



Minutes Steering Committee Meeting Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

29-30 January 2004, SOPAC, Suva, Fiji Islands

Opening

1. The Steering Committee Meeting of the Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management was held at the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) in Suva, Fiji Islands, from 29th – 30th January 2004.
2. Mr. Alf Simpson, Outgoing Director of SOPAC, welcomed participants to the Steering Committee Meeting.
3. Mr. Latu Sauluitoga Kupa, from KEW Consultants, Samoa, gave the opening prayer.
4. Alf Simpson gave the Opening Address on behalf of SOPAC. He expressed his pleasure at opening the Steering Committee Meeting for the Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management as one of his last jobs as SOPAC Director, due to his personal background working in water issues as a hydro-geologist. He reminded the Steering Committee of the important task ahead of them in championing the cause for improved water management. He mentioned the Regional Action Plan as an inspiring example of a well-planned and detailed road map for setting out priorities for water management in the Pacific Islands region. Alf Simpson also outlined some of the achievements already made in getting the international community to focus on the water agenda of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), particularly through the recent meetings in Sigatoka and Kyoto. He expressed his hope that this agenda would feed into the Type II partnership initiatives, and emphasised the importance of partnerships for taking the SIDS water agenda forward through joint action.
5. Alf Simpson introduced Mike Dworsky from the American Samoa Power Authority as Chair of the Steering Committee Meeting and Rhonda Bower as Facilitator of the Type II Initiative. Emily McKenzie, Marc Overmars and Rhonda Bower were also introduced as rapporteurs.
6. Alf Simpson also introduced Cristelle Pratt as incoming Director of SOPAC.
7. Mike Dworsky, Chairman of the Pacific Water Association, welcomed all participants, and praised the interest in and commitment for the Type II partnerships demonstrated by their attendance. He expressed his hope that the meeting would provide a forum for sharing experiences and lessons learned across Pacific Island Countries. He reminded the Steering Committee of the substantial progress already made towards building a road map for sustainable water management through the Regional Action Plan and the Pacific Wastewater Policy Statement and Framework for Action developed in Majuro and Sigatoka.
8. Mike Dworsky outlined the objectives of the meeting, including looking at the governance arrangements of the Steering Committee, discussing the role of the Partnership Facilitator, and providing a road map for the Steering Committee itself. In Annex A the agenda of the meeting is provided.



9. Mike Dworsky mentioned that the Programme for the meeting would be divided into four sessions to meet four objectives, namely:
 - Review of the operation and function of the Partnership
 - Review of the progress on implementing the Pacific RAP
 - Agreement on improvements to the operations of the Partnership
 - Agreement upon actions to be prioritised for implementation over the next two years
10. Mike Dworsky ran through the daily meeting arrangements.
11. Delegates from the following countries were in attendance: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
12. AUSAID, the Delegation of the European Commission for the Pacific, and NZAID attended representing the donor agencies.
13. The following CROP and regional organisations were represented: East-West Center, Foundation of the People of the South Pacific International, Live and Learn, Pacific Water Association, Secretariat of the 3rd World Water Forum, SOPAC, University of the South Pacific, and World Wide Fund for Nature South Pacific Programme.
14. Participants in the Steering Committee Meeting briefly introduced themselves (see Annex B, Participant List). Participants raised the following points for the Steering Committee Meeting to address.
 - Update on actions and partnership initiatives.
 - Look to future actions and partnership initiatives.
 - Partnerships between the private sector and utilities.
 - The kinds of projects that donors are interested in funding.
 - Education and training in disaster management planning.
 - Environmental education and awareness projects.
 - Infrastructure and environmental projects related to water.
 - Groundwater assessment and development.
 - Water governance issues.
 - Coordination of water plans with stakeholders.
 - Solidification of existing partnerships in the water sector in the Pacific.
 - How other Type II partnerships such as energy can learn from the water initiatives.

