

Pacific Ridge-to-Reef Program: Status Update

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW) Avarua, Cook
Islands 7-8 October 2015

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Rationale of GEF Funded Intervention

- Utilisation of STAR funds within a meaningful PIC Multi Focal Area Framework ie Ridge to Reef providing best practice examples for sustainable development and Environmental Stress Reduction
- Utilising IW funds to Support National Implementation, IWRM Replication, Capacity Development, Reporting and Knowledge Sharing



Program Structure

- Program vs Project
- Program is comprised of 'independent' national GEF STAR funded R2R projects 'linked' by a regional GEF IW funded R2R support project.
- Program Governance comprised of Overall Program Coordination, Regional Program and IW Project oversight and National STAR demonstration project and IW Pilot project oversight.

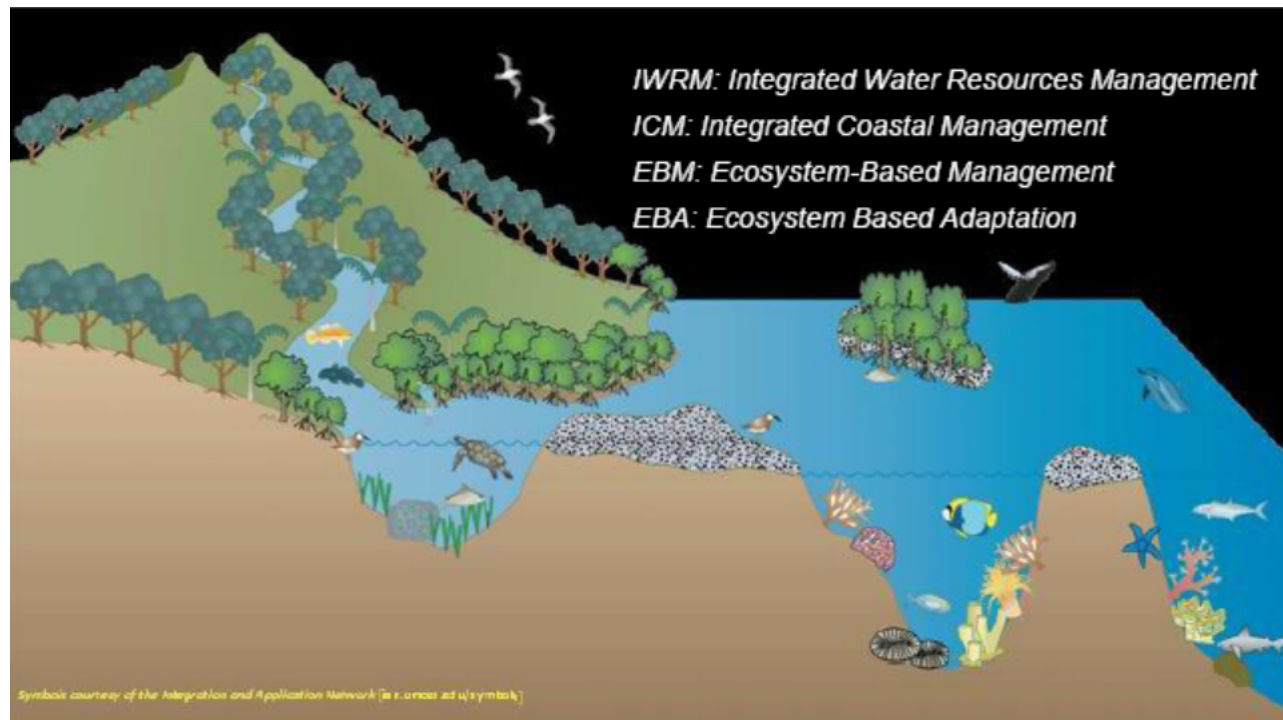


GEF STAR R2R and GEF IW R2R

$$1 + 1 = 3$$



PLC Ridge-to-Reef Concepts





PICs GEF IW Project Titled

**“Testing: Pacific Islands Ridge to Reef National
Priorities - Integrated Water, Land, Forest & Coastal
Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services,
Sequester Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and
Sustain Livelihoods” (GEFPACIFICIWR2R)**





