning. With regards to climate change, Australia has a stand alone National Biodiversity and Climate Change Action Plan (to be reviewed) and has conducted a National Biodiversity Vulnerability Assessment. Furthermore, climate change is integrated throughout the new draft National Biodiversity Strategy. Finally the Ministerial Council is addressing climate change adaptation for a range of sectors including biodiversity.

Lessons Learned

The Australian experience stresses the value of conducting periodic NBSAP reviews, not only as a way to take stock, but also as a way to close identified gaps. In her closing, Ms. Robinson summarized a number of implementation challenges: (i) adaptation to climate change, including focusing on ecosystem resilience and connectivity, (ii) linking ecological and social systems, (iii) raising awareness and building partnerships, (iv) communicating and implementing approaches that emphasize valuing biodiversity, including the use of market-based instruments, (v) building flexible management that allows for action to be taken at the right scale, and (vi) understanding thresholds and dealing with uncertainty.

Niue (Mr. Haden Talagi)*NBSAP Development*

The NBSAP was adopted in 2001 with 6 goals including strengthening environmental education and awareness and information sharing, mobilizing community participation, building capacity for the sustainable management of natural resources, developing financial mechanisms at different levels, and integrating biodiversity into government development plans.

NBSAP Implementation

The NBSAP resulted in the adoption of a number of legislative measures including the Environment Act, National Waste Management Policy, the development of a Sustainable Forestry Management Plan, the Agriculture and Quarantine Act, and a Biosafety Framework. After eight years of implementation it is recognized that there is a need for a review. However, conducting a NBSAP review is difficult with limited resources. Finally, Mr. Talagi highlighted a number of communication approaches employed to increase public awareness of the issues, drawing on radio and television, newspapers, building and maintaining a website (through www.biodiversity.nu), stakeholder workshops, and community events.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP is integrated within the National Integrated Strategic Plan (2009 – 2012) through a multi-stakeholder approach. To further support mainstreaming a National Committee on environment and sustainable development has been established. Furthermore, some climate change considerations were integrated into the NBSAP based on the observed and projected impacts on biodiversity.

Lessons Learned

It was difficult to shift from planning to implementation of the NBSAP, in large part because of difficulties in coordinating many different activities. Additional challenges for both implementation and mainstreaming have been maintaining momentum on projects with limited technical capacities, communicating with planners in charge of various national strategic plans, taking an “all of government” approach in order to avoid grey areas between agencies and projects, and ensuring continuity of activities beyond project cycles.

Papua New Guinea (Mr. John Duguman)

NBSAP Development

The NBSAP was adopted in 2007 after two years of stakeholder consultation (2005-2006) and is viewed as a roadmap to sustainable use and management of biological resources. The NBSAP is based on six goals and nine programmes that (i) cover policy and legislation, (ii) technical and financial resources, (iii) institutional capacity-building, (iv) benefit sharing, (v) biodiversity research and information, (vi) in-situ and ex-situ conservation, (vii) sustainability measures and incentives, (viii) education and public awareness, and (ix) monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management of the NBSAP. The NBSAP also includes a specific activity for the monitoring and review of the NBSAP.

NBSAP Implementation

Mr. Duguman reviewed and provided details on a number of activities under the above-mentioned NBSAP programmes. Although implementation has begun only recently, accomplishments have been made under all programmes. Implementation of the NBSAP has also benefited from the Coral Triangle Initiative, which serves as a framework for regional cooperation. Finally, Papua New Guinea has been involved with REDD and CDM initiatives, and is establishing a climate change office.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

Importantly, the NBSAP is directly tied to the Department for Environment and Conservation (DEC) Strategic Plan and to Medium Term Development Strategy (MTDS 2005 – 2010). Further mainstreaming is supported through the National Conservation Council and the inclusion of the NBSAP in the Democratic Governance in Transition Project. Finally climate change may be integrated within the NBSAP through a programme on assessing vulnerability including vulnerability to climate change and

through the establishment of a new National Strategic Plan Framework that includes specific activities on climate change and natural disasters.