Background

15. Mr. Marc Overmars, Adviser on water and hydrology at SOPAC, presented some background on the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto, the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management, the Water, Energy, Health, Agriculture and Biodiversity (WEHAB) initiatives, the Millennium Development Goals, and CSD12 and 13 on Water, Sanitation and Settlements. More detailed notes and slides for the presentations are attached in Annex C.

Session One: Progress Report on Operation and Function of the Partnership



16. Ms. Rhonda Bower, Sanitation Officer at SOPAC, gave a presentation reviewing the operation and function of the Pacific Type II Partnership on Sustainable Water Management to date. More detailed notes and slides for this presentation are attached in Annex C and are available on a CD-ROM with information from the Sigatoka meeting.
17. Mike Dworsky emphasised that New Zealand partners were major supporters of work in the Pacific, with similar interests in water and wastewater projects, and it was important to keep New Zealand involved.

Sessions Two: Review of Progress on Implementation of Pacific RAP

18. Rhonda Bower gave a presentation reviewing the progress of implementation of the Regional Action Plan and discussed the matrix and progress report.
19. Ms. Nicky McDonald of NZAID mentioned that UN agencies had developed an interactive matrix database that could identify gaps and areas of duplication. She asked whether there were plans to make the Type II water partnership matrix an analytical management tool similar to the UN interactive database, rather than just a list of actions.
20. Mr. Bill Aalbersberg from USP inquired whether there were plans for a comparative matrix style document for training, including a skills evaluation.
21. In reply to these queries, Marc Overmars reminded the participants that one of the aims of Session Three would be to assess the most useful roles of the Partnership. The suggestions raised by Nicky McDonald and Bill Aalbersberg could be proposed as suggested actions for the Partnership Facilitator.

Update on Projects and Activities after the 3rd World Water Forum

Samoa

22. Latu Kupa of KEW Consultants discussed work underway in Samoa. He stated that two overlapping water-related policies are in process in Samoa: A National Water Resources Policy has been driven by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, and passed by Cabinet. A National Water Services Policy is being driven by the Samoa Water Authority, and has not yet been passed by Cabinet. He noted that the Samoa Water Authority used workshops, community meetings and questionnaires to collect information from stakeholders at the grassroots level that would be relevant to the composition of the National Water Services Policy. He said that the Samoa Water Authority and the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment are looking over the technical details of the policy before it will go to Cabinet for final approval. He mentioned that the policy is written in a simple, easily understandable format to ensure it is a practical policy that is actually used. Latu Kupa clarified that the Samoa Water Authority would welcome comments on the policy from water partners before it is finally submitted to Cabinet.
23. Latu Kupa also stated that the Asian Development Bank is financing a sanitation project to establish a reticulated sewage system in Apia. He highlighted that one problem faced by the Samoa Water Authority is its limited capacity to operate and maintain a reticulated system, so they are looking in to out-sourcing the operation and maintenance to the private sector.



24. Latu Kupa also mentioned that Samoa is attempting to develop a national version of the Regional Action Plan. A Samoa Water Roadmap was commissioned by the ADB, and should be finished in February 2004.
25. Finally, Latu Kupa remarked that the European Union is financing rural water supply projects in Samoa.

Fiji

26. Mr. Bhaskar Rao, Director of the Mineral Resources Department of the Fiji Government, discussed problems and projects in Fiji. He mentioned that Fiji lacks water legislation, while even smaller Pacific Island Countries have much more already in place. He stated that attempts are being made to develop coordination among the various government departments involved in water resource management. UNESCAP has provided assistance to the National Water Committee which includes many government departments involved in water management, in an attempt to overcome coordination problems. Bhaskar Rao remarked on the problem of identifying an implementing agency when so many different government departments are involved in water resource management. He also expressed the need for an external facilitator to coordinate and stimulate action.
27. Bhaskar Rao mentioned that a preliminary draft of a National Water Policy is currently circulating Fiji government departments for approval. He stated that the process of moving from department to department for feedback on the draft policy was found to be more effective than big centralised meetings.
28. Bhaskar Rao expressed hope that water issues would find a stronger voice in the Fiji government than it currently has.