PICs GEF STAR Multi-Focal Area PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

Titled

**“Pacific Islands Ridge to Reef National Priorities -
Integrated Water, Land, Forest & Coastal
Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services,
Sequester Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and
Sustain Livelihoods” (GEFPACIFICR2R)**



Multi-Focal Area 'Ridge-to-Reef' (R2R) Program Goal

“to maintain and enhance Pacific Island countries’ ecosystem goods and services (provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural) through integrated approaches to land, water, forest, biodiversity and coastal resource management that contribute to poverty reduction, sustainable livelihoods and climate resilience”



R2R Programme Components

1. National GEF STAR funded Multi-focal Area Ridge-to-Reef Demonstrations in all Pacific Island Countries
2. Regional GEF IW funded Ridge to Reef Support Project comprise of Technical support and National Pilot Projects.
3. Improved Governance for Integrated, Climate resilient Land, Water, Forest and Coastal Management
4. Regional and National/Local Ridge-to-Reef Indicators, Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management
5. Regional Program Coordination



Background

July 2012 : Pacific Expanded Constituency Workshop, Nadi

- Presentation of the R2R Concept
- Countries selected the GEF Agency to Work With

April 2013 : Pacific Constituency Meeting, Sydney

- Presentation and Discussion of the Pacific R2R
- Program Framework Document (PFD)
- Countries Endorsed the PFD and some National R2R PIFs

June 2013 : Approval of PFD by GEF Council and some National R2R PIFs;

- Conduct of PPG

Nov 2013 / Feb 2014: Approval of Remaining National R2R PIFs;

- Conduct of PPG

Feb 2015 ongoing: CEO Endorsement



Pacific R2R Programme Scope

Country	National R2R	Regional R2R ¹	GEF Agency ²
Cook Islands	Yes	Yes	UNDP
FS Micronesia	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Fiji	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Kiribati	Yes	Yes	FAO
Marshall Islands	Yes	Yes	UNEP
Nauru	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Niue	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Palau	Yes	Yes	UNEP
Papua New Guinea	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Samoa	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Solomon Islands	No	Yes	N/A
Tonga	Yes	Yes	UNDP, FAO
Tuvalu	Yes	Yes	UNDP
Vanuatu	Yes	Yes	FAO

¹ UNDP-implemented;

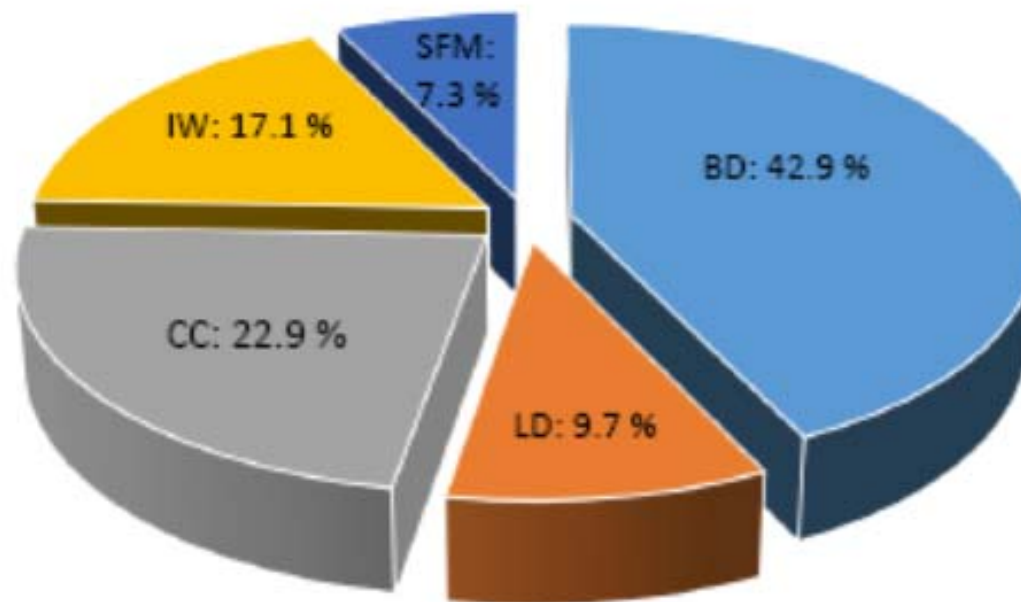
² Agency of Choice for the National R2R Project