Lessons Learned

An endowment fund was established to support implementation of the NBSAP and ensure sustainable financial flows, with contributions from a number of partners. Implementation is further supported through capacity building at all levels of government.

Tuvalu (Mr. Solamona Lotoala)

NBSAP Development

Tuvalu is currently in the process of developing the NBSAP within the Department of the Environment, with the objective of completing the process prior to the COP-10. A new team has been formed to support the development and, eventually the implementation of the report. Challenges stem from, among other issues, staff turnover and the lack of funding.

Kiribati (Ms. Nenenteiti Teariki-Ruatu)

NBSAP Development

Cabinet endorsed the NBSAP and first national report in October 2008, formalizing a focus on the conservation and management of island biodiversity at the national level. A NBSAP Multi-Disciplinary Planning Team and a Multidisciplinary Steering Committee coordinated its development, and outcomes and recommendations from community consultations, participatory learning actions (PLA) workshops, and ethno-biodiversity surveys were incorporated into the NBSAP.

NBSAP Implementation

Implementation of the NBSAP began even before Cabinet endorsement through programmes such as the Phoenix Island protected area, and through relevant biodiversity projects such as the implementation of the Protected Areas Programme of Work Phase I Project. However, implementation is made more difficult because the outer islands are very remote and isolated making activities within them often very costly.

Mainstreaming and Integration of Climate Change

The NBSAP is integrated into the Ministry's Operational Plan, the Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Agricultural Development (MELAD) annual work programme, and the MELAD annual budgetary operation. Furthermore, the 1999 Environment Act, amended in 2007, includes biodiversity provisions. Mainstreaming the NBSAP began during the NBSAP development phase through the establishment of the Multidisciplinary Planning Team and the subsequent involvement of representatives from agriculture, fisheries, tourism, environment, etc. This process will continue through implementation under the Multidisciplinary Steering Committee supported by formal links between the NBSAP and the Kiribati Development Plan (2008-2011). In particular, the Kiribati Development Plan includes Key Policy Area 4 (KPA-4) on the Environment, which includes the protection of island biodiversity and climate change adaptation as two of the main policy issues. Ms. Teariki-Ruatu outlined the key strategies under both of these issues. Climate change is also linked to the NBSAP through the Kiribati Adaptation Project (KAP II), which promotes the adoption of soft adaptation measures, and UNFCCC Second National Communication, which fully integrates biodiversity. Finally, local biodiversity experts were included in the team developing the Second National Communication to the UNFCCC.

Lessons Learned

Achieving high-level government support was a key element during the development and adoption of the NBSAP. Also important was inter-agency support and collaboration which occurred both horizontally and vertically. There are clear benefits from the integration into the ministry's operational plan, such as helping to ensure budget flows. Additionally, links to the Kiribati Development Plan is expected to support financial flows from international donors. Finally, inter and intra-institutional communications

play a crucial role. However a number of challenges remain, including the lack of financial resources, gaps in data and information, escalating threats (such as coastal erosion, poaching within protected areas and higher levels of pollution linked to increasing populations on limited land area), and inadequate attention to education and public awareness programmes.

Annex II

PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2009	
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	<p><i>Item 1: Opening of the workshop</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming remarks on behalf the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) (Ms. Kate Brown-Vitolio) • Opening remarks on behalf of the Secretariat of the South Pacific Community (SPC) (Ms. Mary Taylor) • Opening remarks on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Mr. David Cooper) • Opening remarks on behalf of the Minister of the Environment, Government of Fiji
9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<i>Coffee and Group Photo</i>
10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<p><i>Item 2: Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction and expectations of the participants (Ms. Ana Tiraa) • Introduction to the workshop (Mr. David Cooper) <p>Plenary Discussion</p>
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<p><i>Item 3: Status of the development, implementation and updating of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, the mainstreaming of biodiversity and the integration of climate change into national biodiversity strategies and action plans in the region</i></p> <p>Country presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solomon Islands (Mr. Joseph Hurutarau) • Vanuatu (Ms. Touasi Tiwok) • Fiji (Ms. Eleni Tokaduadua) <p>Discussion and group exercises: Identification of good practices and obstacles to implementation</p>
<i>12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Country presentations (continued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonga (Ms. Tupeope Samani) • Cook Islands (Ms. Elizabeth Munro) • Samoa (Mr. Seteo Apo) • Tuvalu (Mr. Solomona Lotoala) <p>Discussion and group exercises: Identification of good practices and obstacles to implementation</p>
<i>3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Tea</i>

3:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Country presentations (continued): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiribati (Ms. Nenenteiti Teariki-Ruatu) • Nauru (Mr. Tyrone Deiye) • Marshall Islands (Ms. Deborah Barker-Manase) • Federated States of Micronesia (Ms. Alissa Takesy) • Palau (Mr. Joe Aitaro) <p>Discussion and group exercises: Identification of good practices and obstacles to implementation</p>
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	<i>Reception</i>
TUESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2009	
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	“Catch of the day”: Recap of the first day.
8:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Country presentations (continued): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Papua New Guinea (Mr. John Duguman) • Australia (Ms. Carey Robinson) <p>Discussion and group exercises: Identification of good practices and obstacles to implementation</p>
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<i>Coffee</i>
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<i>Item 4: Tools for enhancing NBSAP implementation and integrating biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies and local planning processes</i> The mainstreaming challenge – experiences from the region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights from the regional workshop on mainstreaming (Mr. Seve Paeniu) • Case-studies from the Cook Islands (Ms. Elizabeth Munro) and Samoa (Mrs. Fetoloai Yandall-Alama.) • Group work and discussion
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<i>Item 4 (continued):</i> The ecosystem approach, ecosystem services and valuation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction (Mr. David Cooper) • Group exercises and general discussion
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<i>Tea</i>

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p>Item 4 (continued)</p> <p>Strategic environmental assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to strategic environmental assessment and the CBD Guidelines (Mr. Matt McIntyre) • Group discussions on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment • General discussion
WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2009	
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	“Catch of the day”: Recap of the first and second days.
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	<p>Item 5: Integrating climate change into national biodiversity strategies and action plans</p> <p>Introductory presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the objectives of the session (Facilitator) • Overview of CBD decisions related to climate change and biodiversity (SCBD)
9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<p>Introductory presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the observed and projected impacts of climate change on biodiversity and biodiversity-based livelihoods in the region (Mr. John Duguman) • Description of ongoing programmes and projects in the Pacific (Mr. Espen Ronneberg and Ms. Mary Taylor)
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<i>Coffee</i>
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<p>Integrating climate change into national biodiversity strategies and action plans – in-depth discussion and group exercise #1</p> <p>Practical tools and methodologies to link responses to climate change to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (Mr. John Duguman with Ms. Jaime Webbe)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing vulnerability • Managing risks to biodiversity from climate change and response activities • Applying biodiversity tools (Ecosystem approach, protected area gap analysis)
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Integrating climate change into national biodiversity strategies and action plans – In-depth discussion and group exercise #2</p> <p>The role of regional cooperation in integrating climate change into national processes (Mr. Espen Ronneberg with Mr. Seve Paeniu)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional observation networks and modelling • Addressing common threats under changing climatic conditions (increases in extreme weather events, increased exposure to invasive alien species, etc.) <p>Relevance of international processes under the UNFCCC</p>