Cook Islands

29. Mr. Ata Herman, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Works in the Cook Islands discussed some projects underway. He mentioned that in March 2003, the Cook Islands Government funded a training Programme in Rarotonga using a trainer provided by SOPAC to improve planning for the water sector.
30. Ata Herman also discussed an NZAID funded project that involved monitoring and evaluating the surface water supply. He mentioned that there is a need to undertake groundwater assessment in the Cook Islands because tourism puts a great demand on the country's infrastructure, particularly on water resources. He stated that the Cook Islands is looking for donor funding for a groundwater assessment project.
31. Ata Herman also discussed a climate change project funded by the Asian Development Bank, which is looking at infrastructure, policies, legislation and strategies relating to climate change.
32. Ata Herman highlighted that the Cook Islands is trying to initiate projects nationally, in the hope that international donors will contribute once the project concept has been established at the country level.

East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii

33. Ms. Meril Dobrin Fujiki, Project Manager, discussed the work done at the East-West Center in Honolulu Hawaii. She briefly described the East-West Center as a non-



profit research and education institute, with programmes on disaster management and climate change. She noted that the East-West Center was looking at how its work could help the Pacific to move forward with the Regional Action Plan. In response, she said the East-West Center is establishing a training programme for disaster preparedness, risk management and mitigation for water utilities in the Pacific.

34. Rhonda Bower noted that the East-West Center's strategy provides a good example of how donors can use their funding to address the priorities outlined in the Regional Action Plan. She mentioned that Oxfam New Zealand has approached SOPAC expressing an interest in establishing water and sanitation projects in the Pacific region. Oxfam New Zealand may use the RAP as a tool for developing its strategy for water projects in the Pacific.

Session Three: Improvements in the Operation of the Partnership

This session was moderated by Mr Bill Aalbersberg whereby the participants in the meeting were divided into two groups to discuss what the main roles of the Partnership Facilitators should be and how the Partnership should function in the future. The outcomes of both groups are provided below:

Group 1: What are the main roles of the Partnership Facilitators?

35. Use email to circulate information
 - a. Email conferencing on specific issues and topics
 - b. Internet 'chat' conferences
 - c. Current changing activities can be sent via email
36. Increase use of video-tele-conferencing to avoid the expense of getting to regional meetings
37. Periodically put information on CD (annually, biannually, or even monthly)
 - a. Include matrix and progress report
 - b. Important to provide CDs for those without reliable Internet access.
 - c. More detailed information can be sent out on CD, rather than in a newsletter or by email
38. Update and expand website as a tool for providing information
 - a. Put matrix on website for updating
 - b. Facilitator is responsible for maintaining website, but need input from partners to ensure information is regularly updated
 - c. All partners should take responsibility for updating entries
39. Matrix is very useful for many agencies as a valuable source of information
 - a. Provide matrix as interactive database with search capabilities
 - b. Additional information needed
 - i. Key contacts
 - ii. Regional activities
 - iii. Training
 - iv. Schedules
 - v. Aid organisations
 - vi. Newsletter
 - vii. Calendar of events including conferences, training and meetings
40. Provide more information on training as an important priority
 - a. Want easy access to information on training programmes in the region
 - b. Provide clearing house on website where you can find out:
 - i. Listings
 - ii. Curriculums



- iii. Who is running the training
- iv. Timetable
- 41. Style of partnership
 - a. Informal structure works best
 - b. No protocol
 - c. Limit bureaucracy
 - d. Free communication
 - e. Easy to share information
 - f. Want partnership to be open, transparent, quick and direct
- 42. Planning
 - a. Want facilitator to promote planning
 - i. Promote national water partnership plans
 - ii. Share information on national plan development
 - iii. Promote planning on both regional and individual country level
- 43. Promote exchange of expertise and technology
 - a. Buddy system
 - i. Expertise and resources within region could be shared through buddy system such as cooperative ventures sharing personnel
- 44. Roles and responsibilities
 - a. Need discussion of roles and responsibilities within partnership to ensure everyone understands what contribution is expected

Group 2: What are the main roles of the Partnership Facilitators?