Pacific R2R Programme Funds

GEF TF by Focal Area

Total: \$76.74 M



Pacific R2R Programme Update @ Sep 15

Project	Title	Agency	Status
Kiribati	Resilient Islands, Resilient Communities (Nov 2013)	FAO	PPG Likely delays due to challenges experienced
Vanuatu	Integrated Sustainable Land and Coastal Zone Management in Vanuatu (Nov 2013)	FAO	PPG Project completion delayed by Cyclone PAM but completion by December
Palau	Advancing sustainable resource management to improve livelihoods and protect biodiversity in Palau (March 2014)	UNEP	Submitted for CEO Endorsement Inception Workshop to be held early 2016
Cook Islands	Conserving biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem functions through a "Ridge-to-Reef" approach in the Cook Islands	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Inception workshop planned for October 2015
FS Micronesia	Implementing an integrated "Ridge-to-Reef" approach to enhance ecosystem services to conserve globally important biodiversity and to sustain local livelihoods	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Project Document to be signed by October. Inception Feb/Mar 2016
Fiji	Implementing a 'Ridge-to-Reef' Approach to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Sequester Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Priority Areas	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Pending Prodoc signature Inception workshop dates to be confirmed.
Nauru	Implementing a 'Ridge-to-Reef' Approach to Sustain Ecosystem Functions	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Project manager recruited Inception workshop dates to be confirmed
Niue	Application of Ridge to Reef Concept for biodiversity conservation, and for the enhancement of ecosystem service and cultural heritage in Niue (March 2014)	UNDP	Submitted for CEO endorsement



Pacific R2R Programme Update@ Sep 15

Project	Title	Agency	Status
Papua New Guinea	Strengthening the management effectiveness of the national system of protected areas	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Inception Workshop likely in first quarter 2016
Samoa	Economy-wide integration of CC Adaptation and DRM/DRR to reduce climate vulnerability of communities in Samoa (EWACC)	UNDP	Implementation ongoing
Tonga	Integrated Environmental Management of the Fanga'uta Lagoon Catchment	UNDP	Implementation ongoing
Tonga	Sustainable Land and Agro-ecosystem Management Systems for Tonga (Mar 2014)	FAO	PPG Submission to GEF expected within next month and Project manager on board by Feb 2016
Tuvalu	Implementing a 'Ridge to Reef' approach to protect biodiversity and ecosystem functions, and adapt to climate change in Tuvalu	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Recruitment of Project manager is ongoing, Inception Workshop planned early 2016
Marshall Islands	Looking to the future: Strengthening natural resource management and use of renewable energy in atoll communities in the RMI under the framework of the Micronesia Challenge	UNDP effective July 2015 (formerly UNEP)	PIF is will be approved by Council in October 2015 Work Program and PPG to start
Regional R2R	Ridge-to-Reef: Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries	UNDP	CEO-endorsed Staff Recruited. Inception workshop planned for Feb 2016.

