

INTERIM NEWSLETTER

November 2004

Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

IN THIS ISSUE:

[European Union Launches EU Water Facility](#)

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Dear Colleagues,

This is an extra mail-out of the **Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management** regarding the launch of the **EU-ACP Water Facility**. As mentioned in the first mail-outs (released in June and December 2003) we would appreciate it if you could forward this to colleagues who may also be interested in this initiative so that it reaches the widest possible audience.

NEWS UPDATE

[European Union Launches EU Water Facility](#)

The ACP-EU Water Facility aims at reducing poverty and at sustainable development through the achievement of the water related MDGs and WSSD targets on water and sanitation in ACP countries. The specific objectives are improved governance in water and sanitation, integrated management of water resources and increased access to safe, affordable and sustainable water and sanitation services. In March 2004, the European Council reserved a first tranche of 250 million € for this objective. This was endorsed by the ACP-EU Council of Ministers in May 2004 in Gabarone.

In order to achieve the objectives, a [Call for Proposals](#) was published on 11 November, covering three components:

- Co-financing of the improvement of the Water Management and Governance;
- Co-financing Water and Sanitation Infrastructure;
- Co-financing of Civil Society Initiatives.

We would encourage members of the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management to respond to the Call for Proposals from the European Commission and get more information through the following website: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl> or contact the European Commission in Brussels directly by e-mail: europeaid-water-facility@cec.eu.int.

If you would like assistance in submitting a proposal or experience trouble downloading the documents please contact the Partnership Coordination Unit so that

we can try to help out. We wish you good luck with the preparation of submissions and would appreciate notification of your proposal so that we can incorporate those in the Pacific Water Action Matrix. Be mindful of the deadline of submission which is **17 January 2005**.

Best wishes,

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Facilitators Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

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BACKGROUND on WATER IN SMALL ISLANDS COUNTRIES

The global water community acknowledged the special vulnerability and particular needs of small islands by the inclusion of "**Water in Small Islands Countries**" as a special theme at the 3rd World Water Forum that was held in Kyoto, Japan from 16-23 March 2003. SOPAC and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) jointly led this Water in Small Island Countries session as well as its preparation through a regional consultation in the Pacific.

A major outcome of the Pacific regional consultation was the **Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (Pacific RAP)**, which details priority actions of the water sector in the region. This action plan, endorsed by 18 countries, 14 at ministerial level, (and 14 at Head of State level) has been incorporated into the Type II Water Initiative and was submitted by the Pacific Island Countries to the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) in Johannesburg during the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in August 2002.

By now you will have received information on the outcomes of the regional consultation by e-mail and hardcopies of the Regional Action Plan have been distributed to all attendees of Sigatoka and Kyoto. In addition you can obtain more information from the following website:

http://list.sopac.org.fj/Secretariat/Programmes/H2O/3rd_world_water_forum/index.html

ARRANGEMENTS OF THE PACIFIC TYPE II PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE ON SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT

The overall aim of the Pacific Type II Initiatives is to ensure coordination and increased partnerships in meeting the WSSD goals through its Plan of Implementation.

The **Pacific Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management** is coordinated and facilitated by the intergovernmental organisation SOPAC (South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission), which has the regional mandate to support

the Pacific Island Countries in water & sanitation. SOPAC is assisted in this task by a deputy facilitator, the University of the South Pacific. The objective of the Pacific Water Type II is to implement the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, inclusive of its sister strategies, the Pacific Wastewater Policy Statement and the Pacific Wastewater Framework for Action, as effectively as possible.

The Partnership has a Facilitator (based at SOPAC) who is responsible for implementing the core functions of the partners liaising between the regional stakeholder groups and their sub-networks; researching and receiving stakeholder information on on-going and planned water activities; tracking donor and development agency programmes; identifying areas requiring implementation; and coordinating proposal submissions and project implementation. The Facilitator is also responsible for high-level advocacy of the strategic approach.

Monitoring and evaluation are carried out using a matrix inventory of previous, existing, planned and proposed activities, including details of the stakeholders involved, the intervention objectives, implementation duration and status, and anticipated impact.

The Facilitator enables countries and development agencies to: identify successful previous activities and therefore improve the sustainability of subsequent interventions; reduce and prevent duplication of activities; link country requirements to development programmes (and vice versa); and augment existing and proposed activities nationally and regionally.

A working group of CROP agencies (Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific) and NGO representatives has been set up to act as the overall coordinating body of the Pacific Type II Initiatives. Facilitators are asked to report to this Sustainable Development Working Group on a regular basis also in the preparations for Barbados +10.

If you have comments on this Partnership Initiative or would like to make contributions and be further involved please do not hesitate to contact us on the following e-mail address: rhonda@sopac.org or marc@sopac.org.