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<i>Tea</i>
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Integrating climate change into national biodiversity strategies and action plans – In-depth discussion.</p> <p>Funding opportunities for synergies between biodiversity and climate change (Ms. Elisabeth Mausolf with Ms. Mary Taylor and Mr. Seve Paeniu)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to funding options • Identifying relevant eligible activities • Key considerations for monitoring and reporting
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p>General discussion on updating and improving national biodiversity strategies and action plans and integrating climate change; preparation of main conclusions of the workshop (led by Ms. Jaime Webbe and Mr. David Cooper)</p>
THURSDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2009	
7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Field study visit
3 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p>Strategic communication for NBSAPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction (Seema Deo) • Group Exercises and General Discussion
FRIDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2009	
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	“Catch of the day”: Recap of the fourth day.
8:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<p><i>Item 6: Preparation of the fourth national reports</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory presentation (Mr. David Cooper) • Preparation of the fourth national reports (country examples) • The clearing-house mechanism <p>Discussion</p>
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<i>Coffee & snacks</i>
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<p><i>Item 7: The way forward: discussion on next steps in implementing and updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mainstreaming of biodiversity and integration of climate change</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The road to COP-10 and the International Year of Biodiversity (Mr. David Cooper) • SPREP’s support to COP-10 preparation (Ms. Kate Brown-Vitolio) • Panel discussion and consideration of open questions concerning the implementation and updating of NBSAPs
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<p><i>Item 8: Consideration of the conclusions of the Workshop</i></p> <p>Evaluation of the Workshop</p>

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<i>Item 9: Closing of the Workshop</i>
<i>1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Lunch</i>

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Document Title
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/2	Status and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/3	Updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mainstreaming biodiversity, communication and reporting
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/4	Compilation of case-studies on the mainstreaming of biodiversity and integration of climate change in the Pacific region
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/5	Fact-sheet on climate change and biodiversity in the Pacific region
Information and background documents (Previously available)	
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/INF1	Report on the preliminary meeting for the joint SCBD/SPREP regional capacity-building workshop on implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans and mainstreaming biodiversity in the Pacific (19 October 2007, Alotau, Papua New Guinea)
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-PAC/1/INF2	National biodiversity strategies and action plans: Pacific Regional review prepared by Eleanor Carter (October 2007)
Decision IX/8	Review of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan

Background materials:

- Global Biodiversity Outlook-2
- Ecosystem Assessment, a guide for decision makers
- Mainstreaming biodiversity: workshops on national biodiversity strategies and action plans
<https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-brochure-nbsap-ws-en.pdf>

Resource materials for the preparation of the fourth national reports:

- Guidelines for the fourth national reports
<https://www.cbd.int/reports/guidelines/>
- Reference manual for preparing the fourth national reports
<https://www.cbd.int/nr4/guidelines/manual.shtml>
- Guide to assist countries in undertaking assessment of progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target (UNDP/UNU/CBD/UNEP/Countdown 2010)
<https://www.cbd.int/nr4/guidelines/2010-guide.shtml>
- Sample chapters of the fourth national report prepared by South Africa, Sri Lanka, Australia, Rwanda, Finland, the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom, Thailand and Costa Rica
<https://www.cbd.int/nr4/guidelines/sample/>
- CBD training module A-3: An Introduction to National Reporting

<https://www.cbd.int/nr4/guidelines/training.shtml>

CEPA background materials

- The Agenda for Action - Short list of Priority Activities for the Programme of Work for CEPA (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-09/information/cop-09-inf-03-en.doc>)
- Draft report of the workshop on Biodiversity and Education (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-09/information/cop-09-inf-23-en.doc>)
- International Year of Biodiversity - Action Plan
- CEPA Toolkit (<http://www.cbd.int/cepa/toolkit/2008/cepa/index.htm>)

CBD Training modules (available at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/>)

- A-1. Guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- A-2. Role of the CBD national focal point
- A-3. An introduction to national reporting
- B-1. An introduction to national biodiversity strategies and action plans
- B-2. How to prepare and update a national biodiversity strategy and action plan
- B-3. Mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes
- B-4. Setting national biodiversity targets, making use of the CBD framework for the 2010 biodiversity target
- B-5. Ensuring stakeholder engagement in the development, implementation and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans
- B-6. Getting political support for the national biodiversity strategy and action plan and financing its implementation
- B-7. Communication strategy for national biodiversity strategies and action plans