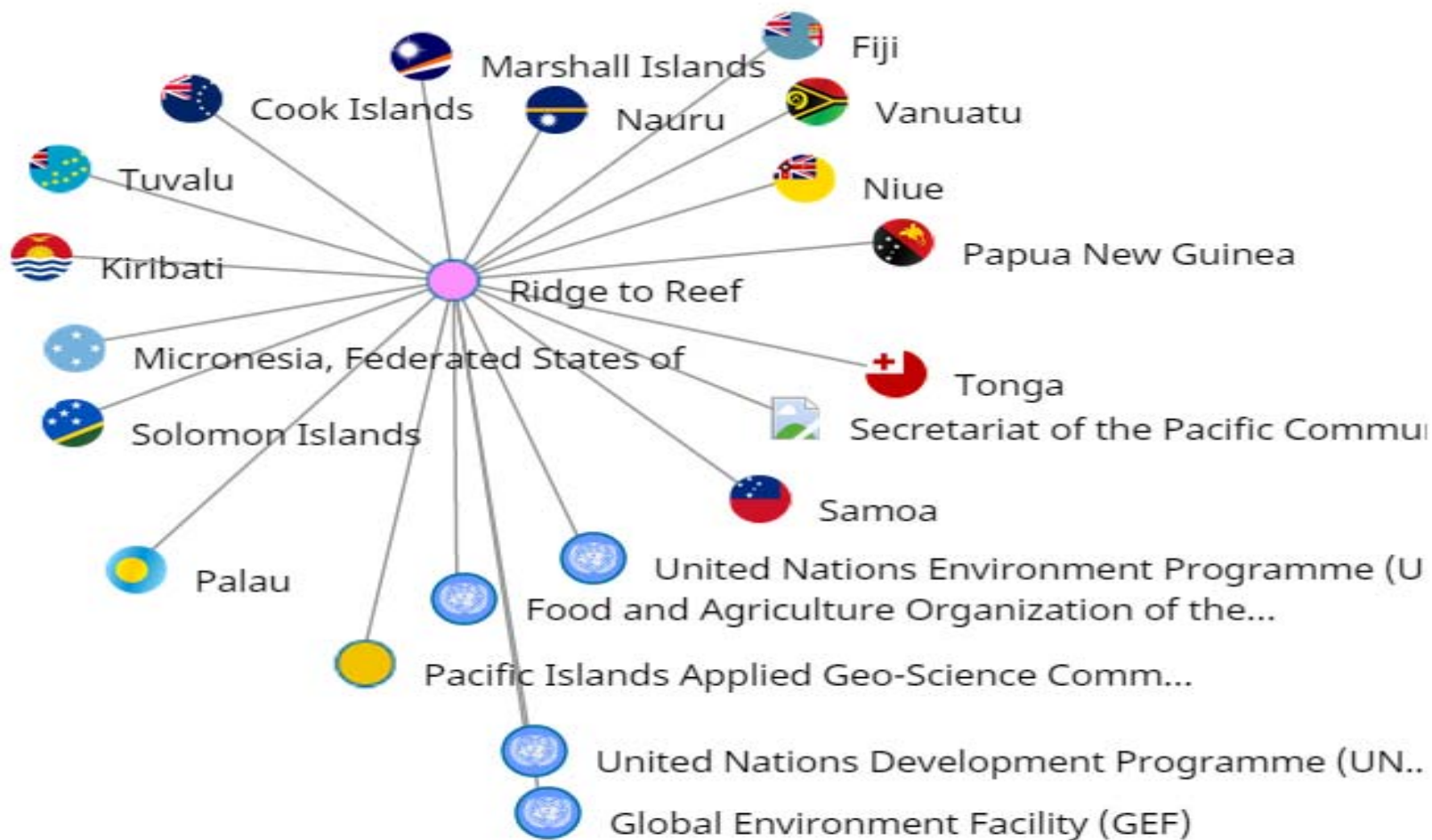


Importance of Cooperation



Pacific Ridge to Reef Partnership est 2014

PARTNERS



Inception Regional IW R2R Project

- Country visits start October 15
- Visits will be scheduled in consultation with OFPs
- Visits will review IW Pilot Project Logframes, finalise MOA between SPC and National Implementing Partner
- National Project Manager ToRs and recruitment process
- National R2R and Project Coordination and Governance arrangements
- Development of National Inception workplans and budgets
- Aim is to have these finalised and PMs in place for the Regional Project Inception Meeting tentatively scheduled for end Feb 2016



National Coordination

- Emerging model
 - Use existing National Sustainable Development Committees, expand ToRs if needed
 - Appointment of National R2R Coordinator
 - Locate appropriately to ensure effective coordination and cooperation Funded from STAR and IW
 - R2R Project Steering C'tees established early and comprise national primary stakeholders
 - Project Manager's per National STAR and IW Projects
 - Coordinated National R2R Communications strategy