- 45. Regional clearing house of information
 - a. Provide newsletter on water issues (monthly), including:
 - i. Country case studies on implementation of the RAP
 - ii. Regional listing of publications and projects
 - iii. Regional listing of conferences and forums relating to RAP
- 46. Website should include:
 - a. Links to other relevant websites
- 47. CD-ROM should be updated quarterly, with a paper copy on demand
- 48. Advocate implementation of RAP
 - a. Provide input to international and regional forums
 - b. Assist in national level implementation and advocacy of RAP
- 49. Link to donor community
 - a. Advocate implementation of RAP projects
 - b. Provide country and regional profiles for donors and countries themselves
- 50. Serve in coordinating capacity to develop and implement national and regional training related directly to RAP

Discussion: What style/structure should the Partnership follow?

- 51. The participants discussed whether it was worth having a CROP Working Group that specifically looks at water issues. Rhonda Bower clarified that currently water issues are covered by two CROP Working Groups: Sustainable Development and Health and Population.
- 52. Paul Fairbairn, Manager of the Community Lifelines Programme at SOPAC outlined some of the merits of having a more formal CROP Working Group or a more informal ad-hoc committee not under the CROP system. He clarified that the CROP Working Groups report to the Forum Secretariat, who report to the Heads of the CROP agencies. Bill Aalbersberg suggested that a CROP Working Group may have more



political visibility and greater linkages through its formality. Paul Fairbairn questioned whether political influence would really be increased.

53. Diane McFadzien, Climate Policy Officer for the WWF South Pacific Programme, mentioned one advantage of a less formal ad-hoc group was that it encouraged wider participation of civil society, as CROP working groups were often perceived as being too exclusive.
54. Paul Fairbairn proposed the possibility of finding a middle ground through an ad-hoc working group without direct affiliation to the CROP system, that still had the ability to report to the Forum Secretariat, but welcomed everyone and had formal recognition as a regional focal point.
55. Mike Dworsky inquired what the group thought of renaming the Steering Committee the Pacific Water Task Force. Paul Fairbairn suggested it would be better to align with existing Pacific labels because donors typically work through CROP agencies.

Discussion of Financing and Donor Involvement

56. Rhonda Bower noted that funding was needed for two areas, funding for the role of the Partnership Facilitator, and for implementing actions required to fulfill the Regional Action Plan. In terms of funding the Marc Overmars stated that NZAID has committed to funding Type II initiatives generally, and that ADB has indicated commitment to the Water Type II partnership initiative and has been approached for funding for continuing and increasing the scope of the Facilitator's role in the Partnership Initiative. In terms of funding for actions, training was repeatedly mentioned as an important funding priority. Marc Overmars stated that in addition to the commitments above, the entire Pacific RAP had been submitted to the European Union for consideration under the EU Water for Life Initiative.
57. Mike Dworsky mentioned the importance of Australia and New Zealand not just as sources of funding but also as providers of opportunities for partnership in terms of sharing experience on joint priority areas. He emphasized the importance of Australia and New Zealand for advocacy of the RAP.
58. Marc Overmars recommended that donors provide information for the matrix to ensure bilateral donor-funded projects are included. He also suggested that donors include information on why particular projects were initiated. Ms Nicky McDonald from NZAID and Ms. Katarina Atalifo from AUSAID expressed their willingness and intention to add information on their bilaterally funded projects to the matrix.
59. Marc Overmars mentioned the need for NGO projects to be added to the matrix but highlighted the difficulties in gathering such information.

