



SPC
Secretariat
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Community

Land Resources Division ANNUAL REPORT 2013





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Prepared by the Land Resources Division
Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Suva, Fiji
2014

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Inoke Ratukalou,
Director, Land Resources Division

The Land Resources Division (LRD) in 2013 continued to provide essential core services to member countries and territories on plant and animal health; the conservation and improvement of crop and tree diversity; and, policy for sustainable land and forestry management. It also strengthened its work on climate change adaptation and increasing agricultural trade.

It was also a year of consolidation for the Division as it embarked on a process of transitioning from a thematic approach to a programmatic approach based on delivering clear results to our member countries and territories. A number of significant steps were undertaken in 2013 as part of this transition. A new Divisional Strategic Plan 2013-2017 based on the strategic framework endorsed by the 2012 Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting and CRGA 42 was completed. Under the new Plan, the Division's 7 thematic areas were streamlined into four cohesive program areas encompassing policy, information and communication management, food and nutrition, sustainable resource management and trade and agribusiness. The new structure supported by a committed team of professional and dedicated staff is aimed at strengthening an integrated approach to delivering core services to our member countries and territories.

GIZ (German Agency for International Cooperation) continues to be an important partner of LRD in climate change adaptation and mitigation through the two SPC/GIZ projects: ***Coping with Climate Change for the Pacific Island Region*** (CCCPIR) and ***Climate Protection through Forest Conservation in Pacific Islands***. This partnership is expected to continue beyond the life of these projects, which end in 2015.

The European Union maintains its strong support for LRD's work with the addition of two new projects: ***Improvement of Key Services to Agriculture in the Fiji Sugar Sector*** (IKSA) and the ***Pacific Agriculture Policy Project*** (PAPP). The EU-funded project, ***Increasing Agricultural Commodity Trade*** (IACT), which began in June 2011, is continuing and is supporting an increasing number of private sector enterprises. IACT, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the French Pacific Fund, also supports the expanding work of the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) in supporting organic agriculture in the Pacific.

LRD's Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) continues its support for the Pacific region in the important area of agrobiodiversity conservation and utilisation, climate change adaptation and improving food security. Development partners supporting CePaCT's work include the New Zealand Aid Programme, AusAID, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), EU, Global Crop Diversity Trust, UNDP, Food and Agriculture Organization (UN) (FAO), USAID and the French Pacific Fund. CePaCT is currently coping in the short term with increased demand for safer and better planting materials of improved varieties of important food crops. But going forward, a stable funding source through core financing, as recommended by the 2012 independent external review (IER), will be vital to ensure the Centre is able to maintain this important service for PICTs.



LRD continues to strengthen its work in the area of biosecurity and trade facilitation, providing substantial assistance to PICTs, including facilitating the distribution of pathogen-tested improved planting material; pest and disease surveys; pest management, including of invasive species, and associated research and development; identifying and testing suitable quarantine treatments for fresh produce; supporting harmonisation of national legislation to comply with the requirements of the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS); facilitating regional and international trade through market access support; and technical capacity building.

LRD, with the support of the New Zealand Aid Programme, continues to provide paravet training, which is a critical need in the region. The lack of qualified veterinarians and animal production specialists to support animal health poses a serious challenge to Pacific Island communities, given that an estimated 70 per cent of all emerging and re-emerging diseases in humans originate from animals.

Support from donors and partners, including ACIAR, AusAID, FAO, the New Zealand Aid Programme and USAID, continues to contribute towards LRD's work through projects to strengthen the supply side of market chains for high-value crops, agribusiness development, improved market access and food security. These projects have a close link to the FAO Technical Cooperation Programme, which strengthens training and implementation in integrated pest management and promotes the use of alternatives to hazardous pesticides.

LRD continues to make improvements to its work planning and implementation monitoring with the support of SPC's Strategic Engagement, Policy and Planning Facility (SEPPF) through enhanced participation in IRIS (integrated reporting and information system). With the emphasis of the new strategic plan for 2013–2017 on measurable indicators, clear baselines and realistic targets, the division will be much better placed to effectively monitor and evaluate its performance during the strategic plan period.

DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Strategic Plan

The LRD strategic plan 2013–2017, spells out the direction for the division's work programme and budget over the next 4 to 5 years, and clearly articulates LRD's priority focus areas and approach to supporting member countries and territories to respond effectively to the challenges they face in the land, agriculture and forestry sectors. It also provides a strategic framework for engaging with national governments, non-government organisations, the private sector, other regional and international agencies, and donors active in the sectors. The strategy thus aims to ensure that LRD's work is aligned to national priorities and complements other partners' programmes and support.

The strategic plan outlines a new structure that focuses on four larger more cohesive programmes, moving away from the previous flat structure and seven thematic areas.

LRD's four development objectives will be implemented by the:

- Strategic Engagement and Policy Development Programme
- Food and Nutritional Security Programme
- Sustainable Resources Management Programme
- Trade and Agribusiness Programme

This approach will involve drawing on resources across LRD's areas of technical and scientific skills as well as forging close links with other SPC divisions and partners active in the region. The aim of the structure is to achieve greater efficiency in service delivery and to foster the development of integrated solutions to regional challenges such as food and nutrition security, sustainable management of land, agriculture and forestry resources, inclusive broad-based economic growth, and adaptation to climate change.

The new strategic plan has a draft results framework with robust indicators, clear baselines and realistic targets to ensure the division is well placed to monitor and evaluate its performance and the impact of its services.

Objectives

LRD's goal is: The Pacific Community has improved food, nutritional and income security and manages land, agriculture and forestry resources in a sustainable way. LRD's four development objectives are to:

- Support informed policy decisions, advocacy and knowledge sharing on sustainable land, agriculture and forestry management and development
- Strengthen the resilience of food and nutritional security to the impacts of disasters and climate change
- Enhance sustainable land, agriculture and forestry resources management
- Increase the contribution from agriculture and forestry sectors to inclusive broad-based economic growth

These four development objectives are broadly in line with those of the previous LRD strategic plan and are directly linked to the key development outcomes of SPC's corporate strategic plan.

In addition to the four strategic development objectives, a cross-cutting objective was implemented by a Strategic Communication, Policy and Monitoring Team, operating under the LRD Director, to support the three programmes in providing advocacy and sharing knowledge on sustainable land, agriculture and forestry management and development, and in informing decision-making.

The four strategic development objectives is supported by a Strategic Communication, Policy and Monitoring Team, operating under the LRD Director, providing advocacy and knowledge sharing on sustainable land, agriculture and forestry management and development, and in informing decision-making



Key services / sectors

LRD's key services under the plan are:

- Genetic resources conservation, introduction, distribution and evaluation
- Access to applied scientific expertise (plant genetic resources; seed technology; soil science; crop production; plant pathology and entomology; agroforestry; forest inventory; wood technology; animal genetic resources; animal health and production)
- Evidence-based land, agriculture and forestry policy advice and information

Parallel with these services, LRD provided support in terms of:

- Economic analysis, resource planning and statistics
- Strengthening the 'voice' and negotiating capacity of PICTs
- Leveraging networks and cross-sector skills
- Knowledge and information communications management

The four LRD programmes delivered these services in a multi-disciplinary manner, which involved capacity strengthening, supplementation or substitution, regional coordination and project management as required to maximise the effectiveness of its services.

STAFFING AND BUDGET FOR 2013

Divisional finance

Table 1 shows the LRD budget for 2013. Project funds comprise around 80 per cent of the total budget of 11,129,300 CFP units.

Table 1: LRD budget for 2013 (CFP units), including new structure and revised project budget

	Recurrent	Project	Total
Director Office (IKM, Policy, M&E, Admin.)	390,700	873,900	1,264,600
Trade and Agribusiness Programme	672,200	5,394,700	6,066,900
Sustainable Resource Management Programme	379,200	1,712,300	2,091,500
Food and Nutritional Security Programme	291,600	1,414,700	1,706,300
Total	1,733,700	9,395,600	11,129,300

Divisional staffing

LRD has 77 staff in 2013, 33 of whom are recruited internationally. One internationally recruited staff member is based at SPC's North Pacific Office in Pohnpei, FSM, while two locally recruited staff members are based in the Solomon Islands Country Office in Honiara. The division also hosts staff attachments and some temporary casual positions.

	Director's office	AHP	BAT	CP	FAD	FAT	GR	ICE	LMRS	AS	PH	Total
Internationally recruited	1	4	2	3	10	2	3	1	3	1	3	33
Locally recruited	1	2	6	1	9	3	12	2	2	2	4	44
Total	2	6	8	4	19	5	15	4	5	3	7	77



BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE FOR FOOD SECURITY

Maintaining long-term food security has emerged as a major issue in the Pacific region, and climate change, with its associated extreme weather events, is likely to adversely impact food production in the coming decades.

SPC and the US Agency for International Development (USAID), in collaboration with partner agencies, are supporting the governments of six Pacific countries – Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu – in their efforts to tackle the adverse effects of climate change on food production. The support includes updating vegetation and land cover maps at the national level, assessing vulnerabilities of rural communities to extreme weather conditions and to develop adaptation measures to build community resilience to climate change.

The initiative, entitled Enhanced climate change resilience of food production systems in Pacific Island countries and territories, will evaluate and increase the resilience of land-based food production systems. The project harnesses an innovative partnership between two SPC divisions, the Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC) and the Land Resources Division (LRD). SOPAC is providing geographic information system (GIS) data to LRD enabling more accurate and informed implementation of climate change resilience activities on the ground.

The project started in the latter part of 2012, and the Sabeto catchment area in Nadi is the Fiji site. The Sabeto catchment was chosen as project site for its best fit to the 'ridge-to-reef' approach and suitability for developing adaptation strategies.

The Sabeto Catchment area is all 14,000 ha in the western Ba Province, the drier Eastern Division of Fiji. The three districts in the area include Sabeto, Nalotawea and Nadi. The dusty rugged Sabeto Road winds through mainly sugar cane farms leading up to native communities some 20km up on the ridge eking a living on subsistent farming. The road is rough making transport a real challenge to commercial farming.

The Sabeto Catchment area has some unique features making it vulnerable to climate change impacts. It's location in a drought prone area, and prone to flash floods from intense rainfall causing landslides. Temperatures are said to be high due to its topography and projected to increase impacting on traditional farming systems. Tropical cyclones are an annual threat as damaging winds are funnelled up the valley. This risk and resulting impact is witnessed in most of the villages having concrete built housing that are able to cope a little better than traditionally built houses.

Activities so far include the completion of a vegetation mapping exercise and community consultations through participatory rural appraisal (PRA) to assess the vulnerability of food security to climate change. Establishment of community nurseries of fruit trees, native timber species, vegetables and root crops are next steps.

Knowledge sharing and awareness of climate change issues are critical for rural communities with limited to no access to climate change knowledge. Access to media and ICT is limited for rural communities. Personal communications through village hall meetings and supported by extension materials is the tried and true method to increase knowledge and understanding of climate change issues. Radio remains the best form of mass media for rural areas. Awareness of adaptation practices and use of traditional knowledge are significant inputs to building resilience.

Preliminary PRA findings of Sabeto Catchment point to increasing number of warmer days, increase intensity of rainfall causing landslides in the higher range and flash floods in the lower plains, noticeable decreases in the fruiting season of fruits such as mangoes, and decreasing litter size in livestock. On the plus side, observations recorded year round fruiting of breadfruit trees. Vulnerability index measurements point to highly vulnerable to food security and climate change impacts. ■



PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING LRD STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The division has made good progress in implementing its 2013 work programme, successfully responding to a significant number of recommendations made by the 2008, 2010 and 2012 meetings of Ministers and Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Services and also to joint country strategy (JCS) priorities. Below are some of the highlights (listed by development objective) with Annex 1 providing details of all LRD activities in PICTs this year.

Strategic development objective 1: Strategic Engagement & Policy Development

A divisional highlight is the completion of the new LRD Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017, a document providing the strategic direction for the Division for the next 4-5 years. It outlines LRD's new way of doing business in line with SPC's commitment to respond better to members and by strengthening its focus on delivering results. In line with the above, the new LRD structure is positioned to support the new strategic plan changing from delivering technical services through seven thematic areas to strengthening focus on four larger more cohesive programmes which reflect the priority development needs of the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories. The change also means that the Division's structure is now consistent with the other Divisions of SPC. LRD is adopting a more integrated approach in service delivery as well as fostering the development of more integrated solutions to the cross-cutting regional challenges such as food and nutrition security, sustainable land, agriculture and forestry resource management, an inclusive broad-based economic growth and climate change impacts.

The four new LRD Strategic Development Programmes are, 1) Strategic Engagement & Policy Development, 2) Sustainable Food and Nutrition Security Development, 3) Sustainable Resources Management and Development, 4) Trade and Agribusiness Development.

The new strategic plan puts emphasis on enhancing LRD's ability to better monitor and evaluate its implementation performance with more focused indicators, clear baselines and realistic targets for the plan period.

LRD continued to strengthen its capacity to make evidence based policy decisions on food security, sustainable resource management and economic growth; increase awareness and understanding on these key issues; and, plan for effective monitoring and reporting on LRD strategic results.

LRD continued to support the use of economic analysis for programme management in the region by contributing to training in Tuvalu and Vanuatu and providing mentoring support for the production of in country cost-benefit analyses. Missions were also conducted in Tuvalu, Nauru and the Cook Islands to collect agricultural statistics to update SPC's National Minimum Development Indicators for agriculture and forestry.

The LRD website is being re-vamped to be in-line with the new divisional strategic plan as well as to maintain consistency with SPC corporate communications. LRD on-line products maintain a strong presence of LRD in the dissemination of information supported by distribution of extension materials. A knowledge management and communications strategy is under development to provide strategic direction and position LRD as the premier provider of agricultural information and knowledge management.

LRD engaged in collecting a wide range of experiences about how best to engage youth in the agriculture and forestry sectors, in particular, to learn how social media and ICTs may be used to develop agricultural opportunities for them. In line with the LRD Pacific Youth in Agriculture Strategy, efforts continue to develop approaches to engage youth in rewarding careers in the agriculture sector. A youth and ICT in agriculture blog competition in collaboration CTA entered 11 Pacific bloggers. Youths in Tonga and Vanuatu received hands-on training in the production of extension materials on climate change and organic agriculture.

PICTS requested extension materials to be developed on a wide range of topics, reflecting issues high on the national agricultural agenda - invasive species, biosecurity, integrated pest management, indigenous crops, livestock management, and climate change. Awareness materials targeting travelers to the 2013 Pacific Minigames in Wallis and Futuna were produced and disseminated as a service to PICTS to help educate the public on quarantine issues.

The Pacific Agriculture and Forestry Policy Network (PAFPNet) and the LRD Helpdesk are the two LRD forums for the discussion of agricultural issues, document best practices, and raise and receive agriculture-related queries.

Strategic development objective 2: Strengthen resilience of food and nutritional security to the impacts of disasters and climate change

CePaCT has distributed over 3,000 crop plants (banana, breadfruit, cassava, giant taro (*Alocasia*), ginger, swamp taro, potato, sweet potato, taro, *Xanthosoma* and yam) to 10 PICTs (American Samoa, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Palau, PNG, Samoa and Tuvalu) and four project country partners (Bangladesh, Congo, Guadeloupe and Mauritius). By the end of 2013, over 16 PICTs including six additional countries (Niue, Pitcairn Islands, Tokelau, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna) will have received over 5,000 plantlets consisting of various crops and varieties under different projects (with funding from the New Zealand Aid Programme and AusAID) and partnerships (UNDP, FAO and USAID).

CePaCT continues to conserve and improve Pacific crop diversity as well as sourcing new diversity for sustainable food security. The Centre has imported over 100 accessions, consisting of seven crops, including unique Pacific maoli-popoulu banana varieties from New Caledonia; breadfruit from Kiribati; pandanus (a climate resilient crop) from Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu and FSM; swamp taro from Palau, Tuvalu and FSM; salt-tolerant taro and *Xanthosoma* taro from Palau; yam from FSM; and sweet potato from Australia. Through international collaborations, CePaCT sourced material from CGIAR Centres (international genebanks) and project partners, and received improved banana varieties from Bioversity International in Belgium and yellow-fleshed *Xanthosoma* taro from Nigerian Research Institutes. New varieties of banana, pineapple, sugarcane, mango and other new crops will be received by CePaCT after negotiations through the EU-funded International Network for Edible Aroids, the Global Crop Diversity Trust and CGIAR Centres. Varieties of bele (also known as slippery cabbage or aibika) will be sourced from PNG, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Fiji supported by the French Pacific Fund. With the support of the AusAID-funded International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (ICCAI) phase II project, CePaCT is continuing to support eight PICTs in screening various crops for climate tolerance.

