

Appendix 1

Partnerships in the Pacific Region¹

1. The World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) – Rio+10, held in Johannesburg in 2002 had as its major outcomes the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and the Declaration for Sustainable Development but it also initiated partnership/initiatives between governments and non-state actors called Type II Partnerships. It represented a fundamental shift in the governing of sustainable development from the top-down, state centred approach favoured at the 1992 Rio Summit to a more collaborative, multi-stakeholder approach. It was hoped that establishing such participatory multi-stakeholder governance mechanisms would increase flexibility and enhance the implementation of sustainable development policy in collaboration between states, international organisations and other non-state actors.
2. Pacific Leaders launched 14 Pacific Umbrella Initiatives part of these Type II Partnerships. Concurrently facilitators for each of these Partnerships were assigned and each would develop their respective initiatives by developing individual ‘roadmaps’ for their long term development.

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Pacific Partnerships Launched in Johannesburg, 2002

1. Pacific Island *Adaptation* Initiative to Climate Change, Variability and Sea level rise
 2. Pacific Islands *Energy* for Sustainable Development (PIESD)
 3. Pacific Islands *Health* for Sustainable Development
 4. Sustainable *Land Resources* Development for the Pacific
 5. Pacific Islands *Oceans* Initiative
 6. Sustainable *Tourism* Development for the Pacific
 7. Pacific Islands *Waste Management* Initiative
 8. *Capacity Building* and Distance Education
 9. Pacific Islands *Governance* Initiative
 10. Pacific Islands *Information Communication & Technology* for Development
 11. *Mainstreaming Conservation* (Biodiversity, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge) in the Pacific
 12. *Planning for Sustainable Community Lifestyles* in the Pacific
 13. Managing *Vulnerability and Resilience to Natural Disasters* in the Pacific
 14. Sustainable *Water Management* in the Pacific
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6. Development of Type II partnerships significantly marked the emergence of a broader managerial process within environmental governance. The introduction of a 'Transnational Governance Network' which combines actors from the public, private and civil society sectors pursuing a common goal through shared novel mechanisms was pioneering on a global scale. On a Pacific scale it was targeted at addressing a number of shortcomings namely:
 - The more effective exchange of information between partners. In particular when such information requires a degree of technical expertise to deliver, such as the transfer of specialised knowledge from the private sector to industry groups regarding sustainable business practices.
 - The leveraging of additional resources to include those that exist within the private sector and non state actors.
 - To facilitate the implementation of global strategies at the local level facilitating local ownership of environmental governance by involving private and civil actors in decision-making processes.
 - It also represented a further shift in the governing of sustainable development whereby rather than consider environmental issues in isolation, as had previously been common practice within sustainable development policy, Type II partnerships would reframe the sustainable development discourse, reconceptualising sustainable development as a dynamic interaction between the three interdependent pillars of society, environment and the economy.

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Four successful partnerships from the Pacific Region are:

8. The Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation addresses Initiative 11 (Mainstreaming Conservation). Formed by SPREP in 1997 on request from Pacific island countries and territories for stronger for collaboration and coordination of conservation initiatives and activities. The Roundtable is the Pacific's largest cross-sectoral coalition of organizations working to increase effective conservation action in the region. This partnership mechanism is the only forum in which key stakeholders come together to discuss and develop new ways to address the main issues of nature conservation facing the Pacific Islands. The Roundtable exists as the coordination mechanism of organizations and governments that have a role in implementing the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands Region. The Roundtable's mandate is to increase effective conservation action in the Pacific islands by fostering greater coordination and collaboration among national, regional and international organizations; Identifying critical gaps in the Action Strategy and developing new conservation activities in the region; communicating and linking with countries through NBSAPs or alternative processes to promote implementation and monitoring of the Action Strategy;

strengthening linkages with CROP agencies to promote multi-sectoral mainstreaming at the regional level; CROP agencies to promote multi-sectoral mainstreaming at the regional level; regional and national NGOs for more effective coordination; countries through NBSAPs or alternative processes to promote the Action Strategy. The coordination of the Roundtable has since been taken over by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), another key evolution of this partnership.