Session Four: Opportunities for Actions

60. Marc Overmars gave a presentation outlining the opportunities to mobilize partners and funds for action over the next two years, including the UN CSD process, global programmes like UNEP/GPA, GWP/IWRM, and the 3WWF Oceania Progress Meeting.
61. Marc Overmars mentioned that the UN CSD Process will have a water focus in the coming years with CSD12 in 2004 and CSD13 in 2005 having a focus on Water, Sanitation and Settlements, followed by the Water Decade set for 2005-2015.



62. He suggested that the Oceania 3WWF Progress Meeting could provide opportunities for bringing Australia and New Zealand on board. He emphasised the importance of focusing on action, and advocacy within the Pacific through these global events and programmes and invited the group to report on future actions.

Further Update on Projects

Leak Detection in FSM

63. Mike Dworsky summarised some of the recent work being done by the Pacific Water Association. He mentioned that the ADB funded a benchmarking exercise for Pacific water utilities covering water losses and demand-side management. The findings from the project showed that water losses were substantial with e.g. 60 % of water unaccounted for in Tonga through leaks, non-technical losses etc. He emphasised that identification of water losses should be a priority because it can help to avoid expensive infrastructure projects in the future.
64. Mike Dworsky suggested some lessons to be learnt from a project in which a foreign consultant went to American Samoa to provide training in leak detection, but at the end of the training the consultant took away the leak detection equipment. Mike Dworsky gave this as an example of unsustainable training, and suggested that a better alternative would be to buy equipment and leave it in the region after the training. He also highlighted the need for repeated training sessions because training on a one-shot basis has not proved sustainable in the past. He stated that a regional equipment sharing system has been established in FSM, through which equipment that is too expensive for individual countries to afford is shared. The equipment is housed in one area with responsibility for maintenance, and rotated around countries for regular training. One set of leak detection equipment is housed at Pohnpei and serves Kosrae and Chuuk.

Pacific Millennium Development Goals

65. Latu Kupa from Samoa suggested that the Pacific should adopt the Millennium Development Goals relating to water and sanitation regionally. He stated that the targets and indicators could be used as a benchmark and tabulated for each country. He mentioned that Samoa's ADB sponsored roadmap is making clear the importance of monitoring progress over time and the problem of lack of data on the current situation.

Skills-based Operator Training in Micronesia

66. Tom McArthur from American Samoa discussed a regional training programme established for the US-affiliated countries in the Pacific. He stated that one of the major problems identified in FSM is the poor water quality and lack of real expertise among water operators despite the large amount of resources and training invested in the region. He has been involved in a project, which aims to address these problems through long-term training on water maintenance using a newly developed methodology known as a 'skills-based operator training programme'. The training is based on 'skill sets' developed by looking closely at the details of the job that each operator does, and the knowledge and skills needed to perform the job satisfactorily. Tom McArthur informed the Steering Committee that the project has already developed around 80 of the 140 skill-sets on the basis of individual operator needs, with each skill-set varying across jobs and across the island context. He said the skill



sets are used to train operators over several months, and each operator has to demonstrate the skills learnt at the end of the retraining and again six months later. He stated that packages with training materials are available for each skill set so that training can be conducted by the utilities themselves. He estimated that the level of teaching is set at about sophomore high school level (American system equivalent). He clarified that the project was half funded by the US Department of the Interior, and half funded by individual country governments.

Sewage Treatment, Waste Management and Leak Detection in Cook Islands

67. Ata Herman from the Cook Islands raised concerns over the time lost between the conception of a project and actual implementation. He used an example from the Cook Islands of a sewage treatment facility for Rarotonga, which should be finished by June 2004. The project was first conceived in the early 1990s due to problems with pollution entering the lagoon. However, it took at least ten years to get the project completed, and meanwhile the pollution problem has continued unabated, possibly causing irrevocable damage to the lagoon. Ata Herman also mentioned that the sewage treatment facility would be contracted out to the private sector to run after June 2004.
68. Ata Herman also discussed an Environmental Bill passed by the Cook Islands government in late 2003, which had a waste management element aiming to mitigate leakage of septic tanks in to the lagoon. He mentioned that a submission has also been made for draft regulations and guidelines to prevent pollution of lagoons.
69. Ata Herman hoped that within two years the Cook Islands would have water infrastructure leak detection programmes through the Pacific Water Association. He mentioned that the Cook Islands water supply infrastructure was built 40-60 years ago and the system now has a very high leakage rate and is in need of upgrading.