LRD, through its GIZ-funded Climate Change Officer, is continuing to pursue the mainstreaming of climate change into its programmes. Efforts are being made to contribute to the wider SPC Climate Change Engagement Strategy to enhance LRD's food security and climate change services to members, and to increase LRD's uptake of opportunities in climate change programmes and projects. In the latter part of 2013, LRD will work on revising existing LRD policy notes to include climate change considerations, and on promoting improved awareness and information on climate change and agriculture.

IMPROVING ANIMAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE IN THE PACIFIC

The SPC Animal Health and Production team of the Land Resources Division, in partnership with James Cook University, Townsville, Australia, conducted a workshop on epidemiology from 11 to 13 April at SPC's Suva office. The aim is to build capacity in practical field epidemiology in order to improve animal disease surveillance, initially in four Pacific countries.

Key topics covered include outbreak investigation procedures, general principles of animal disease surveillance and survey design, interpretation of survey results, and aspects of syndromic surveillance. In addition, participants will be taught how to use the computer software programmes Excel, Epi Info and Epi map to enable them to manage and display animal health investigation and survey data.

The workshop is one of the main capacity-building activities of the Food Animal Biosecurity Network (FABN) project funded by AusAID's Pacific Public Sector Linkages Program. The three-year project, which began in 2010, has been delivering animal health field and laboratory capability building programmes in the Pacific region, particularly in the area of animal disease surveillance, in order to allow assessment under World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines for trade in animals and animal products. The project has been focusing on Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands.

Strategic development objective 3: Enhancing sustainable land, agriculture and forestry resources management

In close collaboration with its partner GIZ, LRD continues to assist 12 countries in climate change adaptation through the SPC/GIZ project, *Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region* (CCCPIR). These countries include Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Nauru, Tuvalu, Kiribati, FSM, RMI, Palau, PNG, Solomon Islands and Samoa. Continuing support for the land resources sector will this year see the completion of the following policies and guidelines:

- National re-location guideline for Fiji
- Land-use policy for Tonga
- Land-use policy guidelines for Vanuatu
- Land resources sector components of the Fiji and Tonga national climate change adaptation strategies (NCCAS)

In terms of climate change mitigation, LRD is continuing to support four countries (Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) in REDD+ readiness through CCCPIR and the second SPC/GIZ project on *Climate Protection through Forest Conservation in Pacific Island Countries*.

The Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre (PITSC) received additional donations of equipment, supplies and materials from JICA before the completion of its two-year partnership with SPC in February 2013. During the year, PITSC despatched seeds to Wallis and Futuna (*Tectona grandis*, *Swietenia macrophylla*, *Pinus caribbaea* and *Intsia bijuga*); New Caledonia (*Swietenia macrophylla*) and OISCA Fiji (*Tectona grandis*, *Swietenia macrophylla*, *Intsia bijuga* and *Agathis macrophylla* – for community work). Seeds and seedlings of *Santalum yasi* were provided to support the establishment of a model agroforestry farm in Sabeto, Fiji, under the USAID project on food security and climate change.

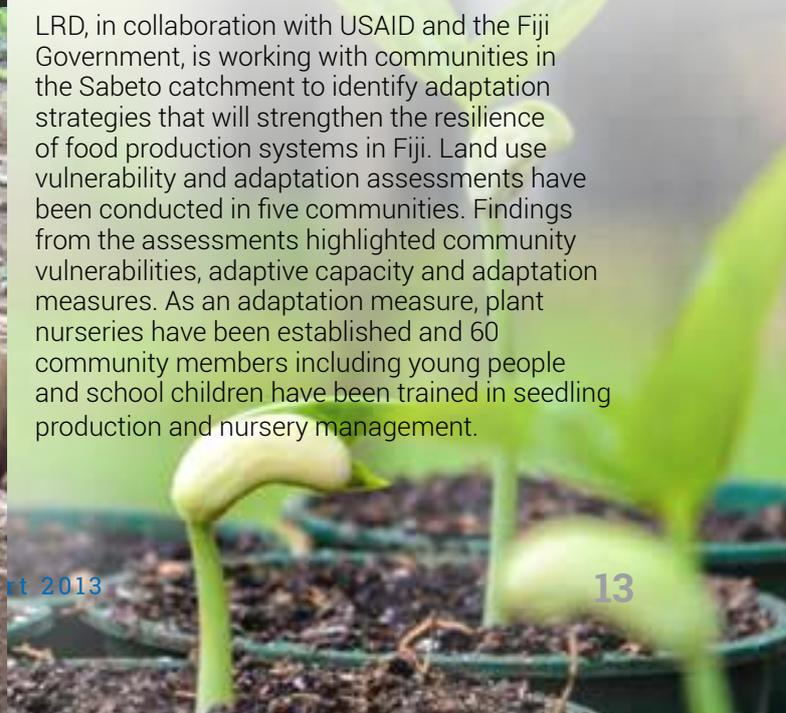
Now in its second year, LRD is promoting the use of alternative pesticides in the Pacific in collaboration with ACIAR, FAO and the World Vegetable Center (AVRDC) through the project, *Capacity building to promote adoption of techniques to reduce hazardous pesticide use in Pacific agriculture*, which is being implemented in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga.

LRD, in collaboration with USAID and the Fiji Government, is working with communities in the Sabeto catchment to identify adaptation strategies that will strengthen the resilience of food production systems in Fiji. Land use vulnerability and adaptation assessments have been conducted in five communities. Findings from the assessments highlighted community vulnerabilities, adaptive capacity and adaptation measures. As an adaptation measure, plant nurseries have been established and 60 community members including young people and school children have been trained in seedling production and nursery management.

Three other similar workshops have been completed: one held in Suva, Fiji (July 2011), one in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (August 2012) and one in Townsville, Australia (September 2012).

Lead trainer was Prof. Bruce Gummow, Professor of Epidemiology at the School of Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences, James Cook University, in collaboration with Dr Ilaqi Puana, Animal Health Specialist in SPC's Animal Health and Production team.

Twelve participants from the four pilot countries of the FABN project were invited to the workshop: six from the Animal Health and Production Division of Fiji's Ministry of Primary Industries, two from the National Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Authority of Papua New Guinea, two from the Livestock Department of Solomon Islands and two from the Livestock Department of Vanuatu. ■





FOREST CONSERVATION IS CRITICAL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The important role of forests in mitigating climate change through carbon sequestration has made it even more critical to ensure that forestry resources are managed and developed in a sustainable way.

These comments were made by Ms Fekita Utoikamanu, the Deputy Director-General (Suva) of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) when she opened the regional forestry technical meeting in Nadi, Fiji.

'Through this meeting, we will be able to share and exchange information and lessons learnt, discuss new initiatives and emerging issues, and determine possible ways forward for the sustainable management of Pacific forest and tree resources.'

'SPC fully supports and promotes this exchange of information between the countries in the region, particularly sharing success stories on the use of new strategies, policies and programmes that are helping countries and communities move closer towards the development and sustainable management of their forest resources,' Ms Utoikamanu said.

The theme of the meeting is 'Sustainable Forest Management for a Resilient Future in the Pacific Region', and will cover a wide range of topics, including Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), conservation and management of forest genetic resources, forest health, food security, forest trade and certification and new initiatives.

Acknowledging that forests and trees play a vital role in climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation and livelihoods, the Deputy Director-General

reminded the meeting that these valuable resources must be conserved, managed and utilised in a sustainable manner.

'Better managed, healthy forests are able to adapt better to climate change and therefore contribute to the improved resilience of the communities that rely on them.'

'We are all aware of these facts, but we also fully recognise that achieving or even moving closer to this ideal state is easier said than done due to challenges such as unsustainable logging practices, inadequately planned development and unregulated conversion of forested areas into agricultural land.'

Noting that based on present trends, the Pacific Island region's population is expected to reach 15 million by 2035, Ms Utoikamanu also said, 'To meet the demand for food without significant price rises, food production needs to increase by over 50 per cent. With increasing urbanisation, a significant slice of our agricultural land is being taken over for housing and other developments, meaning that agriculture is being pushed on to marginal sloping land. This in turn threatens forests.'

'We need to be innovative in our ideas and come up with policies and strategies that are going to ensure a balanced approach to our development.'

The meeting was organised by the Land Resources Division and supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The contribution of the European Union (EU) to SPC's forestry programme is also acknowledged. ■

Strategic development objective 4: Increasing the contribution of agriculture and forestry sectors to inclusive broad-based economic growth

The EU-funded *Increasing Agricultural Commodity Trade* (IACT) project continued to operate under LRD, providing assistance to an increasing number of selected enterprises in PACP members to expand exports of a range of products. The project, which began in 2012, is an expansion of the successful pilot project, *Facilitating Agricultural Commodity Trade* (FACT). IACT has a bigger budget, a broader scope to include aquaculture and carbon trading, and more project countries including Timor Leste. The project now directly supports 28 enterprises in agriculture, forestry and aquaculture in eight countries. An additional 16 enterprises, located in 10 countries, have already been selected, with support to be provided from January 2014. Main areas of IACT support include equipment and machinery procurement, food safety certification, organic and forestry certification, marketing support, business development and training.

Under the new EU-funded *Pacific Agriculture Policy Project* (PAPP), LRD is expected to enhance its continuing support for the development of strategic approaches to smallholder market integration, looking at possible solutions to barriers such as poor access to finance and lack of market information, and building capacity and providing technical assistance. The project is also strengthening LRD's support for national initiatives in formulating new or revised land, agriculture and forestry policies, legislation and plans. Project staff were recruited with activities expected to commence in 2014.

LRD, through the EU-funded *Improvement of Key Services to Agriculture in the Fiji Sugar Sector* (IKSA) project, is providing support to the Fiji sugar sector by directly assisting selected sugarcane farmers to supplement their incomes with horticultural crops for export. The project, which was approved in 2012, was in full implementation mode in 2013.

The Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) continues to expand its work on organic agriculture in PICTs with the support of the EU-funded IACT project and also in partnership with IFAD, UNDP and the French Pacific Fund. Key outcomes for 2013 are: the publication of POETCom's first Annual Report and Strategic Plan 2013–2017; the first Organic Technical Exchange meeting hosted by New Caledonia; and the development of the Pacific Organic Guarantee System (POGS) to support the development of organic local and export market opportunities. This will enable Pacific producers to export under their own "Organic Pasifika" regional brand. At the same time efforts towards engaging youth in organic agriculture are continuing, with workshops held in Polynesia and Melanesia and a further workshop planned for the northern Pacific by year end. POETCom also continues working with ministries, traditional leaders and communities. On the islands of Cicia in Fiji and Abaiang in Kiribati, communities are being assisted in their endeavours to organically certify their entire islands, establishing possible models for replication in other islands of the Pacific and the world. The demand for training and support in organics is growing and is only constrained by resource availability.

The New Zealand Aid Programme is supporting the continuation of the paravet training programme that ensures skilled paravets are available to assist livestock farmers. LRD is implementing the training programme in PICTs and through institutions such as the Fiji National University (FNU) and Solomon Islands National University (SINU). A new Meat, Hygiene and Food Safety training manual is being piloted in Fiji and Vanuatu as part of advancing the paravet training programme in the region.

LRD is mainstreaming climate change across its work programme, including identifying climate change impacts on livestock and practical and appropriate interventions. In 2013, with funding under the GIZ CCCPIR project, the 'Five year strategic plan for mainstreaming climate change in the livestock sector in the Pacific 2012–2016' and a series of livestock climate change adaptation fact sheets for smallholder farmers were launched. Support is also being provided to the USAID food security project for establishment of climate change interventions in communities in Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Kiribati and the Solomon Islands.

LRD continues to maintain on-going advisory and technical assistance to PICTs in relation to animal health and production, e.g. on import risk analysis protocols and national animal disease reporting status.

LRD continues to strengthen its work in the area of biosecurity and trade facilitation (BATS), with funding assistance from the AusAID Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA) project, facilitated market access of agricultural commodities for PICTs whilst ensuring compliance to international standards to minimise the risk of pest introduction.

BATS, in collaboration with New Zealand Plant Health and Environment Laboratory (NZ PHEL) provided pest management, identification

and diagnostic capacity building trainings and workshops, reference materials and compound remote microscopes to expedite pest diagnosis and confirm identification.

With the support from ACIAR, BATS provided research and quarantine treatments on taro pathway under the ACIAR Developing cleaner export pathways for Pacific agricultural commodities.

Support on Harmonisation of national biosecurity legislations compliance to International requirements of the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS agreement) was facilitated in collaboration with FAO SAPA.

Improved biosecurity awareness assistance to PICTs rendered during major regional events, production of airflight videos, the compilation of the safe movement of handicraft regional manual and technical pest advisory leaflets and posters for pest incursions and/or introduction.

LRD BATs as the Secretariat of the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) and in collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) provides capacity building and advisory support to PICTs through fostering National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) obligations to international standards on phytosanitary measures (ISPMs).





BIOREACTOR SYSTEM IMPROVES PRODUCTION OF BREADFRUIT SEEDLINGS

The SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) provided over 200 tissue culture breadfruit seedlings for field research to the Ministry of Primary Industries Department of Agriculture and also to the Pacific Breadfruit Project (PBP), a pilot project initially focused on Fiji.

The PBP project is established with funding from the ACIAR Pacific Agribusiness Research for Development Initiative (PARDI) project "Developing commercial breadfruit production systems for the Pacific Islands". To assist with project activities CePaCT received funding to optimise tissue culture production rates using a temporary immersion bioreactor system.

The breadfruit seedlings provided were results of ongoing research at CePaCT comparing two types of systems: the culturing of plantlets in glass and or polycarbonate culture vessels containing normal semi-solid artificial nutrient medium versus plantlets cultured in bioreactor system.

The bioreactor system consists of shelves holding individual sterile chambers (culture vessels) with plantlets partly immersed in liquid artificial nutrient medium. The whole system tilts every few seconds depending on requirement of the research.

The bioreactor system proved effective in speeding up growth rates of breadfruit seedlings, hence greatly improved the ready-availability of field planting material by two to three months in contrast to normal tissue culture system.

Plantlets produced via the bioreactor system were vigorous, sturdier and taller and outperformed plantlets produced through the normal tissue culture system.

The results of the research have also facilitated production and distribution of breadfruit seedlings to Palau, Nauru, Marshall Islands and Fiji. More requests are in the pipeline not only for breadfruit but other crops such as taro and cassava already trialing out the bioreactor system.

The research findings have opened up opportunities for CePaCT to acquire more bioreactor systems to enable the Centre to support and meet increased demands by countries and project partner activities for more planting material.

CePaCT has only one bioreactor purchased with funding from the AusAID International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative and is hoping to secure a few more bioreactors to allow the Center to realize its full potential and capacity. ■

PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING SPC KEY DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES

SPC has three key development outcomes (KDOs): sustainable economic development; sustainable natural resource and environment management and development; and sustainable human and social development. LRD's three strategic development objectives are clearly linked to the three corporate KDOs. Because of the integrated nature of the division's operation, activities implemented under each of the objectives contribute to all KDOs. For example, CePaCT's work on conservation, development and distribution of plant genetic resources contributes to food and nutrition security, trade, and also to natural resource management and development.

Sustainable economic development

The most relevant LRD objective is ***Increasing the contribution of agriculture and forestry sectors to inclusive broad-based economic growth***. The two main groups of activities implemented under this relate to biosecurity and trade facilitation at the national level, and direct support to agriculture, aquaculture and forestry enterprises.

The main activities implemented in biosecurity and trade facilitation at the national level this year include strengthening of national capacity to prepare market access submissions. These activities are supported by the AusAID-funded ***Pacific Horticultural and Market Access (PHAMA)*** project, phase 1, ended in July; phase 2 is now being implemented. National market access working groups (NMWGs) were established as part of the work. Countries covered by the project include Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

Direct support to agriculture, forestry and aquaculture enterprises is provided through the EU-funded IACT project. Twenty-eight enterprises located in eight countries (Fiji, FSM, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste and Tonga) are supported in various ways. Seventeen additional enterprises, located in 10 countries (Cook Islands, FSM, Kiribati, Niue, PNG, RMI, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, and Vanuatu) have already been selected, with support to start from January 2014.

