

Background Paper 2: CONSULTATION REPORT

A. Consultation Process

The Pacific Plan has been developed through an extensive 12-month period of broad-based consultations.

Task Force and Core Group of Leaders

The Pacific Plan has been carried forward by a Task Force managed by the Forum Secretary General and consulting with a Core Group of Leaders, comprising the past, present and future Forum Chairs and a representative from the Smaller Island States. The Task Force is made up of senior official representatives from all Forum countries and representatives from regional organisations.

Country Consultations

All Forum members have undertaken and reported on national consultations which have involved NGOs, civil society organisations, faith-based organizations, youth, women's groups, professional associations, the private sector and the general population - all who have provided significant input in identifying priorities for regional approaches under the Pacific Plan (see [Table 1](#)). Pacific non-sovereign territories have also been requested to provide comment and input into the Pacific Plan draft.

Other Key Stakeholders and Regional Meetings

CROP agencies have provided formal submissions on the Pacific Plan, as well as discussing their role in the implementation strategy. The draft Pacific Plan has also been discussed at key regional Ministerial meetings (see [Table 1](#)).

Regional NSAs and other regional organisations, representing Pacific civil society, have met regularly to discuss the Pacific Plan and, through their feedback and a total of 17 formal submissions, have provided critical contributions to Pacific Plan development (see [Table 2](#)).

Forum Small Island States (SIS) have met to discuss the Pacific Plan draft and prioritise SIS needs for regional approaches.

Development partners have provided comments on the Pacific Plan and have discussed the Plan at the PIC/partners meeting in Tuvalu, the World Bank donors' meeting in Sydney and at a special meeting on the Pacific Plan in Suva.

Table 1: Summary of National Consultations and FORUM/CROP Meetings 2005

	Dates	Key Meetings (which included Pacific Plan presentations, discussion & feedback)	Venue	Formal Submission
	Jan			
Solomon Island Government	12-13;17	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Solomon Islands	Yes
	February			
Fiji Government	10	Fiji government CEO meeting on Pacific Plan	Fiji	N/A
PIFS	17	Fiji NSA Briefing on the Pacific Plan	Committee Rm A, PIFS	N/A
PIFS	23	Pacific Plan Consultations with Fiji Government	Committee Rm A, PIFS	N/A
Tuvalu Government	24	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Funafuti	Yes
	March			
Fiji Government	4	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Suva	Yes
Australian Government	8-9	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Canberra	Yes
CROP	14-16	Regional Health Ministers	Apia	Outcomes Report
CROP	21	CROP Communications Officer's	Committee Rm A, PIFS	N/A
New Zealand Government	22-23	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Auckland/Wellington	Yes
	April			
CROP	4-8	SPC/UNFPA Project Planning & Statistics	Noumea	N/A
PNG Government	7 and 27	Pacific Plan National Consultations	Port Moresby	Yes
CROP	11-13	Regional Entrepreneurship Education	Nadi	N/A
CROP	11-13	SPC Working Group	PIFS	N/A
CROP	14-15	Pre FRSC Law Enforcement	PIFS	N/A
Samoa Government	19-20	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Apia	Yes
Palau Government	18-19	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Koror	Yes
Guam	21	4 th Western Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit	Guam	Statement
Federated States of Micronesia Government	22-25	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Pohnpei	Yes
Republic of Marshall Islands Government	26-27	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Majuro	Yes
CROP	25-27	PIFS/UN Regional Conference on Peace Building & Conflict Prevention	Nadi	N/A