Water Quality Testing

70. Bill Aalbersberg from USP mentioned the problem of quality assurance in relation to water quality testing kits that have limited or no assurance of the reliability of their test results.

Education and Awareness

71. Ms. Archana Narayan, a Field Trainer from Live and Learn, discussed the organisation's involvement in environmental education for various water projects based in Melanesia (Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and PNG). She mentioned that Live and Learn were looking for opportunities to establish themselves to work in Polynesia as well. She discussed numerous water projects that Live and Learn are involved in, including World Water Day (22nd March 2004), for which they have produced materials such as posters, stickers, and a board game jointly with SOPAC. She stated that government departments, NGOs and schools would also be invited to provide displays for World Water Day. She informed the meeting that Live and Learn also runs a Water Education and Conservation Project, which encourages students to take up small-scale conservation projects, such as the Helping Our Planet Earth Competition (HOPE). She mentioned that Live and Learn's River Care Project provides simple water testing kits for students who form action groups in communities, identifying problems and providing solutions themselves. The water testing kits have been translated in to Fijian. She said that Live and Learn's theatre project trains teachers to use drama as a teaching tool. Finally, she discussed a new



water governance project involving 46 communities in Fiji that will involve community-based work in water management.

72. Archana Narayan stated that Live and Learn gets their funding from various agencies including NZAID, AUSAID, EU, and the Canada Fund.
73. In reply to a query about how Live and Learn could affect changes to the school curriculum, Archana Narayan said that for example in Fiji, the NGO needs approval from the Curriculum Development Unit (CDU) to make changes to the school curriculum. She stated that Live and Learn had developed a good working relationship with the CDU, which had enabled them to have an influence. She highlighted that Live and Learn is encouraging the CDU to incorporate environmental considerations into all subjects, rather than introduce them as separate subjects.

WWF South Pacific Programme

74. Diane McFadzien, from the WWF South Pacific Programme briefly discussed WWF's work with identification of wetlands and climate change. She mentioned that WWF's funding mostly comes from the WWF network and European donors.

Water Treatment System, Shangrila Resort, Fiji

75. Austin Bowden from FSPI discussed a natural water treatment system at the Shangrila Resort in Fiji, where someone is now being employed full-time for six months to refine the system. He said that the resort is funding the project because it is perceived to provide good publicity, be popular with guests and as a long-term investment in the environment of the resort. He stated that the project still needs long term monitoring, and he suggested that results could be published and shared for others to learn from. Austin mentioned that the Shangrila would welcome a partner to study and record results from the project. He also stated that the project needs more work towards awareness raising and greater local Fijian involvement with long-term vision and commitment. The water treatment project has run alongside various land projects around the Shangrila Resort such as tree planting in areas where water runs on to the reef flat, or in villages to absorb groundwater. Austin highlighted that the Shangrila project was an excellent example of the potential for partnerships to have an impact. Archana Narayan stated that Live and Learn have already been involved in raising awareness in local schools. Austin mentioned the potential for further partnerships, perhaps with USP who could help with monitoring and testing the water quality.