Capacity Development

- **Innovative post-graduate training program and mentoring/leadership programs**
- **Online delivery of accredited Post Graduate Certificate, Post Graduate Diploma**
- **Curriculum Objectives relates to R2R Programme Objectives and Unit assessments relate directly to project implementation STAR and IW R2R Projects**
- **Provides individual incentive, meaning learning by doing, retains capacity within country**
- **Encourages cooperation Nationally and Regionally ie the Project Managers would be the primary participants and are all involved in a common ongoing training programme.**
- **National STAR funded R2R Projects to make funding provision for Participation of STAR Staff in PG Training Programme.**



Cook Islands R2R: Conserving biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem functions through a R2R approach (UNDP)

Objective: *To build national and local capacities and actions to ensure effective conservation of biodiversity, food security and livelihoods and enhancement of ecosystem functions within the Cook Islands Marine Park*

1: Strengthening PA management

- Strengthened Legal/Regulatory and Policy Frameworks for PAs
- Expanded and strengthened management systems for PAs
- Strengthened institutional coordination and capacities at the national and local levels for the participatory management of PAs
- Financial sustainability framework developed for systems of PAs

2: Effective mainstreaming of biodiversity in key sectors to mitigate threats within production landscapes

- Ridge to Reef approaches integrated into Land Use and Development Planning
- Biodiversity conservation mainstreamed into agriculture sector
- Biodiversity conservation mainstreamed into tourism sector



Fiji R2R: Implementing a “Ridge to Reef” approach to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Sequester Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Fiji (UNDP)

Objective: *To preserve biodiversity, ecosystem services, sequester carbon, improve climate resilience and sustain livelihoods through a ridge-to-reef management of priority watersheds in the two main islands of Fiji*

1: Conservation of Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity

- Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas
- Improved financial sustainability for terrestrial and marine protected area systems

2: Conservation, Restoration and Enhancement of Carbon Stocks through Sustainable Forestry

- Carbon stocks restored and enhanced in priority catchments
- Sustainable forest management achieved through innovative market-based schemes

3: Integrated Natural Resources Management

- Integrated catchment management plans integrating conservation of biodiversity, forests, land and water formulated and implemented in priority sites
- Strengthened governance for integrated natural resources (land, water, biodiversity, forests) management

4. Knowledge Management

- Improved data and information systems on biodiversity, forests and climate change, land and coastal and marine management and good practices



Kiribati R2R: Resilient Islands, Resilient Communities (FAO)

Objective: *Improve biodiversity conservation and landscape management to enhance socio-environmental resilience to climate variability and change*

1: Strengthen national network of protected areas

- National PA system expanded to include priority KBA areas
- Strengthened capacity of PA managers and communities to sustain PA management

2: Promote sustainable and integrated landscape management

- Integrated landscape management plans effectively implemented in selected urban areas and outer islands
- Improved management of priority mangrove areas as part of broader marine and land-use plans

3: Knowledge management, dissemination of best practices, monitoring and evaluation

- Lessons learned of project identified and applied in future operations and shared with national and regional partners



FS Micronesia R2R: Implementing an integrated R2R approach to enhance ecosystem services, conserve globally important biodiversity and sustain livelihoods (UNDP)

Objective: *To strengthen local, state and national capacities and actions to implement integrated ecosystem-based management through R2R approach on the high islands of the four states of FSM*

1: Integrated ecosystem management and rehabilitation on the high islands of the FSM to enhance R2R connectivity

- Four integrated Landscape Management Plans, each covering the High Islands of FSM, are developed and implemented
- Institutions with sectoral responsibilities for development and conservation are capacitated for coordinated action at the wider landscapes on SLM
- Additional finances for SLM investments (including PA management costs) secured
- Management and rehabilitation of critical ecosystems implemented to enhance functional connectivity, reduce erosion, improve water quantity and quality and reduce coastal flooding.

2: Management effectiveness enhanced within new and existing PAs on the High Islands of FSM as part of the R2R approach

- Legal and institutional framework have been established to improve management effectiveness of PAs.
- The PAN of the High Islands has been expanded, and existing and new PAs of the FSM have been secured
- Management authorities of newly established PAs are equipped and capacitated in managing PAs.
- Effective PA management practices have been adopted in existing and new PAs.