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CROP	25-29	Private Sector Development: Agriculture Niche Products & Techniques	Kosrae	N/A
CROP	26-27	Pacific/Commonwealth Secretariat Fisheries	PIFS	Outcomes Report
Cook Islands Government	26-27	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Rarotonga	Yes
CROP	26-27	Regional Business Forum	Nadi	N/A
CROP	28-29	PICTA Regional Meeting & Rules of Origin	PIFS	N/A
	May			
PIFS	4-5	Pacific/Com Sec Fisheries	Suva	Outcomes Report
Kiribati Government	5-6	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Tarawa	Yes
CROP	20	Trade Expert Advisory Group	Nadi	N/A
PIFS (DSG)	23-24	Forum Education Ministers (FEEdMM)	Apia	Outcomes Report
PIFS	23 & 26	Pacific ACP Trade Officials & Ministers	Nadi	Outcomes Report
PIFS	24-25	Forum Trade Officials	Nadi	Outcomes Report
USP	25	University Council	Apia	N/A
PIFS	27	Forum Trade Ministers	Nadi	Outcomes Report
	June			
CROP	7	Forum Economic Ministers	Tuvalu	Outcomes Report
CROP	10	PIC/Partners	Funafuti	N/A
CROP	13-17	Forum Regional Security Committee	New Zealand	Outcomes Report
CROP	16	CROP Pacific Plan Working Group	Committee Rm B, PIFS	N/A
Nauru Government	21-23	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Yaren	Yes
Niue Government	21 & 23	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Alofi	Yes
Small Island States	29	Pacific Plan Consultation	Suva	N/A
	July			
PIFS	1	Pacific Plan Task Force	Committee Rm A, PIFS	Draft Pacific Plan
PIFS	5	Development Partners	Committee Rm A, PIFS	N/A
Vanuatu Government	7-8	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Port Vila	Yes
PIFS	11	Core Group	New Zealand	N/A
Tonga Government	14-15	Pacific Plan National Consultation	Nuku'alofa	Yes
	August			

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CROP	8-19	Scientific Committee of the WCP Tuna Commission	SPC, Noumea	Outcomes Report
CROP	23-27	Regional Conference of the Pacific Society for Reproductive Health	Tonga	N/A
	September			
Fiji Government	2	Pacific Plan and Trade Agreements Workshop	Lautoka, Fiji	N/A
CROP	16	SPREP Annual Meeting	Apia	N/A
PIFS	19	Pacific Plan Task Force	Suva	Draft Pacific Plan
CROP	20	SOPAC EDP Evaluation	Suva	N/A
PIFS	20	SPARTECA Rules of Origin (ROO)	Suva	N/A
PIFS	21	Pacific Media and Communications Facility	Suva	N/A

Table 2: Regional NSAs and Other Regional Partners' Submissions and Meetings on the Pacific Plan

Formal Submissions Received

1. Pacific Concerns Resource Centre (PCRC)
2. Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT)
3. International Centre for Not for Profit Law (ICNL)
4. Oceania Paralympics Committee
5. Pacific Cooperation Foundation
6. Greenpeace Pacific
7. Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)
8. UNIFEM – Australia
9. Disabled Peoples Oceania Sub Region
10. Pacific Institute of Advanced Studies –Development & Governance, USP
11. UNIFEM Pacific
12. Gender Consultations on the Pacific Plan
13. Youth Summit
14. People's Forum on Pacific Plan
15. Call of the Earth Llamado de la Tierra
16. Regional Media Consultations
17. UN Formal Submission

Date	Meeting/Purpose	Organised By	Venue	Submission Received
16 Feb	Pacific Regional Media Briefing	PIFS	PIFS, Committee Room A, Suva, FIJI	N/A
17 Feb	Pacific Regional NGO Briefing	PIFS	PIFS, Committee Room A, Suva, FIJI	N/A
18 Feb	Dialogue Partners Briefing	PIFS	PIFS, Committee Room A, Suva, FIJI	N/A
30 – 31 Mar	Workshop - Assessment of the Fiji Electoral Act and its impact on Women's Political Participation Report	UNIFEM Pacific	Southern Cross Hotel, Suva, FIJI	Yes
12 - 13 April 14 - 15 April	Strengthening Regional Cooperation Through Enhanced Engagement with Civil Society	Pacific Institute of Advanced Studies –Development &	Suva, FIJI Lautoka, FIJI	Yes