Catchment and Baseline Studies in Fiji

76. Bhaskar Rao discussed various projects in the Fiji Mineral Resources Department. He mentioned a pilot integrated catchment study for Nadi, which may only go ahead as a small-scale project due to problems with funding. He discussed a Yaqara catchment study near a bottling plant that looked at the hydrological and environmental aspects of the catchment, and possible delineation of buffer zones and conflicts of use. He mentioned that baseline studies were conducted in Southern Viti Levu looking at aspects such as flora, fauna, chemistry, water flow, and heavy metal presence. He stated that the information from the study would be made available in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) form on a web server open to the public. He said that the Public Health and Sustainable Development Bills are in progress, and have connections to water issues through pollution and health. Finally, he stated that



National Bottled Water Standards are in the process of being established for water source certification.

Training in Disaster Management

77. Meril Dobrin Fujiki provided some further detail about the work occurring through the East-West Center in Hawaii. She stated that the Center wishes to use its expertise to provide management and leadership training to build capacity in National Disaster Management Offices around the Pacific. The Center has been working in conjunction with partners such as SOPAC and has decided to target training at the national level where capacity appears to be most lacking. She mentioned that the Center has so far established three main projects, one looking at the water utility sector's implementation plans for disaster management, a second working with National Disaster Management Offices to build organisational capacity and a third branching in to disaster management in the power sector.

Other Business: Oceania Meeting, 3rd World Water Forum follow-up, Wellington 2004

78. Ms. Shinobu from the 3rd World Water Forum Secretariat presented the background of the 3rd World Water Forum follow-up meeting for Oceania to be held 18-19 March 2004 in Wellington, New Zealand. She highlighted the following:

- The 3rd World Water Forum was held from March 16 to 23, 2003 in Kyoto, Shiga, Osaka, Japan. During the Forum hundreds of new commitments on water were presented, and various concrete water actions were launched.
- In October 2003, the venue of the 4th World Water Forum was decided to be Mexico. As the host country of the 3rd World Water Forum, Japan intends to collaborate with WWC and the Mexican organizing committee in the preparatory process for the 4th World Water Forum.
- The 3rd World Water Forum's outcomes must be carried forward to the 4th World Water Forum in order to ensure that there is a continuous flow of efforts from the 3rd to the 4th World Water Forum. The various initiatives, commitments and concrete actions presented during the 3rd World Water Forum need to be monitored in order to maintain the momentum towards the 4th World Water Forum.

79. Mr. Mike Dworsky presented the objectives of the Oceania meeting as follows:

- 1) Follow-up the commitments made in the 3rd World Water Forum at the Oceania regional level (Pacific Island Countries, Australia and New Zealand).
- 2) Monitor the actions, projects and initiatives launched during the Forum.
- 3) Identify important topics of the Oceania region that should be addressed to the world.
- 4) Maintain and further develop the regional network of organizations, governments, NGOs and stakeholders involved in the water sector in the region.

80. Mr. Mike Dworsky presented some of the topics that can be addressed at the Oceania meeting building upon the actions and commitments presented during the 3rd World Water Forum:



- Review the outcome of the 3rd World Water Forum (Australia report, NZ report, PIC report)
- Network Australia, New Zealand and Asian Pacific Islands (clarify existing partnership members of AWP, PWP, NZWP and examine existing linkages between AU/NZ/PICs).
- Share information on the on-going actions and progress made since the Forum
- Identify the constraints/barriers for further implementation (identify gaps in implementation of RAP that can make use of NZ and AU expertise)
- Agree upon the key issues/priority areas for the water sector of Oceania.
- Identify the ways of improving/accelerating the process, actions to overcome the barriers
- Identify the core group to follow-up the water actions in the Asia until the 4th World Water Forum
- Discuss Future Work Programme

81. The group was invited to provide comments on the proposed programme and forward expressions of interest to attend the Oceania meeting to the Type II Facilitators.

82. Mr. Filipo Taulima from Tuvalu suggested that the regional representation could be coordinated through PWA and SOPAC. Those present could use the RAP and matrix to share information and form further partnerships with Australia and New Zealand.

83. SOPAC and PWA expressed their willingness to liaise with the 3WWF Secretariat to assist establishing a team to represent Pacific Island Countries in Wellington.