9. The Pacific Partnerships Initiative on Sustainable Water Management addresses initiative 14 and is a voluntary partnership of water and wastewater stakeholders in the Pacific region, with a common goal of achieving sustainable water and wastewater management in Pacific Island 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 held in Kyoto, Japan in 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 whose major outcome 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 14 Pacific Island Countries at Ministerial level, and subsequently by 16 Pacific Countries (including Australia and New Zealand) at Heads of State level, has been incorporated into a Type II Partnership Initiative. The objectives of the Partnership are: to strengthen existing and build new partnerships on water and wastewater; to create a regional water network; to implement the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management; and to implement the Pacific Wastewater Policy Statement and the Pacific Wastewater Framework for Action, in the most effective and efficient manner possible.
10. The Pacific Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network addresses initiative 13 and was established by SOPAC, at the behest of Pacific Leaders, facilitated the establishment of the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network in 2006 to provide a collaborative and cooperative mechanism to support disaster risk management capacity building in the region and assist Pacific Island Countries and Territories adapt and implement the Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action 2005 - 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters. The Partnership is an “open-ended, voluntary” membership of international, regional and national government and non-government organisations, with comparative advantages and interests in supporting Pacific countries toward mainstreaming DRM through addressing their disaster risk reduction and disaster management priorities. The partnership has a charter that sets out that disaster risk reduction and disaster management are sustainable development issues within the broader context of economic growth and good governance; recognises the critical role of national governments in developing programmes and plans that reflect the needs of all stakeholders in an all of country approach; that regional efforts should be responsive to, support and complement national programmes and plans; commit regional partners to coordinating activities under the guidance of the Pacific Plan. The work on the partnership focuses on

assisting Pacific Small Island Developing States with the development and implementation of Disaster Risk Management National Action Plans (NAPs). The Partnership established its own web based portal to facilitate exchange of information and sharing of experiences, this portal has since developed into a wider partnership within the Asia Pacific region through collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, who now hosts the Asia Pacific portal.

11. The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) addresses initiative 1 (adaptation to climate change). The establishment of the Climate Change Roundtable in 2008 was modelled around the success of the Nature Conservation Roundtable. SPREP the lead CROP agency on climate change issues first coordinated the development of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC). The PCCR was formed as a key element to the effective implementation of the Action Plan being the consultative forum for consensus building and decision-making. The PCCR in this context seeks to bring together different stakeholders such as technical staff and policy makers from national and regional institutions, regional offices of international organisations, NGOs, Churches and key experts from the region involved in climate change issues. Fundamentally the climate change roundtable facilitates the exchange of experiences (lessons learnt, good practices, impacts and benefits) and the use of these experiences as a basis for longer term strengthening of national, regional and inter-regional collaboration on climate change adaptation and disaster risk management. The PCCR is also used as a consultative forum to coordinate implementation of activities of climate change programmes such as the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) and the Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Program. A climate change web based portal has recently been established to assist in the exchange of information.
12. There are a number of key characteristics of these successful partnerships:
 - A clear mandate and ownership from national governments;
 - All have time a bound action program to guide implementation;
 - There is a regular roundtable for coordination and consultation;
 - Implementation is focussed on national action;
 - Regional initiatives complement these national actions;
 - A commitment to the effective sharing of information and experiences;
 - Cooperation amongst members;
 - Pooling of resources to effectively achieve results;
 - All are learning partnerships.
13. There are two encouraging recent developments regarding these Partnerships. The first is the development of what could be termed as a subsidiary partnership to address specific issues that fall within the umbrella partnerships mandate. The Nature Conservation Roundtable recently convened and formed the Pacific Mangrove Initiative – a partnership focussed on addressing the issue of conservation and sustainable

management of mangroves in the Pacific. These more focussed “subsidiary” partnerships allow for concerted effort to address priority issues while still working within the wider umbrella partnership framework.

14. The second is the emergence of joint initiatives between partnerships. The Disaster Risk Management Partnership and the Climate Change Roundtable have recognised the commonalities between the issues they address and the need to rationalise implementation at the national level to ease the burden on small Pacific island administrations. The two partnerships have formulated an approach for Joint National Action Plans for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction. This approach has been successfully implemented in a number of countries and is being promoted for other countries.
15. Under the auspices of the CROP Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), and including NGOs and the UN system in the Pacific, a Pacific National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) Regional Support Partnership has been formed to provide coordinated assistance to Pacific SIDS. The Partnership of development partners has been endorsed by Pacific Ministers during the ESCAP Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in 2010. Some PIC governments have also expressed an interest in being part of the partnership. The Partnership has a linked subsidiary partnership on Green Growth.
16. The Goal of the partnership is to provide support to the SIDS in the Pacific to improve the formulation and implementation of their NSDSs. The primary objectives of the partnership are: Effective coordination of initiatives to support NSDS development and implementation in Pacific SIDS; Mainstreaming sustainable development issues into national, sectoral and sub-national planning and resource allocation; Mobilization of resources for support to Pacific SIDS NSDS development and implementation.

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Notes

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