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20 - 21 April 27 - 28 April		Governance, USP	Apia, SAMOA Honiara, SOLOMON ISLANDS	
18 – 22 April	Global Partnership Consultation on the Prevention of Armed Conflicts	Citizens Constitutional Forum	Lagoon Resort, Deuba, FIJI	No
9 May 2005	Gender Consultation on Pacific Plan	Fiji MoW ¹ , UNIFEM Pacific, Various NGOs ²	PIFS –Main Conference Room, Suva, FIJI	Yes
8 - 15 May	Pacific Regional Training Institute	World YWCA - NZ	Rotorua, NEW ZEALAND	No
8 - 12 May	Pacific Youth Millennium Development Goals Summit	UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, SPC, PIFS, YSF ³ , Samoa MoW, 13 PIC MoY ⁴ .	Tofamamau, Apia, SAMOA	Yes
20-22 May	UN Country Team Retreat	UNDP	Pacific Harbour, Suva, FIJI	Yes
8 June	People's Forum on Pacific Plan	PCRC ⁵ , PIAD-USP ⁶ , PIFS	Pacific Marine Lecture Theatre, USP Lower Campus, Suva, FIJI	Yes
8 June	Pacific Experiences and Perspective on the Use and Ownership of Genes	Call of the Earth Llamado de la Tierra, USP and World Council of Churches	USP Bure, Suva, FIJI	Yes
20 June	Regional Media Consultation on the Pacific Plan	Pacific Islands News Association in consultation in PIFS	Fale, PIFS, Suva, FIJI	Yes

B. Other Regional Initiatives Identified During Consultations

Economic Growth

Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
1. Increased sustainable trade (including services) and investment	i. Integrate non-sovereign territories into the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA).
2. Improved	<i>Information and Communication Technology (ICT)</i>

¹ Ministry of Women

² 30 NGOs and RRRRT

³ Youth for a Sustainable Future

⁴ Ministry of Youth

⁵ Pacific Concerns Resource Centre

⁶ Pacific Institute of Advanced Studies –Development & Governance

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efficiency and effectiveness of infrastructure developments and associated service delivery	i. Implement information and database systems for all sectors , eg Pacific Open Learning Health Network (POLHN).
	<i>Forum Principles on Regional Transport Services (FPRTS)</i>
	ii. Liberalise shipping links through FPRTS , including franchising shipping services, integrating the development of ports and extending services to all investors in the Pacific Forum Line. In the longer term, it is planned to integrate all transport services across the region.
	iii. Implement Pacific Islands Air Services Agreement (PIASA) , and carry out studies on national impacts, movement of passengers, regional air landing rights, fare and freight structures, and airspace agreements.
	<i>Maritime</i>
	iv. Create a peak maritime advisory body , to provide better coordination of sector advice for national governments, the Association of Pacific Ports (APP), women in the maritime sector and ship-owners. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
v. Establish a regional maritime centre for accident investigation, registering shipping and recruitment. <i>(New Initiative)</i>	
3. Increased private sector participation in, and contribution to, development	i. Create a regional team to provide advice on business-friendly regulatory reform , including collateral, access to credit and enforcement of contracts. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	ii. Create or expand a regional business school . <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	iii. Increase the levels of market support funds and/or examine alternative financing facilities for, eg, joint ventures and micro-finance training. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	iv. Create a regional capital market, a regional development bank and/or a regional unit trust . <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	v. Create a code of conduct for trans-national corporations . <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	vi. Create a regional competition commission . Coverage to include utilities. <i>(New Initiative)</i>

Sustainable Development

Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
4. Reduced poverty	i. Undertake poverty alleviation assessments for regional approaches. <i>(New initiative)</i>
5. Improved natural resource and environmental management	ii. Develop and implement integrated regional action plans, based on applied multi-disciplinary research, for environmental and natural resource management in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ water, including sanitation & hygiene ➤ ecosystem-based coastal & marine resources, including tuna & non-tuna fisheries ➤ biodiversity & nature conservation ➤ oceans.
	iii. Create market-based policies and associated legislation/regulatory frameworks to support regional resource management plans (including greening of business). <i>(New initiative)</i>
	iv. Implement an Integrated Agriculture and Forestry Strategic Plan. Coverage to include: sustainable food production, rural training centres, information and extension, science and technology, regional genetic resources agreements, biosecurity and trade, biotechnology, land use plans and policies, zoonotic diseases prevention, and veterinary services. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	v. Create a regional mineral database. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	vi. Conduct joint mineral sector promotion. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	vii. Create a regional ocean and land mining policy. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	viii. Create national mechanisms to link environmental and social concerns with economic development (including model frameworks). <i>(New initiative)</i>
	ix. Create mechanisms to engage Non-State Actors (NSAs) (including the private sector) in sustainability initiatives. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	6. Improved health
ii. Create a regional bio-medical equipment maintenance programme. <i>(New initiative)</i>	
iii. Create a regional health workforce development plan. Coverage to include the networking of training institutions and a code on employment including young people in community-based health work. <i>(New initiative)</i>	

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	iv. Create a regional hub for diagnostics and testing of diseases. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	v. Upgrade the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (PPHSN) with computerised health information, including non-communicable diseases.
	vi. Increase tariffs on unhealthy food, alcohol and tobacco, and/or decrease tariffs on healthy food.

