



Secretariat of the Pacific Community

PITCAIRN ISLANDS PROGRAMME



PITCAIRN ISLANDS



2014
REPORT



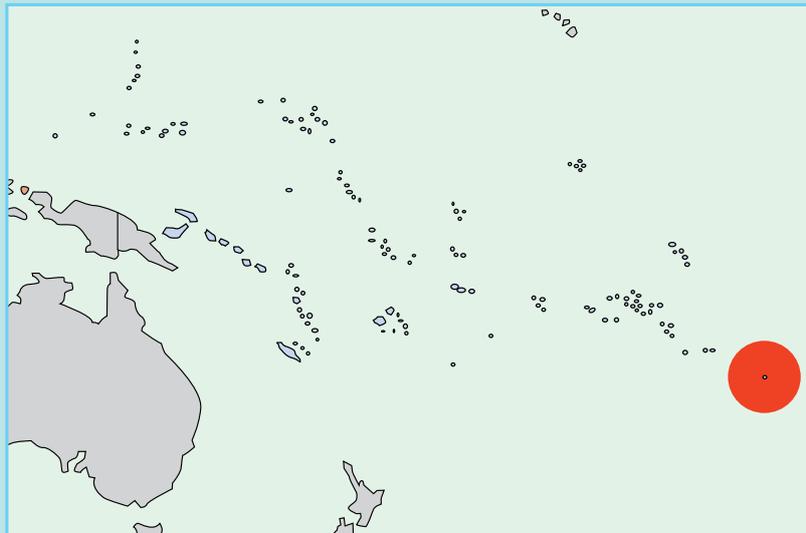
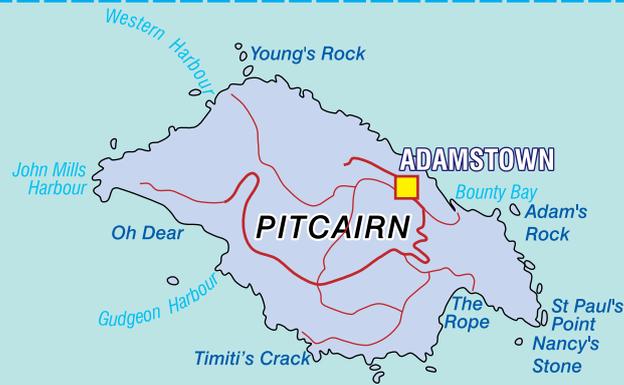
Pitcairn Islands

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PITCAIRN ISLANDS PROGRAMME

2014 Report



Secretariat of the Pacific Community
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Foreword



I am pleased to present SPC's annual report on its programme with Pitcairn Islands. The report provides a snapshot of the development results Pitcairn Islands is achieving with SPC's support. It includes a feature article illustrating the effectiveness of our joint effort and how the collaboration between Pitcairn Islands and SPC works in practice.

As this is the first report I have presented as Director-General, I would like to acknowledge the people and Government of Pitcairn Islands as members of SPC and partners in development of the Pacific region.

SPC is proud to work with Pitcairn Islands, and you have my commitment that SPC will strive for continuous improvement in the work we undertake with Pitcairn Islands to achieve your development objectives.

This year we have examined how SPC can further improve its role as a resource for its 22 island members. We believe SPC is uniquely positioned to support members such as Pitcairn Islands to address their critical development challenges, including issues we are all familiar with in the Pacific, such as reducing non-communicable diseases (NCDs); building resilience to climate and disaster risks; accelerating economic opportunities; or enabling young Pacific people to realise their full potential. None of these issues can be adequately tackled through single-sector approaches. They can only be addressed through long-term, multi-sector approaches that use the best expertise and knowledge available.

As such, in 2015 we plan to hold discussions with members to explore how SPC can better formulate and integrate its work and expertise to focus on members' development priorities. We expect this will include a range of different ways of working with Pitcairn Islands to shape future national programmes.

I encourage you to look at the SPC's Programme Results Report 2013–2014 to see the full range of work SPC is pursuing in the region on behalf of all members. I thank Pitcairn Islands for its contribution to this work. I also take this opportunity to thank our development partners, who have invested financially and intellectually in this most important work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr Colin Tukuitonga
Director-General, SPC



SPC cooperation with Pitcairn Islands

This report provides an overview of SPC's work with Pitcairn Islands in 2014. It is intended to show how SPC's national-level activities, initiated by Pitcairn Islands, complement our regional work to benefit the people of Pitcairn Islands and the region. The report provides an overview of how SPC aligns its work with Pitcairn Islands to achieve the development priorities detailed in the Pitcairn Islands Strategic Development Plan 2012–2016.