Nauru R2R: Implementing a “Ridge to Reef” approach to protecting biodiversity and ecosystem functions in Nauru (UNDP)

Objective: *To preserve biodiversity, ecosystem services, improve climate resilience and sustain livelihoods in Nauru using a ridge to reef approach*

1: Conservation of Marine Biodiversity

- A network of locally managed marine areas or locally managed marine areas (LMMAs)
- LMMAs strengthened through development and implementation of management plans (following participatory approaches and Integrated Coastal Management) to address threats, including climate change impacts

2: Sustainable Land & Water Management

- Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities living within the 'bottom-side', and applicable 'ridge', and 'topside' areas not covered by mining.

3: Governance & Institutions

- Biodiversity conservation and SLM mainstreamed in policy and regulatory frameworks.

4. Knowledge Management

- Improved data and information systems on biodiversity and land management best practices.



Niue R2R: Application of Ridge to Reef Concept for biodiversity conservation, and for the enhancement of ecosystem service and cultural heritage in Niue (UNDP)

Objective: *To strengthen conservation and sustainable use of land, water and marine areas and their biodiversity by building on their cultural heritage values through integrated national and community actions*

1: Catalyzing conservation initiatives at site and landscape / seascape level through Ridge to Reef Approach

- New community conservation and national protected areas established at different levels:
- A single and continuous terrestrial conservation area covering 2,550 ha
- A national marine protected area covering 4,500 ha (Beveridge Reef)
- Community conserved reefs covering at least 112 ha

2: Strengthening knowledge, capacities and partnerships for Ridge to Reef concept application outside protected areas

- Strengthened cross-sectoral involvement of relevant national government departments to promote effective Ridge to Reef management by mainstreaming environmental concerns into plans and actions