Sustainable human and social development

The most relevant LRD objective is ***Strengthening the resilience of food and nutritional security to the impacts of disasters and climate change***. Activities implemented under this objective include support for crop production and conservation, development and distribution of plant genetic resources.

CePaCT, with the support of a number of partners, is continuing to respond to PICTs' requirements for planting materials of better and improved varieties of food crops common in the Pacific. A total of 3,000 plantlets, comprising climate-ready varieties of 11 crops, have so far been distributed to 10 PICTs. An additional 2,000 plantlets are expected to be distributed before year end. Current trends indicate an increasing demand for the services provided by CePaCT.

Through the USAID project, a number of countries – Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu – are being assisted to establish pilot areas to enhance food security.

Kiribati was given assistance to complete its new agriculture strategy, which was launched in June this year.



Sustainable natural resource and environment management and development

The most relevant LRD objective is *Enhancing sustainable land, agriculture and forestry resources management*. LRD activities under this objective contribute to sustainable forest and land management and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Main activities contributing to sustainable forest management in 2013 include:

- Endorsement by the Niue government of a forest management plan for the country
- Preliminary inventory of a forest in Santo to determine the appropriate methodology for Vanuatu's national forest inventory to be undertaken later this year
- Launching of a revised Code of Forest Harvesting Practice for Fiji

The following activities contributed to sustainable land management:

- Developing crop gross margins and crop suitability maps for Fiji
- With the support of the USAID climate change project, assisting a number of Fijian communities with training in nursery establishment and management, and establishment of agroforestry model farms on flat and sloping land
- In partnership with ACIAR, improving soil health in support of sustainable development. Work is underway in Kiribati and Fiji

CROSSCUTTING ISSUES



Reducing risks / responding to climate change

LRD mainstreams climate change adaptation strategies and disaster risk management. Climate change issues feature prominently in LRD technical support and the division works closely with SPC's climate change section and other SPC programmes in implementing projects, including the USAID climate change project and the two GIZ supported projects on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Human rights

Many aspects of LRD's services, especially in relation to food security and resource management and use, involve respect for the rights of individuals and communities. As just one example, LRD, through the REDD+ mechanism, promotes **free prior consultation/consent** (FPIC) to protect the rights of resource owners.

Gender

LRD has pioneered participatory gender sensitive approaches at every point of interaction, whether at the international, regional, national or community level. LRD is committed to integrating women in its activities in many different ways, including in its recruitment process and in capacity-building activities, and by using gender indicators and sex-disaggregated data to measure women's participation. The needs of young people are also considered as part of this approach.

Food security

Under its strategic plan, food and nutrition security is one of LRD's three strategic development objectives. Issues such as micronutrient deficiencies, under-nutrition, overweight and obesity impose high economic and social costs on PICTs. Improving nutrition and reducing these costs requires a multi-sector approach that begins with food and agriculture and includes complementary interventions in public health and education.

Addressing NCDs

Diet and nutrition are closely linked to the rising incidence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Pacific populations. LRD is contributing to improving diets through better availability and accessibility of nutrition-dense Pacific food crops, which could help lower the incidence of NCDs.





PACIFIC'S INDIGENOUS VEGETABLE REVIVED

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community through its Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (SPC CePaCT) is working closely with five Pacific island countries (Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Fiji) to revive and unlock potential of bele (*Abelmoschus manihot*) through a two year French Pacific B funded project "How an indigenous vegetable can contribute to sustainable agriculture". The five project countries (all Melanesian societies) consume more bele than other Pacific islands as well as having the largest diversity of bele resources in the Pacific and perhaps in the world.

Bele, known by several names in the Pacific as aibika or slippery cabbage is considered one of the Pacific's nutritious indigenous vegetable. It is high in protein, vitamins (Vitamins A and C, riboflavin, thiamin and niacin) and minerals (potassium, magnesium, calcium and iron) compared to chinese cabbage and spinach, both are introduced vegetables in the Pacific.

It is known to have medicinal properties for fertility and ease childbirth. A crop also requires less maintenance and some varieties are known to be tolerant to drought and certain pest diseases.

Conserving bele in the field is often a constraint countries faced due to limited resources. Losing of unique and valuable diversity is unavoidable due to no backups and safekeeping in a regional place. Some 30 varieties of bele were noted to have lost over the years in Papua New Guinea in the early 1990s.

The ongoing project activities aim to rationalize national bele collections, establish regional collections at SPC, document traditional knowledge both linking to farming practices and food processing.

Some poster publications to promote the importance of bele by each country based on genetic diversity, climate change resilient and nutrition, as well as a production of fact sheets is in the pipeline.

CePaCT is responsible for developing virus indexing protocols, fine tuning of tissue culture protocols, as well as exploring the potential of cryopreservation for conserving bele.

The project is also timely to support countries with new market opportunities open up for export of leafy vegetables to countries like New Zealand where a huge population of Pacific islanders live.

The project builds on activities of the bele project implemented through the EU Pacific Regional Agricultural Programme (PRAP) in the 1990s. The project started officially in March 2012 and will finish early next year in 2014. ■



DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AGREE ON COLLABORATION IN CHOISEUL PROVINCE

Choiseul Province in Solomon Islands have in place a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to address climate change. The MOU brings together development partners, including SPC, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the United Nations Development Programme, the Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning and The Nature Conservancy.

The Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Programme puts into practice the important requirements for the mainstreaming and integration of climate change into provincial planning, and takes a holistic approach to supporting the development of Choiseul Province in an integrated, ridge-community-reef and ecosystem-based adaptation approach.

The Programme Director for the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Dr Wulf Killmann, emphasised that this is an interesting new approach, one that has never been tried before.

'Traditionally, different agencies work in competition. Here, for the first time, we try to work together to make better use of the resources we have and also to reduce the pressure on the local authorities.'

The programme, which involves a number of partners under the guidance of Choiseul Province working together to increase resilience to climate change, is a pilot for Solomon Islands.

Dr Killmann, who helped facilitate and coordinate the approach, said that this Integrated Climate Change Programme would make it easier for the local authorities to work with the development agencies.

He added that the purpose of this agreement was to commit the stakeholders and partners to working together and to have only one programme in Choiseul that addresses climate change adaptation.

The programme is to be owned and driven by the community and Provincial government.

Dr Killmann said that the national government would no longer be confronted with a myriad of development partners who each do their little projects but instead will work on a comprehensive joint project.

The Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Programme will be implemented by partners working in their own areas of expertise but in a coordinated and integrated way to minimise duplication and enhance synergies. ■



2014 WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET

Work programme

The 2014 work programme is based on the new LRD strategic plan for 2013–2017, which is being presented for endorsement by CRGA 43.

As indicated in the first part of this report, LRD's flat structure has moved to a structure in line with that of other divisions, with a director supported by three programme managers, as deputy directors, to lead its three objectives. The three programmes will be supported by an Administration Team and the Strategic Engagement and Policy Development Team. The director will oversee the implementation of LRD's overall work programme and the management of major projects that involve all three programmes.

The director and supporting staff will also concentrate on strengthening relationships with stakeholders – members, development partners, counterparts in government departments and national institutions, other international organisations and regional agencies.

The first strategic development objective on *Supporting informed Policy Decisions, Advocacy and Knowledge Sharing on Sustainable Land, Agriculture and Forestry Management and Development* has nine outputs. Activities organised under these outputs will target the following three medium-term outcomes:

- Strengthened capacity to make evidence-based policy decisions on food security, sustainable resource management and economic growth
- Enhanced awareness and understanding on climate change and key agriculture and forestry issues
- Effective monitoring and reporting on LRD strategic results

The second strategic development objective, *Enhancing sustainable land, agricultural and forestry resources management*, has six outputs. Activities under these outputs will target the following two medium-term outcomes:

SPC FACILITATES TREE PROPAGATION TRAINING FOR NIUE STAKEHOLDERS

The Niue Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) requested the Forests and Trees Programme (FAT) of the Land Resources Division of SPC during the HOAFS-MOAF Meeting in September 2012, for assistance in capacity building on tree propagation and to facilitate national consultations on the proposed Forest Management Plan.

It is to achieve these two objectives that two technical staff from the Forest and Trees Team of the Land Resources Division travelled to Niue (22nd February – 03 March 2013) to meet with their Niuen counterparts to coordinate the tree propagation training.

The training on tree propagation including nursery and field activities was held at the Vaipapahi Farm. It was attended by 27 participants comprising of farmers, students, teacher and DAFF staff (15 women and 12 men). The practical training was aimed to improve the skills on propagation as well as raising planting materials (native trees and fruit trees). In addition, participants were trained on proper fertilizer application, weeding, mulching, pruning and thinning of fruit orchard (citrus, avocados and mangoes).

Participants received information on seed technology, nursery seedling production, vegetative propagation, and field maintenance activities (fertilizer application, weeding and replanting, pruning and thinning).

The national consultation meeting to finalize the draft Forest Management Plan of Niue was held at the conference room of the PSC Building. It was attended by 16 participants representing landowners, staff from DAFF and Environment, and including the two SPC staff. Director of DAFF, Brendon Pasisi, led the plenary discussion. The Forest Management Plan has four important guiding principles:

- respecting the ownership of land
- respecting private rights to use the resources upon the land
- recognising that the forests' environmental, economic and cultural values, including forest health and productivity, biodiversity, sacred areas and historic sites, need to be conserved and sustainably managed for the public good and for future generations
- providing opportunities for sustainable economic growth.

Further feedback on the draft FMP were compiled by consultant, Graham Willkinson of Tasmania Forest Authority with inputs from Sairusi Bulai of SPC. The draft FMP is now with the DAFF Director who will submit to the Minister for DAFF and to be submitted to Cabinet for approval. ■



- Increased capacity for sustainable land and forest management
- Strengthened national and regional capacity to adapt to climate change and mitigate effects, and prepare for and respond to the effects of disasters on land, agriculture and forest resources

The third development objective, ***Increasing the contribution of agriculture and forestry sectors to inclusive broad-based economic growth***, has eleven outputs. Activities under these outputs will contribute to the following three medium-term outcomes:

- Increased capacity of PICTs to meet regulations for export and domestic trade
- Viable agribusinesses with strengthened development impacts
- Enhanced smallholder (men, women and youth) participation in local, domestic and international markets

Climate change issues will be integrated across LRD's work programme. Continuing support through the AusAID-funded ICCAI project and the USAID-funded project will enable LRD to assist PICTs in enhancing their resilience to climate change in several critical areas.

The 2014 work programme will be developed in detail in the first few weeks of the year in line with the JCSs, PICT priorities, the recommendations of CRGA 43 and the Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Services (HOAFS) and Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (MOAF) meetings. Table 2 shows LRD's 2014 budget.

Table 2: LRD budget for 2014 (CFP units)

	Recurrent	Project	Total
Director's Office (IKM, Policy, M&E, Admin.)	355,800	3,355,900	3,711,700
Trade and Agribusiness Programme	643,300	2,721,000	3,364,300
Sustainable Resource Management Programme	410,100	2,216,000	2,626,100
Food and Nutrition Security Programme	336,000	1,330,900	1,666,900
Total	1,745,200	9,623,800	11,369,000

The recurrent component of the LRD budget for 2014 is smaller than in 2013. Fortunately, project funding has been maintained with the continuing operation of the following projects: EU-funded IACT project; USA-funded *Vegetation and Land Cover Mapping* and *Improving Food Security for Building Resilience to Changing Climate in Pacific Island Communities*; ACIAR-funded *Strengthening of Integrated Crop Management Research in the Pacific*; FAO-funded *Agriculture Technical Cooperation Project on Pesticide Alternatives*; and the EU-funded *Improvement of Key Services to Agriculture in the Sugar Sector* and *Pacific Agriculture Policy Programme*.

FUTURE DIRECTION, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The new strategic plan and structure will give LRD the opportunity to develop a new business model for working more effectively and efficiently with member PICTs and partners. An integrated business model is being developed that will see a 'whole of division' approach to working with four to five PICTs per year. Activities will be implemented based on JCSs, with countries/territories selected according to set criteria. This new way of doing business should see far greater and immediate positive impacts than the current system in which resources are often spread too thinly.

The 2012 Independent External Review of SPC stated that LRD's services should remain a core function of SPC. However, LRD continues to operate with funding that is not stable in the long-

term. Project funding, which makes up about 80% of the division's annual budget, has assisted in achieving desired specific development objectives and outcomes. But its short-term and fragmented nature is a disadvantage in implementing core services that need to be sustained over longer time frames. For example, CePaCT's work in the conservation, development and distribution of genetic resources for food security and trade support is becoming an essential regional service for PICTs facing the challenge of climate change adaptation. This work will require long-term core funding support. Similarly, funding constraints are hindering implementation of the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation's (PPPO) work plan, which has already been developed and approved by PPPO members.



SPC FACILITATES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ANIMAL DOCTORS

Animal welfare, our duty of care to animals we raise, was one of the issues discussed at the 15th Australasia/Oceania Commonwealth of Veterinarian Associations (CVA) Conference held in September in Nadi.

Animal welfare issues are the mandate of the World Society for the Protection of Animals. Other issues reviewed include increasing efficiency of animal production, soil erosion from cattle farms, meeting the increasing demand for animal protein, and training for veterinarians.

Animals are important to us humans in many ways not just as food. Precious endemic biodiversity, including animals of all types, shapes and sizes, are essential components of our natural ecosystems, which are in turn critical to our life here on earth.

Animals are also valued for their companionship and security roles, and in special niche sectors such as horseracing, petting zoos and wildlife parks or reserves. All these provide increasing opportunities and benefits to more and more people.

The Pacific livestock sector is generally smallholder, with over 60% of households keeping livestock. People raise livestock mainly to meet socio-cultural obligations, with informal trading a prominent market feature. However, Pacific livestock do not generally receive priority in terms of policy and financial resource allocation. For this reason, some of the gains made elsewhere in livestock production technology, e.g. in nutrition, genetics and breeding, and disease control, have not been possible to fully access.

In his welcoming address, CVA President Dr S Abdul Rahman noted the critical role of veterinarians to positively influence the future health and welfare of all animals, including humans.

Veterinarians have a direct role in contributing to improving poor farmers' incomes and nutritional status, in particular by improving animal health, nutrition, reproduction and economics of production, he said.

Dr Rahman emphasised the important role women play in the raising and management of animals, which often goes unrecognised and unrewarded. There should be greater opportunity for women to obtain advice and hands-on training in livestock care and production.

As urban areas expand, now averaging 3% growth per year, there is closer proximity

between human and livestock populations in many countries, thereby increasing the risk of transmission of zoonotic diseases. The role of veterinarians is becoming increasingly important to combat these diseases. Other areas, such as disaster management, environmental sustainability and continuous professional development, also need the attention of the veterinarian.

Sharing of animal genetic resources strengthens collaboration amongst Pacific islanders to improve animal production. Former Fiji livestock specialist Mr Peter Manueli, who headed the breeding programme for Fiji Fantastic sheep, said that the sheep were bred specifically for tropical Pacific islands. Samoa and Tonga in recent years have both received breeding ewes and rams to establish their national sheep industries. Both nations now boast 700 sheep herds each, with proper management practices in place to increase herd numbers. Fiji, as of 2012, has a sheep stock of 12,900 on 380 farms.

SPC Animal Production Specialist, Mr Nichol Nonga, presented his research on a project to evaluate indigenous genetic material of Pacific island pigs and poultry. The project has found significant diversity in animal genetic resources. Genetic material with origins in Asia accounted for two thirds of the pigs evaluated. Significantly, some places, e.g. Niue, have unique clusters of genetic material. The study of indigenous livestock breeds found no genetic influence of commercial chickens.

The notion that only commercial farms are efficient was dispelled in a presentation by the chairman of the Fiji Crop and Livestock Council, Mr Simon Cole, who said efficiency applies to all farms, not just big farms. Increased output can be achieved by increasing the efficiency of animal husbandry practices, rather than more farming, said Mr Cole. One of the practices is improving the mating process of pigs to realise a full litter at birth. Another is to introduce feed concentrates to cattle.

Dr Workneh Ayalew of Papua New Guinea (PNG) National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) also emphasised increasing efficiency of livestock production, especially for smallholders. There are 360,000 smallholders in PNG and NARI is working to move smallholders to the next level of commercial operators, and maintain operating at this level to meet the increasing need for livestock products.