Sustainable Development (Continued)

Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
7. Improved education and training	i. Create an entrepreneurship education and training curriculum, including consideration of financial and technical support. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	ii. Support the Pacific Regional Initiative for the Delivery of basic Education (PRIDE), including special needs, civic education and good governance education.
	iii. Create non-formal education programmes, apprenticeship schemes and life-skills training for youth. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	iv. Create a protocol for teacher recruitment. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	v. Create/expand regional vocational training programmes in ICT, agriculture, forestry, and para veterinary. <i>(New initiative)</i>
	vi. Support the University of South Pacific (USP) to increase the number of courses that meet international standards.
8. Improved gender equality	i. Provide specialised support for the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), including the optional protocol, and the Beijing and Pacific Platforms for Action.
	ii. Implement gender mainstreaming policies, planning and budgets at national level, including the involvement of men in gender equity programmes.
	iii. Strengthen national women's machineries. Coverage to include status and resourcing.
	iv. Increase assistance to women's Non-Government Organisations (NGOs).
	v. Support women working overseas. <i>(New initiative)</i>
9. Enhanced involvement of youth	i. Extend advocacy for and coordination of youth programmes and monitoring of the status of youth, including a Youth Trade Show and allocating fixed amounts of donor funding to youth-related initiatives.
10. Increased levels of	i. Encourage the remaining Forum members to join the International Olympic Community (IOC).

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participation and achievement in sports	ii. Integrate Pacific rugby into the International Rugby Board (IRB).
11. Recognised and protected cultural values, identities and traditional knowledge	i. Create an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) strategy to maintain and strengthen Pacific cultural identity and support indigenous people. Coverage to include laws relating to traditional ecological knowledge, a genetic resources network, innovations and practices, inputs from migrants to Australia and New Zealand and community theatre. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	ii. Create 'cultural centres' in urban areas. <i>(New Initiative)</i>

Good Governance

Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
12. Improved transparency, accountability, equity and efficiency in the management and use of resources in the Pacific	<i>Judiciary</i>
	i. Expand judicial training and education through the Pacific Islands Law Officers Meeting (PILOM), the Pacific Judicial Conference (PJC), national law societies and the University of the South Pacific Law School.
	ii. Create a register of judges and public prosecutors to serve on appellate/trial courts in different countries. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	iii. Develop a mechanism to strengthen traditional courts. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	iv. Harmonise court structures, names, jurisdictions and procedures. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	v. Create a regional final court of appeal. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	<i>Economic Integrity and Oversight</i>
vi. Create a regional association for recording births, deaths and marriages. <i>(New Initiative)</i>	
vii. Create a regional team to assist with a biennial stocktake and the implementation and monitoring of the impact of the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) decisions on national planning and budgeting.	
	<i>General Integrity and Oversight</i>

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	<p>viii. Create a Regulatory Reform Blueprint to implement the FEMM Principles for the Governance and Management of Public Enterprises (approved June 2005). Coverage to include sequencing and capacities, public enterprise/competition policy, consumer protection, regional expertise to assist public enterprises, and capacity building in financial accounting.</p> <p>ix. Implement regulatory reform, including legislation, registration, licensing and insolvency.</p> <p>x. Harmonise regulatory mechanisms and approaches to good governance. <i>(New Initiative)</i></p> <p>xi. Create media standards/regulations. Coverage to include: accredited training standards; a code of ethics; public service broadcasting model legislation; regional programme exchange using satellite technology; extended delivery of radio services; an independent media complaint process; and a Pacific news service in vernacular languages. <i>(New Initiative)</i></p>
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Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
(12. Improved transparency, accountability and equity in the management and use of resources in the Pacific continued)	<i>Political Governance</i>
	xii. Establish a regional electoral monitoring and study commission to consider, for example, political funding and voting methods. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	xiii. Create guidelines for Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation and provide ongoing consultative mechanisms. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	xiv. Expand the role of the Pacific Parliamentary Assembly for Population and Development (PPAPD) , including regular constitutional review.
	xv. Create a Forum Parliamentary Assembly by enlarging Forum Presiding Officers' Conference (FPOC).
xvi. Create a Pacific Human Rights Charter under a regional human rights commissioner, and national human rights mechanisms with associated education and training links. <i>(New Initiative)</i>	
<i>Statistics</i>	
xvii. Expand regional statistical database(s) to support the development and recording of Pacific Development Indicators relating to international development goals including MDGs.	
xviii. Create a regional statistical office as 'one-stop shop'. <i>(New Initiative)</i>	