Closing

84. Latu Kupa thanked SOPAC for hosting the meeting.

85. Paul Fairbairn thanked Mike Dworsky for chairing the meeting, and all participants for their attendance.



Steering Committee Meeting

Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management



29 – 30 January 2004, Suva, Fiji Islands

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Thursday 29 – Friday 30 January 2004

Welcome to SOPAC

Opening Prayer

Appointment of Officers (Chair & Rapporteurs)

Introductions of Participating Stakeholders

Background SOPAC – Pacific RAP, Type II, 3WWF, CSD12, Oceania meeting

Session 1 Review the Operation and Function of the Partnership

Session 2 Review the Progress on Implementing the Pacific RAP

Session 3 Improvements to the Operations of the Partnership

Session 4 Opportunities and Actions to be implemented in next 2 years

Other Business Reporting to 3WWF Oceania Progress Meeting & 4WWF

Concluding Remarks

Note: Lunches will be provided on both days from 13:00 - 14:00

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Session Details

Session 1: Review the Operation and Function of the Type II Partnership

- Advocacy and Networking Activities
- Partners, Commitments and Support
- Governance Arrangements (CROP Facilitators and the de facto Steering Committee)
- Monitoring & Evaluation Mechanism Development (Matrix)
- Information Dissemination and Feedback (Newsletters and Reporting)

Steering Committee Conclusions

Session 2: Review the Progress on Implementing the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management

- Pacific RAP Structure
- Kyoto Portfolio of Water Actions
- Implementation Matrix
- Joint Caribbean – Pacific Programme for Action on Water & Climate
- Informal reports from countries in attendance on national level implementation
- Theme by theme discussions on existing RAP priority actions
- Post Sigatoka and Kyoto support and funding to date (projects), submissions (proposals) and generic interest

Steering Committee Conclusions

Session 3: Improvements to the Operations of the Type II Partnership

- Discussions on the Pacific RAP Coordination Unit proposal
- Advocacy Programme for 2004
- Implementation Matrix Improvements > Dbase
- SOPAC Website / CD Rom
- Newsletters and Reporting
- Steering Committee & Stakeholder Representation
- Donor Governance Requirements

Steering Committee Recommendations

Session 4: Opportunities and Actions to be implemented in next 2 years

- Presentation on Existing Proposals & Submissions
- Identified Priority Donors
- UN CSD Process (CSD12-13, Water Decade 2005-2015)
- Global Programmes (UNEP/GPA, GWP/IWRM, GEF et al)
- 3WWF Oceania Progress Meeting

Discussions on Future Priority RAP Actions for Implementation, based upon priority needs, development programme opportunities, donor priorities and support mechanisms.

Steering Committee Recommendations

Other Business

- Reporting to 3WWF Oceania Progress Meeting & 4WWF Prep Com
- Objectives, reporting requirements, agenda, attendance/representation, logistics

Background Documents

{in chronological order}

- Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, August 2002 (in colour)
- A Framework for Action WEHAB Working Group, August 2002
- Millennium Project Background paper of the Task Force on Water and Sanitation, April 2003
- Final WISIC Report 3rd World Water Forum, March 2003 (available at 3WWF or website)
- Water in Small Island Countries Session Statement World Water Forum, March 2003
- Joint (Caribbean-Pacific) Programme for Action on Water and Climate, March 2003
- Newsletter Type II Water Partnership Initiative, June 2003
- A Synopsis of Sustainable Development in PIC's: The Pacific Assessment and Position for BPoA+10, December 2003
- Newsletter Type II Water Partnership Initiative, December 2003
- Progress Report on the Pacific Water Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management, January 2004
- Pacific RAP Action Matrix Inventory, January 2004

Annex B

Pacific Regional Consultation Meeting

Type II Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

29 – 30 January 2004, SOPAC Secretariat, Fiji Islands

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Annex C: see wrap-up Pacific Water Type II.pdf