Dr Robin Yarrow and Dr Ken Cokanasiga are Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the CVA Organising Committee. ■



ANNEX 1

2013 LRD - COUNTRY ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

AMERICAN SAMOA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	online	Paravet training list updated
	General plant pest and disease survey carried out in April. Specimens collected sent to Plant Health Entomological Laboratories in New Zealand for identification and authentication.		5,000	Pest List Database updated
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		4,500	Technical capacity built on international standard setting processes
	Supported participation of agriculture extension officer to youth in organics workshop in Tonga	y	5,000	Capacity built in organic agriculture
	Provided DAF for evaluation 11 accessions/ 106 plantlets of climate resilient crops (potato, taro and yam), breadfruit and TLB resistant taro varieties.	y	2,500	DAF evaluated and distributed climate resilient crops
	Provision of taro varieties (including TLB tolerant lines and traditional varieties to the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) under the Land Grant Programme for breeding purposes.		2,400	25 accessions/123 plantlets evaluated

COOK ISLANDS

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported one participant to attend the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji.	y	4,700	Capacity built in 6 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Provided assistance in auditing the Cooks Islands export pathway and renovation work for Rarotonga HTFA facility in February.	y	13,630	Market access facilitated and import risk analysis conducted
	Assistance provided to Oriental Fruit fly emergency response and eradication		86,537	OFF populations down to zero on Rarotonga and Aitutaki.
	Compilation of the full regional AnGR conservation proposal (extension component)	y	20,000	Project proposal completed and submitted to FAO – proposal approved and to be implemented in 2014
	Compilation of full regional indigenous livestock products promotion through marketing and consumption.	y	15,000	Project proposal completed and submitted to UN Group of 77 under the Perez Guerrero Trust Fund - proposal approved

Supported one participant to attend the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards Training (LEGS) in Nadi, Fiji	y	WSPSA funded	Capacity built to care for livestock in times of natural disasters.
Supported two participants to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		16,280	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
Promotion of indigenous pig and chicken breeds in Fiji, Niue and Cook Islands through marketing and consumption	n	25,000	Proposal submitted to PGTF (G77) and approved awaiting release of funds for implementation
Supported participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi, Fiji			Improved and updated animal disease report
Supported one participant to attend FAO/OIE Sub-Regional meeting on GFTADs for the SPC Regions, Nadi, Fiji		4,549.40	SPC Region GFTAD strategy reviewed
Taro breeding program implemented under the AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 project, crossing new Samoa breeding varieties from CePaCT with local varieties.		18,411	Breeding program established and evaluated
Progressed AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 activities on waterlogged research		42,358	Research activities ongoing, activities to be completed in 2014
Provided DAF with 7 accessions/54 plantlets of climate resilient cassava, giant taro and sweet potato crops for evaluation under AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 project.		2,500	Crops evaluated
Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana and sweet potato) at the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees		2,500	22 accessions of taro, banana and sweet potato conserved for future use.
Supported one participant to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting , Nadi, Fiji	y	3,000	Reviewed and update PPPO work plans and budget
In collaboration with FAO facilitated the engagement of a legal draftsman to review Cooks Islands Biosecurity Legislation			Strengthened national biosecurity services
Engaged consultant to work with NPPOs and relevant stakeholders to compile regional handicraft manual to ensure safe movement of handicraft within and outside the region.			Safe movement of handicraft within and beyond the Region
Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	4,300	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
Supported one participant to the Pacific Side Event at the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission held in Rotorua, New Zealand on the 4 th November 2013	y		Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported one participant to the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji. Only the Aquatic focal point attended the training	y	6,880	Capacity built for 6 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Completed three extension posters on climate change PRA tools, propagation and distribution of sweet potato planting materials	n	10,000	Awareness created and knowledge shared on available climate resilient sweet potato varieties
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games		500	Travellers educated on quarantine issues
	Supported one participant to attend FAO/OIE Sub-Regional meeting on GFTADs for the SPC Regions, Nadi, Fiji		5,997	SPC Region GFTAD strategy reviewed
	Supported one participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi, Fiji			Improved and updated animal disease report
	Completion of PASAP project studying the impact of climate change on food security in FSM		266,000	Identified climate resilient crops, and increased understanding of national setting for improvement of food security resilience in FSM
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		3,000	Enhanced technical knowledge on international standard setting processes
	In collaboration with USDA supported participation and training of quarantine officials to the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.			Increased technical knowledge on Biosecurity operations and procedures.
	Provided technical and advisory assistance on outbreak of spiralling white fly, coconut termite on mature palm trees and papaya mealybugs.			Management of pest incursions and prevent further spread
	Provide technical support to consultations on CBD Nagoya Protocol and FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources on Food and Agriculture		14,292	Enhanced understanding of Treaty issues
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana, swamp taro and yam) at the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees; 50 accessions of swamp taro, taro, banana and yam		5,000	Traditional varieties conserved for future generations.
	Progress on AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 project activities		35,731	Genebanks established and surveys conducted on planting material network.

	SPC acquired new swamp taro, yam and pandanus varieties for conservation at CePaCT Received 4 replacement varieties of swamp taro, 4 varieties of yam for establishment in tissue culture and virus indexing; 9 pandanus varieties were also received.		1,500	Need replacement as quality of vegetative material received previously was not good.
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FIJI

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported two participants to the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji.	y	2,730	Increased capacity of 2 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Assessed REMCOL operations and facilitated dialogue between Governments of Fiji and of Tuvalu in strengthening the implementation of the Bilateral Trade Agreement	y	2,600	Determined bottlenecks in the value chain/trade between GoF and GoT; initiated bilateral discussions to address the issues
	Provided technical advice product costing, Quality assurance and HACCP on VCO for Wailevu Cooperative group.	y	2,000	Increased awareness on the international standard geared towards compliance.
	Successful International HACCP Auditing of Kaiming Agro Processing, Agrana Fruits Ltd and Natures Way on HACCP documentation and preparation for auditing ongoing.	y	30,00	HACCP accreditation for Kaiming Agro completed, and International Auditing for Natures Way with Accreditation on going
	Consultations with NUJU Ltd on the processing of coconut water/drink and appropriate type of machinery, process method and temperatures.	y	2,500	Provided alternative process methods and chemical characteristics for identification of appropriate equipment
	Ongoing consultancy on Natures Way for the sampling and testing of papaya, breadfruit, eggplant and mangoes for microbiological level before and after HTFA treatment, samples to be send every 12 months for verifications purposes and for nutritional data for packaging purposes.		10,000	Part of validation process for the HTFA for HACCP accreditation
	Provided technical advice to Kaiming Agro Processing on ginger products for nutritional analytical tests for the purpose of nutritional labelling on the packaging.		5,000	Part of validation on labelling for HACCP accreditation
	Provided technical assistance to Popular Kava towards HACCP certification and to take lead and set the standard in re-establishing Kava exports from the pacific for pharmaceutical use in Germany.	y	5,000	Popular Kava in preparation HACCP mode and ongoing.
	Inventory of Paravet trainees - online	y	on-line	Paravet training list updated
	Continue to provide inputs into Brucellosis eradication	y	On-line	Inputs adopted

In collaboration with MPI Plant Protection Unit carried out experiment to compare the efficacies of male aggregation pheromones on coconut rhinoceros beetle (<i>Oryctes rhinoceros</i> L.) in Viti Levu, Fiji		10,000	Trial completed and research paper published in Fiji Agriculture Journal : FAJ Vol. 54 Issue 1, 2014.
Cost Benefit Analysis conducted for Nature's Way on hot water dipping.		x	Recommended price for the service put to members for consultation
Brucellosis eradication mapping exercise - consultations	y	On-line	Distribution maps completed
Conducted pilot SPC paravet training in meat hygiene and food safety module	y	1,621	20 out of 21 participants successfully completed and certified in meat hygiene and food safety for Fiji.
Conducted SPC paravet training in Introductory Paravet module for Central Division	y	10,000	19 out of 21 participants successfully completed and certified as paravets for Fiji
Conducted two Animal Waste management awareness workshops	y	2,000	47 participants trained
Animal waste composting trial with mustard cabbage at Koronivia research station (KRS)	y	2,000	Trial and data analysis completed.
Compilation of the full regional AnGR conservation proposal (extension component)	y	30,000	Project proposal completed and submitted to FAO – approved and to be implemented 2014
Study completed on vegetable production, post-harvest handling and marketing in Fiji		3,000	Source of information for implementation of vegetable projects in Fiji.
Establishment of organic participatory guarantee systems in Sabeto and Cicia	y	50,000	Capacity built in organic certification
Supported two participants to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji	y	500	Technical capacity built on international standard setting processes
Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
Supported participation of 2 participants to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting, Nadi, Fiji	y	1,000	Reviewed PPPO Strategic Workplan and Budget
In collaboration with New Zealand MPI on diagnostic trainings for 15 officials from quarantine, forestry and research		3,000	Capacity built in plant pest diagnostics.
Supported 2 participants to attend Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC		500	Technical capacity built in international standard setting process
General plant pest and disease survey was carried out in November	n		Pest List Database updated
Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games (Wallis&Futuna)	y	7,000	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions

	Collaborate with MAF Plant Protection on field collection and laboratory work to screen diamondback moth (DBM) for insecticide resistance		1,000	DBM pesticide resistance examined for improved pest management
	Collaborate with MAF Pant Protection to conduct Trainer of Trainers (ToT) and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) on reduction in use of pesticide in Brassica and taro production.		2,000	Work plans drawn up
	Continued funding of two temporary staff plus funding for one PhD student under the ACIAR CSIRO project		8,200	Capacity of Pacific researchers to do research on carbon fertilisation crop modelling.
	Supported one MAF staff to attend the Treaty Governing Body meeting, Oman			Enhanced understanding of issues regarding the Treaty
	Funded 2 temporary staff plus 1 one PhD study at Koronivia under the ACIAR CSIRO project		9,585	Capacity built in researching carbon fertilisation crop modelling.
	Provided technical assistance to set up Koronivia tissue culture facility under AusAID flood assistance; KRS recieved 28 accessions with 187 proliferated tissues of banana, breadfruit, cassava, ginger, potato, sweet potato and taro for further multiplication.		2,500	New tissue culture facility to be commissioned in 2014. Tissue culture training provided to 3 staff at CePaCT
	Under ACIAR PARDI breadfruit project, continued with research on optimisation a micropropagation system for breadfruit using a liquid bioreactor system		5,500	Rapid multiplication system optimised for breadfruit using bioreactor system. Pacific Breadfruit Project under Kokosiga (Fiji) Ltd, recieved 12 accessions of breadfruit with a total of 176 three-month old potted plants. KRS received 10 breadfruit accessions with a total of 35 potted plants.
	Provided tissue culture varieties of potato for MPI for field trials at Sigatoka Research Station		2,500	Evaluated 2 favourable varieties. Tissue cultures of these two varieties have also been supplied to the KRS lab for further mass propagation to accommodate future trials.
	French Pacific Funded collaboration with MAF on "How an indigenous vegetable can contribute to sustainable development". And supported 2 MAF staff to regional bele meeting.		5,000	10 varieties collected and characterised for conservation and shared to PICTS. Improved management of national bele collection

	Supported 1 MAF and 1 Biosecurity staff to attend the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture		1,500	Enhanced understanding of non-contracting parties (Marshall Is, PNG, Niue, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu) on Treaty operations
	Under the Bioversity/Trust global banana strategy for improvement of Musa collections, collected four maoli-popoulu accessions for virus testing and culturing by SPC CePaCT		2,500	Established 2 varieties at SPC tissue culture for virus indexing, to be sent to French Polynesia field genebank
	Taro breeding program implemented under the AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 project		5,000	Breeding program established with 43 crosses of new Samoa varieties with local Fijian varieties. New seeds produced to be germinated and evaluated for viability
	Provided climate resilient sweet potato to Sabeto, Nadi under the USAID Project		2,600	Sabeto received 17 accessions with 140 plantlets of climate resilient sweet potato.
	Provided crops to community agroforestry trials at Tabia (Labasa), collaboration with SPC Forestry and Trees Team		4,355	32 accessions/257 plantlets of climate resilient crops (banana, sweet potato), potato and breadfruit
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana, swamp taro and yam) at the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees		5,000	Traditional varieties conserved for future generations. A total of 50 accessions of swamp taro, taro, banana and yam.
	Supported two participants to attend WAHIS Animal Disease Training in Nadi, Fiji			Improved and updated animal disease report
	Supported twelve participants to attend the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards Training (LEGS) in Nadi, Fiji		WSPA funded	Capacity built to care for livestock in times of natural disasters.
	Supported two participants to attend the SPC/ FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		3,956	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
	Supported 5 participants to attend the FABN Regional workshop on Diseases Outbreak Investigation in Multi-Stage sampling in SPC, Nabua, Suva.		10,000	Capacity built in animal disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, Brucella detection surveys
	Supported two participants to attend the FABN Regional workshop in Field sample collection, packaging, transport and micro biology in PNG.		FABN funded	Capacity built in animal disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, Brucella detection surveys
	Supported three participants to attend the FABN Regional workshop on IATA certification, packaging and transporting between laboratories in Australia.		FABN funded	Capacity built in animal disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, Brucella detection surveys
	Cross section study on Brucellosis Risk factors in Fiji		FABN funded	To have a better understanding about risk factors that could have paid a role in the outbreak of brucellosis in Fiji.

	ACIAR Taro Cleaner Pathway research project facilitated			Ana to verify Fiji and Samoa activities and results
	Facilitated relocation and maintenance of Protein Bait Machine from Vanuatu to Koronivia Research Station.	n	5,000	Machine has been relocated, repaired and training planned.
	Supported participation of 2 participants to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting , Nadi, Fiji		1,000	Review PPPO workplans for effective national biosecurity services
	ACIAR Soil Health Project and ICM continue to develop soil health management technologies to support the commercial taro growers of Taveuni.		5,000	Taro treated with fish manure and rock phosphate plus bio-brew spray is yielding better than recommended NPK and Urea.
	Supported three participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013		7,000	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Supported one participant to attend and participate to the Pacific Side Event on the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission held in Rotorua, New Zealand on the 4 th November 2013		2,000	Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts
	Conducted agroforestry training in Labasa and assisted the landowner to develop agroforestry demonstration farm	y	5,000	Enhanced knowledge and skill in agroforestry systems.

COUNTRY: FRENCH POLYNESIA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	IACT in collaboration with Government of French Polynesia co-hosted POETCom 'general assembly' meeting in Tahiti.	y	65,000	POETCom Advisory Board elected. Design of Pacific Organic Guarantee System approved. Enhanced cooperation and coordination across regional organic movement.
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported one participant to the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji.	y	7,308	Increased capacity of PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	5,572	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) mailing list and contacts updated and maintained to facilitate information exchange between the secretariat and National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPO) in the south west pacific region.	y	-	Ongoing support in ensuring timely delivery of information to and amongst stakeholders

	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	-	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Supported 2 participants to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC		3,000	Enhanced technical capacity on biosecurity and market access
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji	y	2,500	Technical capacity built in international standard setting process
	Supported participation of 1 participant to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting , Nadi, Fiji	y	1,500	PPPO work plans and budget reviewed for improved service delivery
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games (Wallis&Futuna)		500	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursion
	In collaboration with Bioversity International and the Global Crop Diversity Trust continued to collect and virus test Pacific banana collection and sent to Ministry of Agriculture, hosts of the Pacific regional banana field collection		4,138	Continued establishment in tissue culture and virus indexing of banana accessions from PNG, Vanuatu, FSM, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga in SPC to be received in 2014-15
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, and banana) at the SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees		2,000	21 accessions of taro and banana are currently conserved at SPC-CePaCT.