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Security

Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
13. Improved political and social conditions for stability and safety	<i>Regional Conflict</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Develop policy guidelines for the implementation of the Biketawa declaration. <i>(New Initiative)</i> ii. Extend sustainable support under the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) and for the Pacific Regional Assistance for Nauru (PRAN). iii. Develop conflict mitigation and peace promotion strategies, including conflict indicators and Early Warning Systems (EWS). <i>(New Initiative)</i> iv. Create a regional approach to provide training in peace building and conflict resolution, incorporating traditional strategies and gender issues and involving Non State Actors (NSAs). <i>(New Initiative)</i> v. Develop and implement a regional policy restricting the manufacture, supply and movement of arms. <i>(New Initiative)</i> vi. Create a regional judicial mechanism for extra-constitutional crises in or between Forum countries. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	<i>Land Security</i>
	vii. Create models for land ownership, tenure and use. Coverage to include models of land based resource management that combine traditional and introduced systems, dispute settlement, and a study on the economic utilisation of communal land and consultation with Maori enterprises. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	<i>Border Security</i>
	viii. Harmonise planning regimes and information sharing between: the Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Conference (PICP) and the Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC). Coverage to include policies to balance travel facilitation and border security, entry requirements, Advanced Passenger Information (API), alert lists, visas and training.
	ix. Upgrade intelligence services through the Customs Regional Intelligence Network; the Customs Asia-Pacific Enforcement Reporting System (CAPERS) and the South Pacific Law Enforcement Xtranet (SPLEXNET).
	<i>General Security</i>
	x. Develop a broad human development security policy, including environmental, water and food security. <i>(New Initiative)</i>

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Implementation

Strategic Objective	Other Identified Regional Initiatives
14. Increased national ownership and commitment to regional approaches, plans, policies and programmes	i. Strengthen and/or implement sub-regional approaches where appropriate.
	ii. Integrate regional commitments into national policies, planning and resourcing. Coverage to include sustainable development strategies, population policies, administrative and recurrent costs and gender-responsive mainstreaming.
	iii. Adopt regionally integrated planning systems including economic, social and environmental elements from the community to the national and regional level. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
15. Increased Pacific and international partnerships to support regionalism	i. Establish closer relations with US and French Pacific Territories , compatible with their metropolitan arrangements and respecting the right of self-determination for all Pacific countries and territories.
	ii. Undertake cost-benefit analysis of enhancing economic relations with non-Forum Asia-Pacific economies. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	iii. Enhance cooperation and processes with and between development partners and international organisations , particularly through current mechanisms. Coverage to include a review of aid, a study of aid flows, harmonisation of work programmes, Forum agenda setting, and sister-city relationships.
	iv. Implement the principles of the Rome Declaration on Harmonisation and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.
	v. Strengthen processes for national and regional Non-State Actors (NSAs) , particularly through current mechanisms, to encourage implementation partnerships, disseminate information and harmonise work programmes. Coverage to include sustainable development focal points, resource management, governance, HIV/AIDS, peace and conflict management and monitoring.
	vi. Develop the NSA liaison mechanism at PIFS, for example to support monitoring and evaluation processes.
	vii. Build capacity of regional NSAs for advocacy and programme delivery.
	viii. Provide NSAs with observer status at Forum meetings. <i>(New Initiative)</i>
	ix. Support and strengthen the Pacific Disabilities Forum to promote and implement the Bwako Millennium Framework.