RMI R2R: Formerly UNEP transferred to UNDP as of July 2015

Objective

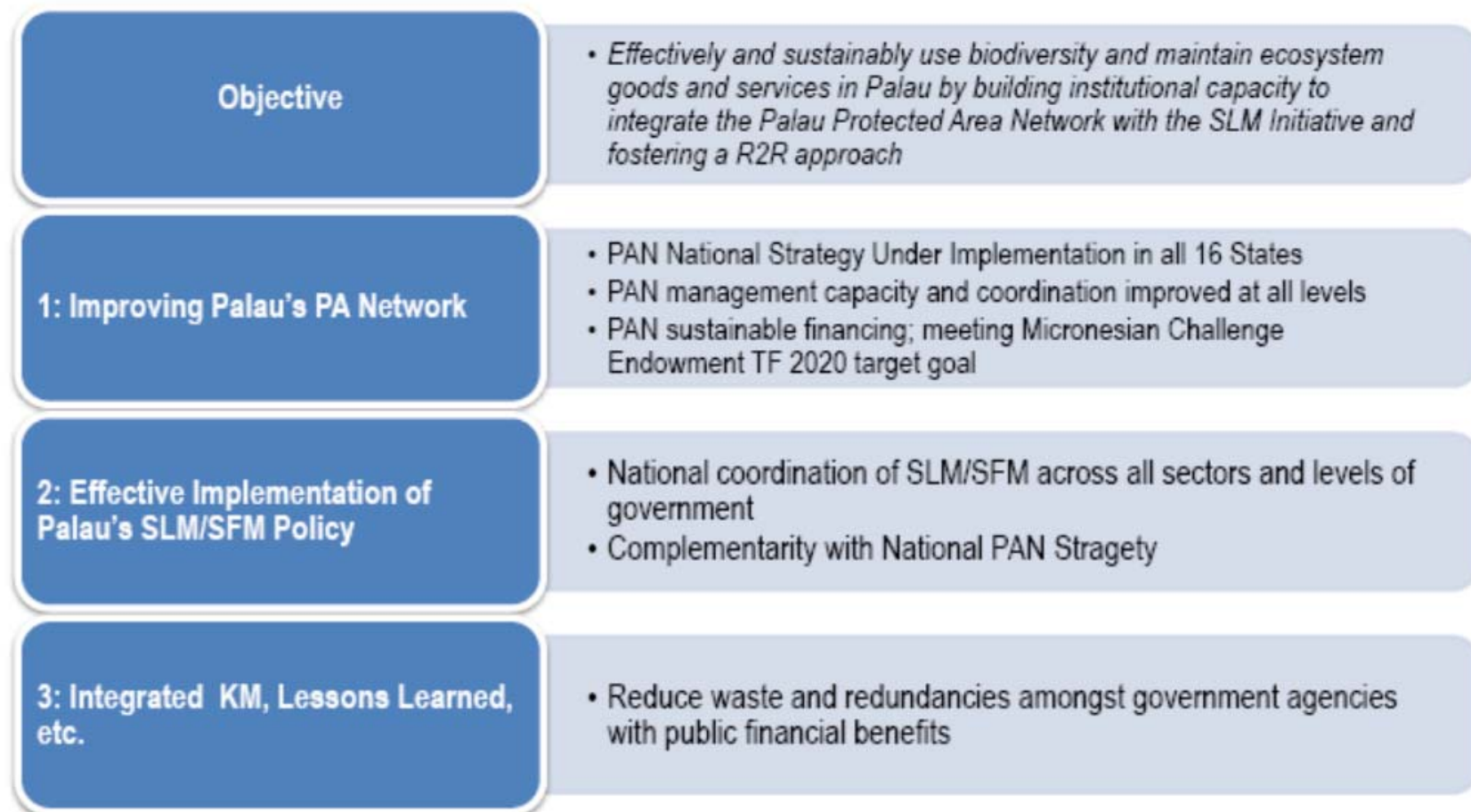
- *To be formulated; under negotiation*

Components

- *To be formulated; under negotiation*



Palau R2R: Advancing sustainable resource management to improve livelihoods and protect biodiversity (UNEP)



Papua New Guinea R2R: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the National System of Protected Areas (UNDP)

Objective: *To strengthen national and local capacities to effectively manage the national system of protected areas and address threats to biodiversity and ecosystem functions in these areas*

1: Management capabilities of the PNG state to support and oversee PA Management

- Policies relating to PA Management and Biodiversity Conservation Strengthened
- Capacity of CEPA emplaced for effective management of the National PA System
- Training Program targeting PA managers institutionalized
- Effective management of Varirata NP and its integration into the broader Soger Plains landscape

2: Strengthening the Capacity of the State and Local Communities to Cooperatively Manage PA sites

- Expansion to the landscape level and effective management of the YUS Landscape
- Community livelihood assistance in the YUS Landscape
- Formal gazettal and effective management of the Torricelli Mountain Range (TMR)
- Community livelihood assistance in the TMR landscape proposed CA: Alternative protein



Samoa R2R: Economy-wide integration of CC Adaptation and DRM/DRR to reduce climate vulnerability of communities - EWACC (UNDP)

Objective: *Establish an economy-wide approach to CC adaptation, aimed for efficient integration and management of adaptation and DRM/DRR into national development planning and programming, and enhancing the resilience of communities' physical assets and livelihoods across Samoa*

1: Policy Strategies/Institutional Strengthening

- CC-A and DRM mainstreamed into policies and budgeting processed through enhanced coordination of government institutions
- Public finance management at the national and villages level – capacity to access, manage, implement and monitor use of CC funds at national and village level

2: Enhance resilience of communities as first responders of CC-induced hazards

- Increased resilience and decreased exposure and susceptibility of communities to CC and natural disasters by protected of households and community assets and promoting resilient livelihoods
- Increased adaptive capacity of communities for implementation of effective risk management and protection household and community assets

3: Monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management

- Knowledge about CCA and DRM is captured and shared at the regional and global levels



Tonga R2R: Integrated Land and Agro-ecosystem Management (FAO)

Objective: *Strengthening the resilience of communities by enhancing land tenure systems, improving forest management and piloting and integrate agro-ecosystem approach to rehabilitate degraded landscapes*

1: Legal and policy frameworks to support integrated land and agro-ecosystem management

- Policies and laws are informed by land use change assessment reports, and promote integrated land and agro-ecosystem management

2: Development and implementation of integrated agro-ecosystem management systems in pilot areas

- Capacity of local communities strengthened to sustain integrated management plans in the long-run
- Integrated management systems implemented effectively in selected communities

3: Mainstreaming sustainable forest management

- Data on changes in forest cover taken into account in policy and development decisions
- Forest resources in pilot and other project sites sustainable managed