GUAM

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Provided Biosecurity technical advice on the requirements and procedures of exporting produce to Guam	n	On-line	Facilitated trade compliance between FSM/Palau and Guam on quarantine issues
	Inventory of Paravet trainees - online	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		3,000	Technical capacity built in international standard setting process
	In collaboration with USDA supported the participation and training of quarantine officials attending the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.		2,500	Strengthened national biosecurity services
	Supported one participant to attend the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting , Nadi, Fiji		3,000	PPPO work plans and budget reviewed for improved regional biosecurity
	Micronesia Biosecurity Plan (MBP) consultation process in collaboration with USDA, Federal Agencies and relevant stakeholders			Regional Micronesian Biosecurity Plan developed

KIRIBATI

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Survey of extent of invasive species, puncture vine (<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>) on Kirimati Island; vine is affecting livelihoods of people with its prickly thorns causing puncture to tyres and injury to feet of humans and livestock; looking to introduce two biocontrol weevils.		5,000	Puncture vine surveyed and report completed
	SPC-ACIAR Soil Health Project on improved soil health through composting for better vegetable production.	y	15,000	Farmers trained on compost making; staff trained in recognising plant nutrient deficiencies.
	Develop the Kiribati agriculture and livestock strategy		10,000	Launched in July 2013
	Development of the USAID CC Project logframe on effects of climate change on food security for Abaiang, part of whole of island approach		20,000	Project sites identified and community consultations in Abaiang completed and logframe developed.
	Supported the development of the IFAD Food Security project for outer islands		4,000	Coordinated the food production objective.
	IRA for importation of meat products from USA		5,000	IRA completed
	Supported 2 participants to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC		3,000	Enhanced technical capacity on national biosecurity and market access
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji	y	3,000	Technical capacity built in international standard setting processes
	In collaboration with USDA supported the participation and training of quarantine officials at the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.		4,000	Improved regional biosecurity
	Supported participation of 2 participants to the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting, Nadi, Fiji		3,000	Reviewed PPPO work plans and budget for improved Pacific bioscurity services
	Provided biosecurity information database training to 8 quarantine officers to facilitate automation of issuance of import permits and phytosanitary certificates.		10,000	Trained quarantine staff, set up computers and installed database at Betio Wharf and Bikenibeu Quarantine Office.
	Supported sixteen participants for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training for both Terrestrial and Aquatic in Tarawa, Kiribati.	y	3000	Improved and updated animal disease report to OIE through WAHIS
	SPC-ACIAR Soil Health Project on improving soil health through composting to achieve better vegetable production.	y	5,000	Farmers trained in making compost for vegetables and root crops. Extension staff trained in recognising plant nutrient deficiencies.

	Supported three participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	4,300	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Supported one participant to attend and participate to the Pacific Side Event on the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission held in Rotorua, New Zealand on the 4 th November 2013	y	4,658	Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts
	Supported 1 MAF staff to the Treaty Governing Body meeting, Oman			Enhanced understanding on issues regarding the Treaty
	Provided climate resilient crops to MAF for ACIAR/Soil Health trials and AUSAID Phase 2 Climate Change Initiative.		5,315	50 accessions/321 plantlets of banana, cassava, swamp taro, sweet potato, and TLB resistant taro supplied
	Provided crops under NZAID funded Live and Learn Environment Education Project in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture		6,215	Evaluated 55 varieties/381 plantlets of cassava, potato, taro, swamp taro, giant taro, sweet potato, xanthosoma, yam and TLB resistant taro.
	Conservation of traditional varieties of swamp taro and breadfruit		7,000	12 accessions of swamp taro and breadfruit conserved

MARIANA ISLANDS

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games (Wallis&Futuna)		500	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions
	In collaboration with USDA supported the participation and training of quarantine officials at the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.	y	4,000	Strengthened capacity in regional biosecurity services
	Supported one staff from MAF to attend the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture held at SPC CePaCT.		13,000	Enhanced understanding on Treaty issues
	Provided 60 varieties/408 plantlets of climate resilient crops and TLB tolerant taro to enhance community resilience, NZAid funding		2,040	Built community resilience to climate change
	Under SPC UNDP drought recovery project, received climate-resilient crop diversity, trained local communities in Arno on vulnerability assessment, and transplanting and management of climate-resilient crops		30,000	Vulnerability report assessment produced and crops established in Majuro screenhouse; 34 accessions (358 plantlets) provided of drought resistant sweet potatoes and breadfruit

MARSHALL ISLANDS

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Provided Technical advice on the importation of coffee beans from PNG into Marshall Is through LRD/IACT	n	0	Increased awareness on the requirements of importing PNG Coffee into Marshall Islands
	Provided advice to officials at Tobolar Coconut processing plant at Marshall Is on HACCP practices and organise future training session and HACCP.	y	0	Developed Food safety system and TQM to enable product acceptable through AQIS, in cooperation with PHAMA
	Facilitated linkages with RRE at RMI for the supply/export of frozen foods (roots and vegetables).	y	0	Order received and price negotiated with Food Processor (Fiji) for export of frozen foods
	Completed proposal on ICT for Pacific Youth in agriculture	y	-	Proposal completed and sent to CTA for funding. Awaiting feedback
	Inventory of Paravet trainees - online	y	-	Paravet training list updated
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		3,000	Technical capacity built in international standard setting processes
	In collaboration with USDA supported the participation of quarantine officials to the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.	y	3,000	Strengthened capacity in national biosecurity operations
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013		7,800	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Distributed quarantine awareness targeting on Pacific Minigames.		500	Travellers educated on quarantine risk items
	Assisted in the development of Import conditions for meat products from Fiji		500	Import conditions for meat and meat products from Fiji established to allow trade in meat products

NAURU

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Compilation of the full regional AnGR conservation proposal (extension component)	y		Project proposal completed and submitted to FAO and approved
	Inventory of Paravet trainees - online	y		Paravet training list updated
	Yellow Crazy Ant delimiting survey at Aiwo wharf area covering some seven acres			YCA spread documented and management strategy established
	Provide technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	-	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Supported one participant to attend the Web 2.0 training in Nadi, Fiji		7,050	Improve information exchange on agriculture and agro forestry.

	Plan for development of an agricultural strategy	y		Plan approved and supported
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	5,860	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Plan for development of an agricultural strategy	y		Plan has been approved to support Nauru in this
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games (Wallis&Futuna)	y	500	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions
	Mission conducted to collect and analyse agricultural statistics		5,000	Agricultural National Minimum Development Indicators updated
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		3,000	Review PPPO work plans and budget
	Supported one participant to Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC		3,000	Technical knowledge built on pest risk pathways
	In collaboration with USDA supported the participation of quarantine officials to the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.	y	2,000	Strengthened capacity in national biosecurity operations
	Distribution of climate-resilient crops under NZAid for improved resilience of communities to disasters		4,500	Provided 24 accessions/212 plantlets of taro, breadfruit, swamp taro, yam, and TLB tolerant taro.

NEW CALEDONIA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting, Nadi, Fiji, 23-27 September 2013	y	3,218	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Supported 2 participants to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC.		2,500	Technical capacity built on pest risk pathways
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji	y	2,000	Reviewed PPPO work plans and budget
	Supported one participant to attend FAO/OIE Sub-Regional meeting on GFTADs for the SPC Regions		3,148.80	SPC Region GFTAD strategy reviewed
	Supported one participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training			Improved and updated animal disease report
	Supported one participant to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji		4,866	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
	Supported IAC staff to the French Pacific funded regional bele project sponsored by AVRDC and AusAID PHAMA		4,000	Project outputs finalised and 9 core bele varieties sent to SPC CePaCT for conservation

	Collaborated with IAC on virus testing of some banana varieties in the field		8,253	Testing of IAC banana varieties for virus infection
	Provision of improved crop diversity for evaluation by the New Caledonia Centre for Tropical Tubers under the Development Agency.		1,310	Provided 12 accessions/54 plantlets of climate resilient sweet potatoes and TLB tolerant taros
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana and yam) at CePaCT		14,300	95 accessions of yam, taro and banana conserved.

NIUE

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Compilation of the full regional AnGR conservation proposal (extension component)	y	20,000	Project proposal completed and submitted to FAO – proposal approved and to be implemented in 2014
	Conducted national training on nursery operations and management.	y	8,100	Skills and knowledge gained in plant propagation and nursery management
	Supported one participant to attend the Web 2.0 training in Nadi, Fiji		4,846	Improved information exchange on agriculture and agro forestry.
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	-	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Compilation of full regional indigenous livestock products promotion through marketing and consumption.	y	15,000	Project proposal completed and submitted to UN Group of 77 under the Perez Guerrero Trust Fund - proposal approved
	Facilitated national consultations on preparing final draft of Forest Management Plan of Niue	y	5,500	FMP submitted by DAFF Director to Cabinet for approval in 2014
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	3,400	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Regional quarantine awareness materials for Pacific Mini Games		500	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions
	General plant pest and disease survey conducted and specimens sent to Plant Health Entomological Labs (NZ) for identification		3,000	National PLD updated
	Supported one MAF staff to attend the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, CePaCT, Fiji		6,850	Enhanced understanding of Treaty; assistance provided on preparing cabinet submission
	Provided 35 varieties/232 plantlets of banana, cassava, potato, sweet potato, swamp taro, taro, yam and TLB tolerant taro, NZAid funding		3,500	Improved resilience of communities to disasters and pest and diseases
	Conserved 23 accessions of taro at CePaCT		3,450	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional taro varieties for future generations.

	Facilitated participation of NPPO to the 8th Session of the Commission of Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) in Rome		4,000	Technical capacity built in SPS
	Conducted Biosecurity Information Facility capacity training on automation of issuing permits	y	6,000	Strengthened capacity and increased efficiency
	Facilitated 2-week work attachment of Forestry Officer at two sites, Fiji Department of Forest Colo-i-Suva and the Pacific Island Tree Centre of SPC	y	7,000	Enhanced knowledge and skill on tree seed technology
	Supported one participant to attend the Pacific Side Event at the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, Rotorua, New Zealand on the 4 th November 2013	y	5,000	Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts

PALAU

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Provided Biosecurity technical advice on the requirements and procedures of exporting produce to Guam	n	-	Facilitation of trade between FSM/Palau and Guam on quarantine issues
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		4,000	Technical capacity built in international standard setting process
	In collaboration with USDA supported the participation of quarantine officials to the Annual Micronesian Biosecurity Training in Guam.		3,000	Strengthened national biosecurity operations
	Inventory of Paravet trainees - online	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting, Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	7,711	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	-	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games (Wallis&Futuna)		500	Travellers educated on quarantine risk items, no new pest incursions
	Provided technical support to AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 activities taro trials; 2 taro varieties identified to be salt tolerant. CePaCT received 7 taro, 4 swamp taro and 2 xanthosoma; in tissue culture awaiting virus indexing 3 taro, 6 swamp taro and 2 xanthosoma		8,200	Resilience built
	Provided 16 accessions/82 plantlets of yams and breadfruit for evaluation.		1,230	Resilience built
	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional taro varieties for future generations.		3,150	23 accessions of taro conserved at CePact

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) provided support to two participants to the WAHIS training in Nadi , Fiji	y	13,405	6 PACP compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting, Nadi, Fiji, September 2013	y	2,610	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Supported one participant to attend the Pacific Side Event at the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, Rotorua, New Zealand, 4 th November 2013	y	4,013	Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Monitoring sea bird case	y	On-line	In progress
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Provided Technical advice on the exportation of coffee beans from PNG to Marshall Islands	n	5,000	Increased awareness on the requirements of exporting PNG Coffee into Marshall Islands
	Development of Certified coffee supplier groups	n	19,500	New certified network of 250 coffee farmers in Eastern Highlands Province
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games, Wallis&Futuna		1,000	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana, yam and sweet potato,) at the SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees		2,500	Continued safety conservation of traditional varieties for future generations
	Assisted ERP through training of field operation team and on the ground technical advisory support during the ND eradication in Vanimo.		12,500	Animal disease emergency response against Newcastle disease. Successfully implemented
	Supported two participants to attend the Web 2.0 training in Nadi, Fiji.		14,400	Improved information exchange on agriculture and agro forestry.
	Supported one participant to attend FAO/OIE Sub-Regional meeting on GFTADs for the SPC Regions, Nadi -Fiji		7,200	SPC Region GFTAD strategy reviewed
	Supported participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi – Fiji.		7,200	Improved and updated animal disease report
	Supported two participants to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		14,858	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop on disease outbreak investigation in multi stage sampling in SPC, Nabua, Fiji.		FABN sponsored	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.

	Supported and trained twelve participants in Quantitative Risk Assessment of Animal Diseases in PNG.		FABN sponsored	Capacity built in animal disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, and Brucella detection surveys
	Supported ten participants to attend FABN Regional Workshop in Field Sample collection, packaging, transport and microbiology in PNG.			Capacity built in animal disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, and Brucella detection surveys
	Support two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop IATA certification, packaging and transport between laboratories in Australia.			Capacity built in animal disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, and Brucella detection surveys
	Brucellosis detection survey in selected provinces		FABN sponsored	Brucellosis status in selected province
	Supported one participant to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC.			Developed technical skills in conducting PRA for market access
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		3,000	Technical capacity built in international standards setting processes
	Facilitated participation of one participant to the 8 th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) in Rome.		6,000	Improved knowledge on international standard setting process and technical working groups
	Supported IAC staff to the French Pacific funded regional bele project sponsored by AVRDC and AusAID PHAMA		4,000	Project outputs finalised and 16 core bele varieties sent to SPC CePaCT for conservation
	Supported one MAF staff to attend the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, CePaCT, Fiji		3.800	Enhanced understanding of Treaty; assistance provided on preparing cabinet submission
	EU INEA project support on taro and trials at NARI			Field trials showed that breeding lines from Samoa Cycle 5, PNG and Hawaii outperformed local PNG varieties in yield
	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana, yam and sweet potato) for future generations.		4,000	391 accessions conserved at CePaCT
	Under NZAid funding, provided 50 accessions/313 plantlets of climate resilient crops (sweet potato, cassava, yam) for further propagation in the NARI laboratory for distribution to communities		5,000	Community resilience improved

PITCAIRN ISLAND

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Under NZAid funding, provided 46 accessions/286 plantlets of climate resilient crops (sweet potato, banana, taro, cassava, yam) and TLB tolerant taro to communities		2,538	Community resilience improved

SAMOA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported two participants to the WAHIS training in Nadi , Fiji	y	4,854	At least 6 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	In collaboration with MAF Plant Protection conducted field collection and laboratory experiments to screen Diamondback Moth (DBM) for insecticide resistance	n	9,500	DBM pesticide resistance examined for improved pest management
	In collaboration with MAF Plant Protection Unit conducted Trainer of Trainers (ToT) and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) to reduce use of pesticide in Brassica and taro production.	n	7,500	TOT & FFS were completed for Brassica but taro in 2014.
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	2,630	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Supported one participant to the annual meeting of the regional project on senile coconut palm peeling		2,500	Enhanced knowledge on project implementation.
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games		1,000	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions
	Facilitated production of 28 plant health extension leaflets		5,000	Pest management knowledge increased and practices developed
	ACIAR PARDI taro project facilitated consultations with MAFF and USP on responsibilities of partners and expected project outputs		5,749	Inception meeting held and activities in progress
	Supported participation in organic technical exchange in New Caledonia	n	10,000	Capacity built in organic agriculture

	Supported participation of 2 participants in youth in organic workshop in Tonga		10,000	Capacity built in organic agriculture
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana, swamp taro, yam, vanilla, breadfruit, alocasia, xanthosoma and sweet potato) at the SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees		2,500	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional varieties for future generations
	Supported one participant to attend the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards Training (LEGS) in Nadi, Fiji		WSPA	Capacity built to care for livestock in times of natural disasters.
	Supported one participant to attend the Web 2.0 training in Nadi, Fiji.		3,065	Improved information exchange on agriculture and agro forestry.
	Supported one participant to attend FAO/OIE Sub-Regional meeting on GFTADs for the SPC Regions, Nadi, Fiji		2,406.60	SPC Region GFTAD strategy reviewed
	Supported participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi - Fiji		2,870	Improved and updated animal disease report
	Supported two participants to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		5,772	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
	Supported one participant to attend the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC.		3,500	Developed technical skills in conducting PRA for market access
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji	y	2,500	Enhanced technical knowledge on standards setting process
	Supported 2 participants to attend the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting, Nadi, Fiji	y	6,700	Review PPPO work plans and budget
	Collaborate (SPC/USP) on ACIAR Soil Health Project to develop soil health management technologies to support the commercial taro production	y	6,000	Demonstrated that mucuna in combination with fertilizer treatment improved taro yield.
	Finalise ACIAR project on scoping the potential of commercialising tropical fruit tree sector	y	-	Plan approved by ACIAR and scoping study completed.
	Supported one MAF staff to attend the Treaty Governing Body meeting, Oman			Enhanced understanding of issues regarding the Treaty
	EU INEA project support taro breeding program and fund PhD studies in plant breeding at USP		20,000	Upgraded scientific knowledge and qualifications of Pacific islanders
	EU INEA support participation of taro breeder to France meeting; drought tolerance screening ongoing under this project for new seedlings of taro Cycle 8			Drought tolerant research
	AusAID ICCAI Phase 2, ongoing taro improvement program in collaboration with USP and Samoa		70,000	New varieties evaluated