As a development organisation, SPC provides knowledge, scientific and technical cooperation to support members to achieve three key development goals:

- The Pacific region and its people benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth
- Pacific communities are empowered and resilient
- Pacific Island people reach their potential and lead long and healthy lives

The work SPC supports builds on the specialist sector expertise for which SPC is most recognised. These sector areas include transport and energy, statistics, fisheries and aquaculture, mineral resources and geoscience (including geographic mapping and modelling), agriculture, forestry and land, health, water and sanitation, education, gender, youth and human rights.

SPC supports the development efforts of Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) with scientific and technical knowledge and good practice that are context-appropriate. In recognition of the interrelated nature of development and our commitment to maximise the effectiveness of our contribution, SPC wants to enhance the current process of programme development at national level. Accordingly, country programming will be based on proactive, ongoing and broadly based consultation with each country or territory, with a view to delivering technical quality aligned with members' cross-cutting development priorities. The objective is to shape a technical cooperation programme that is as developmentally effective and sustainable as possible in meeting the needs of the countries and territories SPC serves.

Regionalism in practice

From SPC's beginning, there has been awareness of the value of a regional approach to meet common needs. Although PICTs are diverse in many respects, they share similar challenges in areas such as fisheries, transport, health, food security and emerging areas such as climate change. SPC recognises and draws on skills and capacities from around the region, including encouraging experts from one member to share experiences and skills with counterparts in other PICTs. SPC also facilitates regional public goods that benefit all PICTs, such as the CePaCT genebank, (Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees), which assists countries to conserve staple crops and introduce new plant varieties to increase crop diversity.

Our regional work complements national-level initiatives in Pitcairn Islands. The tangible and practical benefits of regionalism are demonstrated by SPC's work on behalf of its members to facilitate cooperation and leverage value across a range of regional initiatives. These are outlined further in SPC's Programme Results Report 2013–2014.

SPC's regional services to members include:

- Strengthening regional partnerships to facilitate information sharing among PICTs and to connect PICTs to regional and international policy development.
- Improving management of the region's oceanic fisheries through stock assessments, scientific analysis and supporting countries to define and protect their maritime boundaries.
- Supporting evidence-based decision making by governments through SPC's regional statistics database, sector-based information portals, GIS and mapping services, economic analysis, and other advisory services.
- Increasing access to safe and affordable shipping services through technical cooperation, regional shipping agreements, and training.
- Improving energy security and supply through petroleum advisory services.
- Enhancing food security through conservation and distribution of the region's crop diversity, improving the resilience of food crop varieties to climate conditions and researching more effective farming techniques.
- Tackling transboundary diseases threatening livestock and public health through improved animal health services.
- Detecting and controlling diseases of regional concern through the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network.
- Confronting domestic violence by supporting legislative change across the region.
- Promoting well-being through gender awareness and mainstreaming.
- Supporting science, policy and legislation to increase the potential for PICTs to benefit from environmentally and economically sustainable mining of deep sea minerals.
- Supporting PICT resilience to the impacts of natural disasters and climate change by facilitating the regional Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development and by providing training and strengthening regional partnerships.



Examples of SPC work in Pitcairn Islands

➔ Supporting Pitcairn's sustainable development through integrated coastal zone management

Right: Coastal ecosystems are vulnerable to biodiversity loss, habitat destruction, and climate change



Initial activities undertaken with SPC's support will include the building of a waste management system, equipped with a glass crusher. SPC will also support the use of Enkamats – flexible three-dimensional mats for immediate, permanent erosion protection on slopes – the planting of ground-covering plants, and the installation of concrete culverts to facilitate more effective drainage.

The protection of coastal environments and natural resources is essential to the well-being and economic viability of remote Pacific Island communities. Pitcairn is one of the most isolated islands in the region, and its coasts are susceptible to biodiversity loss, habitat destruction, climate change, and natural hazards.