4. Dissemination of best practices and lessons learned, monitoring and evaluation

- Awareness raising and communications campaign implemented
- Project implementation based on results-based management



Tonga R2R: Integrated Environmental Management of the Fanga'uta Lagoon Catchment (UNDP)

Objective: *To conserve the ecosystem services of the Fanga'uta Lagoon through an integrated land, water and coastal management approach thereby protecting livelihoods and food production and enhancing climate resilience*

1: Appropriate Governance of Fanga'uta Lagoon Catchment Areas and Integrated Management of Lagoon Ecosystems

- Multi-stakeholder management system established to guide EMP FLS updating and IEMP implementation
- Completed participatory updating of the Plan and subsequently adopted, endorsed and budgeted for

2: Implementation of the Integrated Environmental Management Plan for the Fanga'uta Lagoon Catchment

- Improved conditions of critical lagoon habitats, productivity and fish production through the implementation of priority interventions identified in the Plan

3: Knowledge Management

- Increased awareness and appreciation of the ecosystem services of the Fanga'uta lagoon



Tuvalu R2R: Implementing a 'Ridge to Reef' approach to protect biodiversity and ecosystem functions (UNDP)

Objective: *To preserve ecosystem services, sustain livelihoods and improve resilience in Tuvalu using a 'ridge-to-reef' approach*

1: Conservation of Island and Marine Biodiversity

- Improved management effectiveness of system of conservation areas composed of existing and expanded Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs)

2: Integrated Land and Water Management

- Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities

3: Governance & Institutions

- Integrated approaches mainstreamed in policy and regulatory frameworks
- Capacity on integrated approaches enhanced at the national and community level

4. Knowledge Management

- Improved data and information systems on biodiversity, forests land management adaptation best practice



Vanuatu R2R: Integrated Sustainable Land and Coastal Management (FAO)

Objective: *To test and implement sustainable and integrated management of forest, land and marine resources to achieve effective R2R conservation in selected priority watershed in Vanuatu*

1: Strengthening of the PA Network

- Improved management effectiveness of existing and new PAs
- Terrestrial and marine PA network expanded to fill ecosystem gaps
- Increased revenue to meet total expenditures required for management

2: Sustainable management of production landscapes

- Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities
- Sustainability of fish harvests improved
- Improved forest harvesting practices adopted by local communities

3: Landscape restoration and reduced forest degradation

- Restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests and non-forest lands (SFM)

4. Capacity building for integrated and sustainable NRM

- Enhanced capacity for improved decision making and landscape management in support of R2R conservation



Regional R2R: Ridge to Reef: Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries(UNDP)

Objective: To test the mainstreaming of 'ridge-to-reef' (R2R), climate resilient approaches to integrated land, water, forest and coastal management in the PICs through strategic planning, capacity building and piloted local actions to sustain livelihoods and preserve ecosystem services

1: National Demonstrations to Support R2R ICM/IWRM approaches for Island Resilience and Sustainability

- Successful pilots projects testing innovative solutions involving linking ICM, IWRM, CC-A (linked to national STAR projects via larger Pacific R2R Network)

2: Island-based Investments in Human Capital and Knowledge to Strengthen National and Local Capacities for R2R Approaches

- National and local capacities for ICM, IWRM, SLM and SFM improved
- Incentive structures for retention for local R2R expertise and inter-governmental dialogue on human resource needs for ICM/IWRM



Regional R2R: Ridge to Reef: Cont

3: Mainstreaming of R2R into National Development Planning

- National and regional Strategic Action Frameworks for ICM/IWRM endorsed nationally and regionally
- Coordinated approaches for R2R Achieved in 14 PICs

4: Regional and National R2R Indicators for Reporting, Monitoring, Adaptive Management and Knowledge Management

- Integrated and simplified results frameworks for MFA projects, nationally and regionally formulated and adopted
- National and regional platforms for managing information and sharing of best practices and lessons learned in R2R established

5: R2R Regional and National Coordination

- Effective program coordination of National and Regional R2R projects
- Harmonized reporting and monitoring and regional and national capacity building modules
- Periodic planning and coordination workshops conducted for national project teams



Working Together!