	Continued with ACIAR PARDI taro project for activities partners (MAF, SROS, Samoa Farmers and USP)		5,749	SROS completed NZ market taste testing with 2 good varieties (Tanumalala and Maagiagi). Field and shelf life evaluated.
	Provided climate-resilient crops to Women in Bussines in collaboration with MAF; provided 38 accessions with over 214 plantlets of climate resilient banana, cassava, sweet potato and potato. NZAid funded.		5,500	NGO evaluation of crops for communities
	Provided technical support on the coconut polymotu work to conserve Niu afa variety on two islands (Anamua and Nuusafee); the Global Crop Diversity Trust project		F\$1,500	Follow up visit to two islands by MAF and replanted the dead coconuts affected by cyclone Evan
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, banana, swamp taro, yam, vanilla, breadfruit, alocasia, xanthosoma and sweet potato) at the SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees; 222 accessions of banana, breadfruit, giant taro, swamp taro, sweet potato, taro, yam, vanilla and xanthosoma		2,500	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional varieties for future generations.
	Safety duplication of SPC Pacific crop collection at USP Alafua; over 362 accessions of banana, sweet potato, taro and yam.		54,000	Conserved for future use

SOLOMON ISLANDS

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) provided support to one participant to the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji	y	3,509	At least for 6 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Conducted training for 36 Kokonut Pasifika Solomon Island VCO producers on quality assurance and food safety program (HACCP).	y	-	Increased awareness of the International standard requirements.
	Capacity building provided to Guadalcanal cocoa farmers a St Martin Tenaru on fairtrade certification and the formation of a democratic farming body.	n	-	Cocoa growers organized and working towards complying with Fairtrade standards for certification.
	In collaboration with MAL Plant Protection unit conducted field collection and laboratory experiments to screen Diamondback moth (DBM) resistance	n		Work has been delayed and is expected to implement in 2014.
	In collaboration with MAL Plant Protection Unit conducted Trainer of Trainers (ToT) and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) to reduce use of pesticide in Slippery cabbage.	n		Planted field experiments at Henderson and Papanqu but 2013 floods affected both sites so TOT & FFS have been deferred to 2014.
	In-country Brucellosis sampling framework and prioritisation of diseases and diseases field surveillance training	y	6,000	Capacity built in sampling and disease surveillance. Disease prioritisation completed.

Supported two participants to the 7 th Technical Board Meeting of the Plant Protection Organisation and 15 th Regional Meeting on Plant Protection in Fiji in June	y	6,338	
Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	-	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
Collaboration with UNDP and MAL to conduct Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Household Income Expenditure Survey (HIES) in 2 selected villages in Choiseul - USAID	y	10,000	PRA, HIES, and climate change Vulnerability Assessment Reports compiled for Sepa and Loimuni villages
Fair Trade cocoa producer associations established	n	12,000	Two fair trade cocoa associations under development in Makira and Guadalcanal
Stakeholder meetings on development of Pacific Youth Development Framework	n		Linked to Pacific Youth in Agriculture Strategy
Farmer Field School site selection of several villages in Choiseul under CHICCHAP - USAID	y	2,000	Identified and selected a site for the Farmer Field School in Choiseul
Continued assistance to Kastom Gaden on regional bele project, French Pacific Fund		F\$11,500	Project outputs finalised; 22 core bele varieties to be sent to CePaCT for conservation; awaiting MAL approval
Progressed with Kastom Gaden Phase II activities for AusAID ICCAI project; established 7 multiplication genebanks in 5 provinces; 4 on vulnerable sites (salt, water-logged, drought)		3,500	Genebanks established; community resilient built
Provided MAL with 45 accessions/300 plantlets (banana, sweet potato, taro, cassava, swamp taro, potato and yam) and TLB tolerant taro lines, with Choiseul communities; NZAid and USAid funded.		3,500	Crop diversity evaluated; communities resilient to natural disasters
Consultation on Solomon Is participation in the banana regional project funded under the Bioversity/Trust Pacific banana project		2,500	No agreement signed by MAL, so cannot access new banana diversity
Conserved 152 traditional varieties (taro, sweet potato and banana) at CePaCT		23,000	Conserved for future use
Supported participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi, Fiji		4,495	Improved and updated animal disease report
Supported two participants to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		11,498	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.

	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop on Disease outbreak investigation in multi stage sampling in SPC, Nabua, Fiji.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Supported ten participants to attend FABN Animal Disease prioritization training in Solomon Islands.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop in Field Sample collections, packaging, transport and micro biology in PNG.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop on IATA certification, packaging and transport between laboratories in Australia.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Brucellosis detection survey in selected provinces		FABN supported	Brucellosis status in selected province
	Conducted baseline pesticides survey with MAL to gauge pesticide knowledge and use as part of FAO TCP project.		\$5,000	
	Supported one participant to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC.			Developed technical skills in conducting PRA for market access
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		4,460	Enhanced technical knowledge on standards setting process
	Supported 2 participants to attend the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO) Executive Committee Meeting , Nadi, Fiji		9,485	Review PPPO work plans and budget.
	Conducted Biosecurity Information Facility capacity training	y	12,000	Strengthened capacity and increased efficiency of processing import permits and certificates
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting, Nadi, Fiji, 23-27 September 2013	y	3,580	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Supported one participant to attend the Pacific Side Event on the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, Rotorua, New Zealand, 4 th November 2013	y	4,059	Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts

TOKELAU

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	-	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Regional quarantine awareness for Festival of Pacific Arts.		500	Developed and distributed awareness materials
	Conservation of traditional varieties of swamp taro CePaCT		2,500	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional varieties for future generations
	Provided 52 accessions/367 plantlets of crop diversity (banana, sweet potato, taro, cassava, swamp taro and yam), breadfruits, potato and TLB tolerant taros, NZAid funding.		2,500	Improved resilience of communities to natural disasters
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, sweet potato and banana) at CePaCT; 2 accessions of swamp taro conserved		2,500	Continued safety conservation of traditional varieties for future generations.

TONGA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported two participants to the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji	y	4,634	6 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Conducted Biosecurity Information Facility capacity training	y	15,000	Strengthened capacity and increased efficiency of biosecurity services
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Provided support on production of extension materials for Tonga National Youth Congress	y	2,000	Technical skills built in production of extension materials
	Supported one participant to attend the Pacific Side Event at the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, Rotorua, New Zealand, 4 th November 2013	y	5,000	Increased awareness of forestry contribution to Pacific livelihoods with climate change impacts
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	2,822	Shared knowledge and experiences in developing and implementing forestry plans
	Finalise ACIAR project on scoping the potential of commercialising tropical fruit tree sector	y	-	Plan approved by ACIAR and scoping study completed
	Progress with MAF on AusAID ICCAI Phase 2 activities; establishment of climate-resilient multiplication genebanks; established taro breeding program with new hybrids		14,100	Community genebank nurseries established

	Supported one MAF staff to attend SPC organised regional meeting on the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, held at CePaCT		3,500	Enhanced understanding of the Treaty; assistance received on cabinet submission
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, alocasia, xanthosoma, banana, yam and sweet potato) at CePaCT; 39 accessions of giant taro, sweet potato, taro, banana, xanthosoma and yam		5,000	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional varieties for future generations.
	Supported two participants to attend FAO/OIE Sub-Regional meeting on GFTADs for the SPC Regions, Nadi - Fiji		2,805	SPC Region GFTAD strategy reviewed
	Supported two participants to the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi - Fiji			Improved and updated animal disease report
	Supported one participant to attend the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards Training (LEGS) in Nadi, Fiji		WSPA	Capacity built in securing livestock at times of natural disasters.
	Supported two participants to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		7,920	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
	Supported one participant to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC.		5,500	Developed technical skills in conducting PRA for biosecurity and market access
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		4,500	Enhanced technical knowledge on international standards setting process
	Supported participation in Organic Technical Exchange in New Caledonia		6,000	Capacity built in organic agriculture
	Coordinated USAID CC funded project on building resilience of rural communities for food security and with climate change		25,000	Project sites selected, community based vulnerability assessments completed and logframes developed.
	Facilitated national consultations on draft sandalwood regulation	y	10,815	Drafting of regulation in progress

TUVALU

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	General plant pest and disease P&D survey was carried out in March	y	18,500	Plant pest and disease status updated
	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games		500	Developed and distributed awareness materials
	Supplied 47 accessions/359 plantlets of climate resilient crops (swamp taro, potato, xanthosoma, yam, cassava, taro, sweet potato and giant taro) and TLB tolerant taros, NZAid funding.		16,313	Communities built resilience to natural disasters
	Supported one MAF to the SPC organised regional meeting on the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, held CePaCT		F\$5,500	Enhanced understanding of Treaty issues; assistance received on preparing cabinet submissions.

	Provided 18 varieties/398 plantlets of banana varieties under FAO Food Security Project.		4,115	Assistance provided to atoll countries
	Conservation of 10 accessions of swamp taro at the SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees		2,500	Conservation for future generations
	Assisted consultations with UNDP and EU-GCCA on climate-change and food security project		F\$5,500	Provided inputs; trained NAPA focal points on composting and transplanting
	Supported participant for the WAHIS Animal Disease Training, Nadi - Fiji			Improved and updated animal disease report
	Mission to collect and update agricultural statistics		8,000	Agricultural National Minimum Development Indicators updated.
	Cross Ministry training delivered on Cost benefit Analysis through GIZ and SPREP funded projects		25,000	14 government officials trained on the use of cost-benefit analysis for government planning.
	Supported one participant to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		5,000	Enhanced technical knowledge on standards setting process
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	3,695	Shared experiences and challenges in implementing forestry plans

VANUATU

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	In collaboration with SPC division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) supported two participants to the WAHIS training in Nadi, Fiji	y	5,535	At least for 6 PACP to be compliant with the OIE Reporting of WAHIS on Aquatic/Marine/Terrestrial
	POETCom Coordinator participated and facilitated meeting of Vanuatu Organic movement stakeholders (Vanuatu POETcom Committee).	y	4,900	Improved coordination of Vanuatu POETCom Committee and alignment with regional objectives.
	Inventory of Paravet trainees	y	On-line	Paravet training list updated
	Extension materials development conducted for Farm Support Association (FSA)		-	FSA have capacity to produce own extension materials for their farmers
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	4,500	Shared experiences and challenges in implementing forestry plans
	Supported one participant to attend the Pacific Side Event at the 25 th Session of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, Rotorua, New Zealand, 4 th November 2013	y	4,500	Highlight forestry's contribution to Pacific livelihoods and with climate change impacts, and sustainable management;

	Regional quarantine awareness for Pacific Mini Games (Wallis&Futuna)	y	500	Travellers educated on quarantine issues, no new pest incursions
	Facilitate production of invasive weeds poster	y	1,000	Awareness on invasive weeds
	Supported one VARTC staff to attend the SPC organised regional meeting on the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture		F\$1,500	Enhanced understanding of non-contracting parties (Marshall Is, PNG, Niue, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu) on Treaty issues; received assistance on cabinet submissions
	Supported one VARTC staff to attend the French Pacific funded regional bele project held at SPC CePaCT; with AVRDC and AusAID PHAMA funding		2,100	Project outputs finalised, core bele varieties to be sent to SPC CePaCT for conservation
	Conservation of traditional varieties (taro, yam, sweet potato, breadfruit and banana) at the SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees.		2,500	Continued safety duplication and conservation of traditional varieties for future generations. 177 accessions of yam, taro and banana conserved at SPC-CePaCT.
	EU INEA project support to on-farm taro breeding trials Supported participation of Vanuatu based SPC INEA scientific coordinator to meeting in France			Evaluated 24 taro lines from CePaCT for disease and drought tolerance. These lines have good taste, and 5 varieties with waxy leaves were tolerant to drought.
	Provided 49 accessions/342 plantlets of climate resilient crops (banana, sweet potato, taro, cassava, swamp taro, potato and yam) and TLB tolerant taros for building resilience to climate change and disease incursions.		2,500	Built community resilience to climate change for food security
	Supported two participants to attend the SPC/FAO Regional Meeting on One Health Issues in the Pacific Region, Nadi – Fiji.		6,762	Meeting reports and recommendations on the way forward.
	Conducted SPC Paravet Meat Hygiene and Food Safety pilot training, Vanuatu.	y	43,071	16 out of 25 successfully completed and certified in meat hygiene and food safety
	Supported fifteen local participants to attend FABN Animal Disease Prioritization and Farmer Perception Survey Training in Vanuatu.		10,000	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional Workshop on Disease outbreak investigation in multi-stage sampling in SPC – Nabua, Fiji.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys

	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop in field sample collection, packaging, transport and micro biology in PNG.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Supported two participants to attend FABN Regional workshop on IATA certification, packaging and transport between laboratories in Australia.		FABN	Capacity building in field animal disease surveillance. Capacity building in laboratory diagnostics. Brucella detection surveys
	Brucellosis detection survey in selected provinces		FABN supported	Brucellosis status in selected province
	USAid-funded cross ministry training on the use of Cost Benefit Analysis in partnership with GIZ and SPREP			15 government officials trained on the use of cost-benefit analysis for government planning.
	Supported one participant to the Pest Risk Analysis Workshop facilitated by Australia Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in collaboration with SPC		3,500	Technical capacity built in pest risk analysis for national biosecurity
	Supported 2 participants to attend the Regional IPPC Meeting on Draft ISPMs, Nadi, Fiji		3,500	Enhanced technical knowledge on standards setting process
	Provided technical support to NPPO Vanuatu on SPC attachment as per Pacific Leadership Scholarship Award		4,000	Working on Vanuatu's national biosecurity operations manual and biosecurity information database
	Provided NAPPO with fruit fly traps and surveillance equipment to facilitate national fruit fly surveillance		10,000	Fruit Fly Database updated for Vanuatu.

WALLIS AND FUTUNA

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Provided technical advice on biosecurity issues such as passenger clearance, awareness materials, treatment options, monitoring and surveillance of pest and disease for the upcoming Mini Pacific Games in September 2013	n	7,500	An official request from Wallis & Futuna to increase awareness on biosecurity
	Facilitated development of quarantine awareness campaign materials targeting athletes to the Pacific Minigames, including developing quarantine arrivals card	y	15,000	Educated travelling public on quarantine risk items
	Provided technical advisory support through the internet based LRD Helpdesk	y	On-line	Ongoing, timely advice provided to PICTs
	Supported one participant to the 2 nd Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji on 23-27 September 2013	y	2,960	Shared experiences and challenges in implementing forestry plans

	Conducted training on forest inventory for plantation and natural forests.	y	7,000	Enhanced knowledge and skill of forestry staff on forest inventory
	Conducted national training on nursery operations and management and plant propagation techniques	y	5,100	Enhanced knowledge and skills of forestry staff

TIMOR LESTE

No.	2013 Activities	JCS (y/n)	Cost FJD	Results
	Conducted due diligence assessment of four enterprises for IACT support in 2014-2015	n	5,000	Three enterprises (Liman TL, People's Trade Company, Maubere MCC) approved by TAG for IACT support in 2014-2015

ANNEX 2

PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF 2010 HOAFS RECOMMENDATIONS

The key to the four areas of recommendations are as follows;

1. FN: Improved Food and Nutrition Security
2. SLFPS: Strengthening Local Food Production System
3. LAFM&D: Integrated and Sustainable Land, Agriculture and Forestry Management and Development
4. MTI: Maximising Income from Agriculture and Forestry Products and their Trade.