For this reason, Pitcairn was chosen, along with other European overseas countries and territories – New Caledonia, French Polynesia, and Wallis and Futuna – as a pilot site for the implementation of a four-year Initiative for Regional Management of the Environment (INTEGRE). This initiative, implemented in partnership with the European Union, aims to promote and strengthen the integrated management of coastal island environments. This will contribute to the sustainable management of these islands' natural resources and ecosystems, as well as to climate change adaptation.

Integrated coastal zone management has been recognised internationally for over two decades as the primary approach to sustainable development in coastal areas. It provides for a coordinated approach to different policies and activities affecting the coastal zone, which can include nature protection, aquaculture, fisheries, agriculture, offshore wind energy, shipping, tourism, development of infrastructure, and mitigation and adaptation to climate change. At the country level, SPC will support the establishment of a network of integrated coastal management areas and will assist with the implementation of integrated management activities in land and marine environments. At the regional level, SPC will promote links between the overseas countries and territories and their Pacific neighbours, supporting the exchange of experience and knowledge, as well as helping to develop trade links.

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In June 2014, SPC, along with the Pitcairn and French Polynesia coordinators, met with the Pitcairn Island Council, the Pitcairn Natural Resources Division Manager, the Pitcairn Island Producers Cooperative chairperson and other local stakeholders, in order to explain the objectives of the programme and the integrated coastal zone management participatory approach. The meeting laid out the foundations for the programme, and defined the programme's main focus areas in Pitcairn, including the improvement of waste management systems, in particular hazardous waste, the restoration and consolidation of areas damaged and exposed by soil erosion, and the sustainable management of environmental resources. Initial activities undertaken with SPC's support will include the building of a waste management system, equipped with a glass crusher. SPC will also support the use of Enkamats – flexible three-dimensional mats for immediate, permanent erosion protection on slopes – the planting of ground-covering plants, and the installation of concrete culverts to facilitate more effective drainage.

As part of the initiative, SPC will encourage participatory governance, involving communities in the sustainable management of their environment, and will support community initiatives and the development of sustainable economic activities. A budget of NZD 40,000 will be allocated to funding proposals from the community. Dependent on approval by the Pitcairn Island Council, the Governor, and the project's steering committee, the selected proposals will be implemented from 2015.

Benefits from this initiative are expected to address several of Pitcairn Islands' national development goals, such as the promotion of tourism development, the promotion of sustainable environmental conservation, and the sustainable development of fisheries and agriculture. This work is made possible through a partnership with the European Union.

Summary of SPC technical cooperation

The feature article in the previous section provides an example of how SPC is working with the Government and people of Pitcairn Islands to support achievement of their national development goals.

In addition to the work featured, SPC has been working with Pitcairn Islands in the areas of fisheries aquaculture to complete a report on aquarium trade. Pest incursion response and support is also available on an as-needed basis, as demonstrated through previous fruit fly surveillance work. SPC's work also benefits the region as a whole. This includes such initiatives as the Pacific gene bank (CePaCT), tuna fisheries development, and deep-sea minerals research, which are described in more detail in SPC's Programme Results Report 2013–2014.

In general, members recognise SPC's value lies in the high quality of the technical support provided across national sector areas and in its portfolio of regional work, rather than in SPC's occasional role as a conduit of donor funds. SPC promotes sustainability through working with countries to develop national capacity to design results-focused programming and where possible to leverage additional

funding. SPC's direct financial inputs are only a small part of the picture. However, SPC recognises individual members are interested in the financial value of SPC's work as it relates to them. For Pitcairn Islands, in 2014, this is estimated at NZD 16,198 (12,149 CFP units). This amount includes both the direct costs of SPC's work with Pitcairn Islands (including technical staff time and travel) and an allocation of the costs of SPC's regional work and indirect costs of managing and operating SPC programmes.

While significant progress has been made between SPC and Pitcairn Islands, SPC is committed to understanding better what has worked and what has not, in order to inform and improve the value of its work in Pitcairn Islands in 2015 and beyond. We want to understand whether measurable and sustainable development results are being generated by SPC's activities and, if not, try to work out why and adjust our approach accordingly.

SPC is a membership organisation that works in close partnership with its Members: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna. We thank them for their support.

We would also like to thank our principal donor partners for their generous support of Pacific development outcomes: Asian Development Bank, Australia, Commonwealth Secretariat, European Union, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, France, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Global Environment Facility, International Maritime Organization, Korea, New Zealand, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN WOMEN, United States of America, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), World Bank.