NO.	RECOMMENDATION	PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION
FN 1	Endorse the scheme for SPC to provide services on an agency basis to PICTs that are Parties to ITPGRFA in the implementation of the multilateral system.	Scheme has been endorsed and SPC LRD provide services to Parties to the ITPGRFA.
SLFPS 1	Revise national legislation to have a common platform for pesticide management across the region.	TCP was developed and submitted for FAO funding in September 2011
SLFPS 2	Develop a harmonised system for registration at SPC in consultation with national regulators and with technical support from FAO.	TCP was developed and submitted for FAO funding in September 2011
SLFPS 3	LRD to request FAO for resources through its Technical Cooperation Programme (FAO TCP) to support Integrated Pest Management and low input agriculture, based on a review of existing initiatives, and to develop communication tools to assist farmers in pesticide management and safe use of chemicals.	TCP was developed and submitted for FAO funding in September 2011. TCP on Capacity Building to Reduce Use of Hazardous Pesticides in Agriculture Production is ongoing to end of 2014. The MEA 2 discussion with FAO is ongoing and will likely to start later in 2014.
SLFPS 4	SPC LRD to seek funding to produce fact sheets and other relevant information in multiple formats on pests and diseases of crops for other PICTs, based on the work undertaken in Solomon Islands.	Fact sheets for Plant Health Clinic-Plant/Doctor concept for the Solomon Islands developed.
SLFPS 5	International Society of Horticultural Science, SPC and partner organisations to promote collaboration in the development of horticulture in the Pacific Islands and showcase Pacific horticulture at the International Horticultural congress in 2014.	ACIAR is sponsoring participation of SPC staff and national participants. PH projects with collaborating partners have more than 5 scientific papers to present at IHC.
SLFPS 6	SPC LRD to nominate focal points in each country to promote exchange of information for further development of horticultural research and development.	Sub-group focal points have been nominated.

LAFM&D 1	SPC LRD to institutionalise and implement the Pacific Organic Standard (POS) and POETCom through establishing a small POETCom secretariat within SPC to provide the administrative structure and support.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretariat established with 2 staff, Coordinator & extension officer 2. MOU signed with accredited certifying bodies to certify to the Pacific Organic Standard 3. Regional accreditation system for organic participatory guarantee system established <p>Regional organic certification mark "Organic Pasifika" established.</p>
LAFM&D 2	SPC LRD to provide support to organic initiatives at the national level.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. POETCom has provided support to national level organic industry governance developments. 2. Train the trainers workshops for organic production conducted sub regionally in Melanesia and Polynesia 3. Support provided to Fiji and Kiribati for establishing Participatory Guarantee Systems 4. Support provided to Vanuatu for coordinated 3rd party certification 5. Technical Advice provided to several members on certification requirements
LAFM&D 3	SPC LRD to conduct regional activities to celebrate the International Year of Forests (IYF) in 2011.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LRD organised the Regional Technical Meeting on Forestry as the highlight of the regional celebration of IYF 2011 2. LRD published the book Forests of the Pacific Islands: Foundation for a Sustainable Future to commemorate the IYF 2011. Awards and essay and poster competitions were also held. The book was launched and awards and prizes were presented during the Regional Technical Meeting on Forestry.
LAFM&D 4	SPC LRD to organise complementary national activities in support of regional activities	LRD supported Fiji in IYF national celebration launching

LAFM&D 5	SPC LRD to conduct ICT initiatives in agriculture and rural development.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LRD continues to improve agriculture and forestry knowledge management and ICT initiatives and strategies in the Pacific. 2. LRD is currently working closely with FAO, CTA, UNCTAD and ITC on a number of ICT and IKM initiatives highlighted in the LRD objectives and achievements such as web 2.0 for agriculture, GIS mapping (agriculture and forestry), IKM-ICM strategies, IKM workshops, Youth/agriculture and ICT competitions and market information systems. 3. Work is in progress to seek funding and donor partnership on other e-agriculture activities highlighted in the e-agriculture proposal (currently changing the status of the proposal to complement the Joint Country Strategies and priorities).
LAFM&D 6	SPC LRD to be the representative of the nations within the Oceania node of the Global Soil Mapping initiative.	Oceania node of the Global Soil Mapping Initiative was launched in Bogor, Indonesia in February, 2011. Currently awaiting the MOU to begin the implementation.
LAFM&D 7	SPC LRD to note the decision of the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders to prioritise land management and conflict minimisation in the Pacific Plan.	Work is in progress on the project proposal to source funding from donors to begin the implementation.
LAFM&D 8	SPC LRD to endorse the joint development by SPC, PIFS and USP – with the support of national, regional and international partners – of a regional initiative on land management and conflict minimisation for economic and social development to be implemented by SPC specifically by its Land Management and Resources Policy Support Team.	Work is in progress on the project proposal to source funding from donors to begin the implementation.
LAFM&D 9	SPC LRD to endorse the proposed SPC/ GIZ programme Climate Protection through Forest Conservation in the Pacific Island Countries and its elements funded by the German government.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project proposal approved, funded through the German International Climate Initiative under BMU (Ministry of Environment). 2. National planning meetings/workshops were held in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu 3. National implementation starting 4. Regional Policy Framework for REDD+ being finalised.
LAFM&D 10	SPC LRD to endorse the Pacific Youth in Agriculture Strategy and request that SPC seek and mobilise resource for implementation at the regional level and support activities at the national level.	A few national consultations leading up to a regional stakeholders meeting carried out.

LAFM&D 11	SPC LRD to commit to taking the Pacific Youth in Agriculture Strategy and suggested action plan to the national level and adapting to your particular circumstances.	Seeking partners and donors
MTI 1	LRD works closely with the Pacific Islands Trade & Investment Commission (PITIC), the Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO) and non-governmental organisations in providing capacity building in marketing techniques, including appropriate branding and the use of ICT in promoting products.	Ongoing assistance from LRD. PIPSO and PITIC are part of the IACT TAG committees and PIPSO and IACT collaborated closely on the Nadi Trade Pacific 2012 and London CARIFORUM Trade Forum.
MTI 2	LRD builds capacity in identifying suitable products for processing and value-adding, including the development of organic, fair trade and eco-certification systems.	Ongoing assistance from LRD. Virgin Coconut oil, Crystallised ginger,, Pandanus Juice, Natural essence, Coffee and sugar, Banana and Cassava chips, cassava flour
MTI 3	LRD strengthens information exchange, including promotion of success stories, between the public and private sector and other stakeholders.	Pacific agricultural development news stories published in news releases, on-line services, and in the LRD Newsletter, and IACT Newsletter.
MTI 4	LRD and its partners is developing a regional market information system to support trade.	Ongoing assistance from LRD
MTI 5	LRD liaises with the Pacific Shipping Association through PIPSO and the SPC Transport Programme in identifying transport links to enhance intra-regional trade.	Ongoing assistance from SPC for Fiji/ Rotuma–Tuvalu, Kiribati–Solomon Is
MTI 6	LRD provides capacity building and awareness raising for producers and associations to meet quality and marketing requirements for export trade.	Ongoing assistance from LRD to POETCom, Fair Trade and HACCP

ANNEX 3

LRD – PUBLICATIONS BY THEMATIC TEAMS

Forests and Trees team	Poster: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specifications for Preservative Treated Timber in Fiji Proceedings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandalwood Resource Development, Research and Trade in the Pacific and Asian Region. Proceedings of the Regional Workshop held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, 22-25 November 2010.
Forest and Agriculture Diversification team	Extension Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IACT flyers and pull up banners for the enterprises• Awareness materials on enterprises to increase visibility• Pull up banners & fliers for IFAD Participatory Guarantee System project• Banner for Cicia Organic Publications <ul style="list-style-type: none">• POETCom 2012 Annual report• POETCom Strategic Plan – 2013 – 2017• Fact Sheet – Organics & Climate Change• Cultivating Community /Culture Bio – e newsletter• Report of the First POETCom Technical Exchange Manuals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandalwood• Fair trade certification of sugarcane in Vanua Levu, Fiji• Organic Agriculture in the Pacific Training Manual DVDs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organic Cicia- a project to grow our islands future• Abaiang Atoll – Building on Organic Traditions Press releases <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Young farmer, young scientist, young entrepreneur, a bright future for Pacific organics• POETCom: reflecting back and looking forward• Pacific youths for organic agriculture• POETCom Technical Exchange takes first steps in regional organic trade

Forest and Agriculture Diversification team	<p>Press releases (Cont..)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Caledonia's Chamber of Agriculture hosts first POETCom Technical Exchange • SPC supports organic certification training for Pacific farmers • Training provides platform for capacity building on organic certification systems • Cicia Island Declared Organic • European Union support Enables POETCom to build partnerships with organic certification bodies • Organic Pawpaw for export is the goal for young Sabeto farmers • POETcom represents Pacific Civil Society at global food security discussions
Plant Health team	<p>Serials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest Advisory on Slippery Cabbage Flea Beetle • Pest Alert on Papaya Mealybug in Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and Marshall Islands <p>Leaflets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 plant pest fact sheets (http://adderii.cbit.uq.edu.au/project_files/) • Pesticide Awareness poster <p>Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cook Islands Oriental Fruit Fly Report • 14th PPPO ExCo Meeting Report
Crop Production and Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Based Vulnerability Analysis –LRD Tools (draft) • PRA Report Sabeto Catchment • PRA report Tonga • PRA report Solomon Islands • PRA reports Vanuatu • PRA report Samoa • PARDI Annual Report 2012 and 2013 • Soil Health Annual Report 2012 and 2013 • Republic of Kiribati Agriculture and Livestock Strategy 2013 – 2016. • Vegetable production, postharvest handling and marketing in Fiji (AVRDC/ SPC co-publication)

**Information,
Communication
and Extension
team**

Serials:

- LRD newsletter
- LRD 2013 Calendar
- Invasive Species Northern Pacific Calendar 2013
- LRD 2012 Annual Report
- LRD Strategic Plan 2013 - 2017
- PHAMA Newsletters (Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Solomon Islands)
- PHAMA awareness posters and banners

Press Releases

- 3rd and 4th Project Advisory Group meetings (ACIAR/ICM)
- Promoting alternative to pesticides
- PHAMA 2 launch
- PRA tools to assess climate change
- Building resilience to climate change
- Train of Trainers workshop
- Launch of vegetable seedling manual
- Heads of quarantine meeting

Leaflets:

- FSM Agrobiodiversity brochure
- Animal Health leaflets

Posters:

- Fruit Trees of Tonga
- Quarantine Awareness – Pacific Mini Games

LRD websites:

- Update LRD websites as information portal
- PARDI website

LRD Helpdesk

- Over 300 queries logged and responded

Land Management and Resources Policy team	<p>Poster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster on Sustainable Land Management <p>Manual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiji Land Use Capability Classification Guideline • Utilising and Managing the Soil Resources of Fiji: a reference manual <p>Newspaper and LRD website articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 land use planning articles (English and Fijian translation) • Land Use capability workshop in Fiji
Genetic Resources team	<p>Poster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity and nutrition posters on (a) banana (b) swamp taro and (c) breadfruit in collaboration with the Island Food Community of Pohnpei • Climate ready collection • Fruit Tree Project (Tonga) • Promoting Pacific Nutrient Rich Diversity • Building Resilience Of Pacific Agriculture & Food Security • Pacific Reaching Out & Supports Global Food Security • Pacific Makes Global Impact And Promoting Its Unique Crop Diversity For Food And Nutritional Security • Promoting Pacific Unique Banana Diversity • Promoting Under-Utilised Crops- Giant Swamp Taro • Banana conservation and utilisation in the Pacific <p>Documentaries (DVD):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) <p>Media releases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease-resistant banana varieties for food security in the Pacific region • Countries encouraged to ratify two international instruments at SPC meeting • SPC regional taro breeding programme generates new hybrids • No country is self sufficient in plant genetic resources • Samoan agricultural staff trained at SPC • SPC cryo-expert attended plant symposium on cryopreservation • Indigenous vegetable promoted at SPC meeting • Training on DNA fingerprinting done at SPC • Pacific countries urged to ratify the international treaty • SPC supports international genetic resources treaty meeting • Pacific promotes its unique diversity at the international treaty • Sweet potato virus diagnostic training held at SPC • NZAID funding speeds up production and distribution of climate ready crops

- SPC makes worldwide impact through the EU INEA project
- Tissue culture screening method identified salt tolerant swamp taro varieties
- Pacific's indigenous vegetable revived
- Bioreactor system improves production of breadfruit seedlings
- SPC-INEA partnership and a surprise find, a yellow-fleshed xanthosoma variety
- Polymotu conserves special coconut varieties in the Pacific
- Salt tolerant taro varieties identified in Palau
- Pacific Taro set to take on the world
- Vegetable seedling manual to assist farmers in post disaster rehabilitation

Animal Health and Production team

Meeting Reports

- CVA Oceania Regional Conference report
- Launching and orientation for pilot paravet training in meat hygiene and food safety in Vanuatu
- One health regional workshop report
- Regional LEGS meeting report
- Regional GF-TADS workshop report
- Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Participatory Rural Appraisal Report (USAID project report) April 2013
- Kiribati Livestock Production Concept to support Climate Change Adaptation and Food Security 2013 -2015

Technical Publications

- Livestock disease survey planning for PICTs- a training manual
- Paravet training promotional video released
- Animal disease surveillance promotional video release
- Five Year Strategic Plan for Mainstreaming Climate Change in the Livestock Sector in the Pacific 2012 – 2016.
- Final report for the Activity "Establishing a food animal biosecurity network".
- Domestic animal disease within the Pacific Islands region; A bibliography

Extension materials (leaflets/posters/banners)

- Climate Change Adaptation for Smallholder Bee Farming in the Pacific
- Climate Change Adaptation for smallholder Pig farming in the Pacific
- Climate Change Adaptation for Smallholder Cattle farming in the Pacific
- Climate Change Adaptation for Smallholder Chicken farming in the Pacific
- Climate Change and Livestock in the Pacific Island countries and territories
- Climate Change Adaptation for Smallholder Goat and Sheep farming in the Pacific

	<p>Media releases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launching and orientation for pilot paravet training in meat hygiene and food safety training in Fiji • Launching and orientation for pilot paravet training in meat hygiene and food safety in Vanuatu • Launching and orientation for Introductory paravet training in Fiji • Regional GF-TADS workshop, Nadi • Regional LEGS meeting, Nadi • CVA Oceania Regional Conference, Nadi
<p>Biosecurity and Trade</p>	<p>Posters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giant African Snail (FSM), • Regional quarantine awareness campaign – Pacific Games in New Caledonia; Festival of Pacific Arts in Solomon Islands. • Quarantine posters (Samoa) • Quarantine posters (PNG) • Quarantine posters (Kiribati) <p>Report(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPPC Workshop Report on draft standards <p>Documentaries (DVD):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IACT Biosecurity in collaboration with LRD BATS and the Regional Media Centre (RMC) made documentary of the Importance of Biosecurity Facilitation during the 11th Pacific Festival of Arts in Solomon Islands on passenger, cargo clearances, inspection and monitoring and surveillance of fruit flies and its importance to trade.

ANNEX 4

LRD MAIN SECTORAL MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS, 2013

SPC-ACIAR Integrated Crop Management Project Advisory Group annual meeting, Vaine Research Station, Tonga, 13-15 March, 2013.

Critical in the production of high value cash crops, is the use of bio-pesticides and mucuna bean ground cover. The ACIAR-ICM project will link to private pesticide resellers for the import of bio-pesticides, in particular the naturally occurring fungus *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*Bt*) insecticide but also include plant derived pesticides such as neem and derris. *Bt* trials are to be carried out in the project countries. Pesticide resellers will be assisted with facilitation of the import permit of the Bt bio-pesticide, as this formulation is currently not available as a commercial product in the countries.

The four project countries are Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga, countries that are seen as relatively high users of pesticides on high value crops. The ICM project is funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and adopts a multifaceted approach inclusive of plant health clinics (pest and diseases diagnostics), academic research (insecticide resistance), and applied research (crop varietal evaluation and production). The ICM project is linked to another ACIAR project examining the participatory guarantee scheme (commodity-market supply chain) to strengthen the vegetable value-chain. Completion of these objectives at the end of project life will see successful development of technologies to transfer to farmers on sustainable intensification of high value crop production.

Bele Meeting, CePaCT, Suva, Fiji. 12-15 May 2013.

A three day regional meeting on bele focused discussion on current progress and achievement on the project, **How an indigenous vegetable can contribute to sustainable development**. The meeting this week at Narere was organised by SPC's Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) with participants attending from project countries New Caledonia, PNG, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu. SPC professional working partners in attendance include the World Vegetable Centre, Rome-based Treaty Secretariat and Biosecurity Authority of Fiji, as well as SPC staff. Work in the pipeline for bele include extension awareness to promote unique diversity in the region, identify varieties in each country that show resilience to climate variability and pests and diseases, documentation of bele diversity in countries, SPC developing protocols for conserving bele using tissue culture methods, virus indexing and DNA finger printing; economic analysis on production methods for bele, biosecurity and export requirements for market opportunities for bele and finalising lists of selected core varieties to be conserved at SPC. The meeting acknowledged the French Pacific Funds as main donor fund for the bele project, World Vegetable Centre – the AVRDC and the AusAID for the technical expertise and funding; the FAO Treaty Secretariat for the legal support.

Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community Technical Exchange, Noumea, New Caledonia, 1 – 5 July 2013

The Technical Exchange was an information sharing forum aimed at building capacity in the organic and ethical trade movement among the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) members. The forum brought together POETCom members from the different services along the organic and ethical trade value chain, from smallholders to exporters, certifiers and ministries of agriculture as well as development partners.

The meeting was supported by the European Union Increasing Agricultural Commodities Trade Project, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Government of New Caledonia and the French Pacific Fund. The event provided the opportunity to exchange ideas, expertise and developments as well as to share experiences from around the region relating to organic and ethical trade. The substance of the meeting drew on POETCom members' own expertise and activities over the last 12 months. Topics of presentations included: the role of animals in market gardening in Cook Islands, locally available organic soil amendments, organic taro management in Fiji, the Solomon Islands organic internship programme, organic tick treatments for cattle in New Caledonia, a French Polynesia TV series promoting organic local vegetables, organic pest management trials in Vanuatu, nursery and seed development, a farmer–chef linkages project in Palau, and an overview of participatory guarantee systems development.

Meeting of regional plant health officers to promote alternatives to pesticides, Vaini Research Station, 16 – 20 September, 2013.

Promoting alternatives to pesticides in the production of high value crops is the main aim of a regional project implemented by SPC in collaboration with FAO. Country scientists and stakeholders met to review national activities and finalise work plans for the next year. The project is implemented by SPC Land Resources Division. Pacific farmers planting high value crops such as cabbages and tomatoes use large amounts of synthetic chemicals fertilisers and pesticides to increase production and yields. This practice over the years has led to degraded soils with nutrient loss and low organic matter. The project countries are Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga. Tonga Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries CEO, Ms Losaline Ma'asi opened the meeting emphasizing their Ministry's support to finding alternatives to chemicals in farming for human and environmental safety. Dr Viliami Fakava, FAO Plant Production and Protection Officer based in Samoa, delivered the keynote address.

Pacific Regional Forestry Technical Meeting, 23-27 September 2013, Nadi, Fiji

The regional forestry technical meeting, which was organized in collaboration with GIZ, through the SPC/GIZ Project on "*Climate Protection through Forest Conservation in PICs*" and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organizations (FAO), provided an opportunity for PICTs representatives to hear firsthand information on the latest development in international forestry processes and progress made on the work currently done on REDD+. The meeting held technical sessions on FGR (forest genetic resources conservation and management), forest health, forests and food security, forest trade and certification and new initiatives. A one day workshop was also held prior to the meeting to discuss on the status of the implementation of the regional strategy and action plan on the conservation, management and sustainable utilization of forest genetic resources in the region.

Building Capacity of Youth in Organic Agriculture – Train the Trainers Workshop, Nukualofa, Tonga 11-15 March 2013

A programme to build capacity of youth in organic agriculture is the outcome of a partnership between the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom), Land Resources Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Development Programme, OXFAM New Zealand and the Tonga National Youth Congress. The train the trainers workshop was a pilot programme in the Polynesia sub region. The 30 participants, 2/3rds of whom were under 35, were from NGOs and organizations from across Polynesia including Niue Island Organic Farmers Association, Titikaveka Producers Association, Cook Islands; Women in Business Development, Samoa; The Department of Agriculture American Samoa; the Tonga National Youth Congress and Tonga Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Extension and Women's Division. These organizations provide extension support and advisory services to the growing number of organic farmers in the Pacific region and to youth or schools farming programmes.

Building Capacity of Youth in Organic Agriculture – Train the Trainers Workshop, Port Vila Vanuatu, 17 – 21 June 2013

The workshop was the second in a series of train-the-trainers workshops to build the capacity of youth working in organic agriculture. The workshop is the outcome of a partnership between the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom), the Land Resources Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Development Programme, and the Farm Support Association (FSA) of Vanuatu. The overall objective was to enhance livelihood opportunities for youth in organic agriculture by conducting training in sustainable organic production methods for trainers and agricultural extension providers, who provide ongoing mentoring and support to young farmers and link youth agricultural enterprises to existing organic certification and market chains. The workshop covered the principles of organics, soil and plant health, and animal husbandry. It also examines the similarities and differences between traditional practices and organic farming. Another theme for discussion is the role of organic guarantee systems and organic certification in building consumer trust and in developing markets for organic products, both locally and internationally.

Organic Participatory Guarantee System Facilitators Training, Nadi Fiji, 03-07 June 2013

This workshop marked the first activity of a project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and implemented by the Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). A group of organic practitioners from Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Palau and Vanuatu were trained to facilitate the development of organic participatory guarantee systems (PGS) to provide a credible organic guarantee to consumers seeking organic produce. This will be done through the direct participation of farmers and consumers in the organic guarantee process, and is based on recognised standards for organic production. The aim of this project is to enhance the access of Pacific smallholders to high value markets by obtaining appropriate and recognised organic certification and support. During the training, participants completed action plans for implementing PGS in their home countries that will be supported through the IFAD project and POETCom activities. The training enabled participants to work through the theory and practice of PGS, which included field work and mapping of farms, as well as peer inspections of organic papaya farmers in Sabeto, Fiji. The peer inspections are at the heart of PGS and involve growers undertaking the organic inspection of other growers' farms, much as scientists peer review each others' work to ensure standards are high and that any issues of concern are not overlooked.

SPC-ACIAR Project Meeting on development of advanced veneer and other product from coconut wood to enhance livelihoods in South Pacific communities, 12 – 13 August, 2013, Suva, Fiji

The first annual project meeting was held at the Forests and Trees Meeting Room in Narere, Suva. The main objectives of this meeting were to review the past year's progress, discuss the overview of the upcoming year's activities and to develop the action plans for the lathe equipment suite and works that will be required at the Department of Forestry, Timber Utilization Division in Nasinu. The meeting was attended by the Project Management Team from University of Tasmania, Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Research Programme from ACIAR, country representatives from Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands and key staff of SPC. The project aims to develop the technologies, processes and expertise to produce high quality veneer and complimentary soil conditioning products from senile coconut stems and thereby enhance livelihoods in South Pacific communities.

Pacific Plant Protection Organisation hosts IPPC workshop on draft standards, 9-11 September, Nadi, Fiji

The aim of the IPPC workshop was to allow quarantine technical officers to review draft ISPMs and make draft comments to submit to the IPPC; the workshop also considered phytosanitary measures relating to trade. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) coordinate the international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPM) and work to protect cultivated plant resources from pests to help improve trade. Representatives are technical quarantine officers learning the IPPC Standard Setting Process from the development of topics for IPPC standards to drafting standards and providing comments using the on-line system. Officers went through the practical exercise of reviewing several standards with comments taken on board, such as movement of sea containers.

Regional youth training in use of Web 2.0 tools, 16 – 20 September, 2013, Nadi, Fiji.

Twenty-three participants from 11 Pacific countries (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) learnt about using Web 2.0 media tools to create and share content for information exchange. Representatives came from government departments and also from international agencies such as SPC (Secretariat of the Pacific Community), GIZ (German Agency for International Cooperation) and IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development). Non-governmental organisations participating included the Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND), Women in Development, Oxfam International and World Vision. Web 2.0 tools such as blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Google, LinkedIn and other social media networks provide an interactive platform for developing, uploading and sharing information online rather than simply viewing content. SPC's Land Resources Division, in partnership with the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation EU-ACP (CTA), hosted the Web 2.0 training, preceding the launch of the Youth in Agriculture Blog Competition (YoBloCo Awards) organised by the CTA-ARDYIS project. SPC is a key partner in the project.

Pacific Side Event to the 25th Session of The Asia –Pacific Forestry Commission, 04th November 2013, Rotorua, New Zealand.

The 22 Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) with the support of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and partners, GIZ and FAO, organized this side event to the 25th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission held on the 4th of November in Rotorua, New Zealand, to showcase forestry's current contribution to the well-being of Pacific communities and the potential for forestry to further enhance its contribution in the face of climate change and other changes. The side event presented experiences on how forest management in some Pacific Island Countries has been improved in recent years to contribute to prosperity. The theme of the event was **"Sustainable Forest Management for the Prosperity of the Pacific Island Countries"**. The event comprised of a keynote presentation on the theme, a number of country perspectives followed by a panel discussion focusing on the question, **"Sustainable forest management in the Pacific – a dream or a reality?"**

Heads of Quarantine Meeting, 20 – 21 November, 2013, Novotel, Nadi.

The meeting of Heads of Quarantine was hosted by the Australian Government funded-Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA) Program in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Land Resources Division. The aim of the meeting is to discuss improving intra-regional trade and harmonising quarantine standards. PHAMA is a A\$15 million Australian aid program initiative aimed at contributing to economic growth in target Pacific Island Countries through increasing their high value horticulture and agriculture exports. Member countries include Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. PHAMA work in partnership with SPC to help Pacific Island Countries develop exports of primary sector products, including agricultural, horticultural, forest and fish products. The focus is to provide practical, product-by-product assistance to help level up the playing field concerning the regulatory aspects associated with exporting primary sector products. This work is highly technical in nature, and is an area that PICs lack capacity. PHAMA Phase 2 was launched also in 2013 upon successful completion of Phase 1. The second phase will continue to develop the necessary systems and skills for exporting countries to reliably meet the conditions imposed by importing country regulatory authorities once access has been gained.

Project Progress Meeting "Strengthening Capacities in Tree Seed Technologies in Pacific Island Countries", (AusAID Public Sector Linkages Project-CSIRO), Narere, Suva, Fiji Islands, 21-22 November 2013

The Project is being implemented in partnership with CSIRO. The focus is on strengthening both the Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre and the national staff responsible for tree germplasm in their respective countries. The aim is to assist PITSC to: (1) establish a well documented collection of high quality seed of PIC's woody species of high regional importance; (2) facilitate the safe and effective exchange of this tree germplasm within the region; (3) provide information on these species from current knowledge and research. undertaken on collection, storage, germination and planting; and (4) assist the individual Pacific Island Countries to implement appropriate seed collection, handling and storage techniques. Participating partners are the six focus Pacific Countries of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. The meeting reviewed the progress in the project to date and highlighted activities that are still to be done; discussed progress in implementing the activities documented for PITSC in the Strategy and Action Plan prepared at the Project Inception Meeting in Nadi in 2011; and discussed future prospects for the Centre and how ATSC might be able to assist. The meeting was attended by the Team Leader and consultants from CSIRO, staff from Forests and Trees and CePaCT Teams, representative from Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) and staff from the Forestry Department of Fiji.

Improvement of Key Services to Agriculture (IKSA) project stakeholder workshop, Lautoka, Fiji Islands, 05th December 2013

The IKSA project stakeholder workshop was held on December 5th at the Lautoka Waterfront Hotel. The main objective of the workshop objective was to inform the various project partners and stakeholder about the IKSA project, its goals and outputs, and to obtain feedback from participants on the project work plan. The workshop also aimed at developing further and strengthening cooperation and partnership linkages. Project partners and stakeholders that attended the workshop includes the Ministry of Agriculture, Fiji Sugar Cooperation (FSC), Sugar Research Institute of Fiji (SRIF), Sugar Cane Growers Council, Fiji Crop and Livestock Council, International Trade Centre (ITC), International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), Taiwan Technical Mission, Fiji Biosecurity Authority, EU Project Management Unit, farmers representatives and staff of SPC

FAO Treaty Meeting: No country is self sufficient in plant genetic resources, Tuesday 10 December 2013, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) Suva –

A special meeting was recently convened at SPC's Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees in Suva, Fiji on the **International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**. The meeting was specifically held for countries that have not acceded to the treaty but expressed to SPC their willingness to ratify. Mr Samu Turagacati, SPC Increasing Agricultural Commodity Trade project (IACT) Team Leader on behalf of the Director for Land Resources Division, opened the meeting with some food for thought. He said, 'Countries sometimes wonder whether or not they need the treaty and what benefits it brings us. Food is abundant and we are just fine.' He went on to explain exactly why we need the treaty. 'The main theme of this meeting is: **No country is self-sufficient in plant genetic resources**. This is not a myth but a reality in the world today, and it is based on real evidence. 'To prove that this is a reality in the Pacific, let us be reminded once again about the taro leaf blight (TLB) that devastated Samoa's taro resources and export industry in 1993. He further commented, 'In fact, the taro leaf blight was a wake-up call for the Pacific region to make us realise that we need greater genetic diversity. Our region is facing challenges brought about by climate change, and there are new, emerging diseases, such as the Bogia phytoplasma disease of coconuts in Papua New Guinea. This is another area of urgently-needed research. We need to access new, resilient diversity from outside for breeding programmes as a long-term solution – the coconut is the tree of life in the Pacific. 'Our leaders in the Pacific endorsed a recommendation in 2012 to support the need for Pacific Island countries and territories that have not yet ratified the treaty to do so. This will enable us to access more diverse, resilient germplasm that is available in the treaty's multilateral system. 'In our region, six countries have acceded to the treaty – Cooks Islands, Kiribati, Fiji, Samoa, Palau and Australia. France has also ratified, and its territories have indicated support for sharing their germplasm with contracting parties. At the recent Fifth Session of the Governing Body meeting in Muscat, Oman, the Treaty Secretariat reported that 131 countries are contracting parties. USA has reported on progress towards ratification for the next session of the governing body. Mr Turagacati thanked the representatives of non-contracting parties (Niue, Tonga, Tuvalu, PNG, Vanuatu and Marshall Islands) for attending this meeting so they could learn more about the treaty and for their commitment to join treaty membership. The EU, through the SPC IACT, was acknowledged for its funding contribution to support this meeting, which is linking to some expected outputs of the IACT programme, including better access to markets for plant-based food products. SPC also acknowledged the Treaty Secretariat for providing support to the meeting and the ABS Capacity Development Initiative for sharing its experiences on the Nagoya Protocol on Access Benefit Sharing.

How an indigenous vegetable can contribute to sustainable development *Abelmoschus manihot* (bele) Project; 2nd -4th , Dec 2013. CePaCT, Narere, Suva

A three day regional meeting on bele discussed current progress and achievement on the project, **How an indigenous vegetable can contribute to sustainable development**. The meeting held at Narere was organised by SPC's Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) with participants attending from project countries New Caledonia, PNG, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu. SPC professional working partners in attendance include the World Vegetable Centre, Rome-based Treaty Secretariat and Biosecurity Authority of Fiji, as well as SPC staff.

The regional gathering was officially opened by Acting Director for Land Resources Division, Mr Sairusi Bulai who said many Pacific countries do not realise that bele is one of the most nutritious indigenous vegetables in the Pacific, preferring to use more non-indigenous vegetables. Bele is high in nutritional

value scores in protein, vitamins and minerals, as well this indigenous green can play an important role in improving micronutrient deficiencies in diets of Pacific island people who suffer from some of the highest rates of diet related non-communicable diseases in the world.

A regional core collection to be established at CePaCT will be the major achievement by the countries, partners and SPC involved in the project.

The meeting acknowledged the French Pacific Funds as main donor fund for the bele project, World Vegetable Centre – the AVRDC and the AusAID for the technical expertise and funding; the FAO Treaty Secretariat for the legal support.

International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Meeting, 5th – 6th December, 2013, CePaCT M, Narere, Suva, Fiji.

The regional meeting was organized by SPC on the **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** held at CePaCT was convened specifically to encourage parties that have not yet acceded to the treaty, but have indicated willingness to become parties to it. The treaty establishes a multilateral system (MLS) for facilitated access to food and feed crops using the standard material transfer agreement (SMTA), which provides for utilization rights and benefit sharing requirements.

The MLS comprises a pool of plant genetic resources, listed in its Annex 1, on which all countries inter-depend to sustain food security in the world. Benefits derived from the use of germplasm flow into a multilateral fund. This fund is prioritized for and utilized by developing countries to further conserve and develop diverse genetic resources. SPC is the regional focal point for the International Treaty through the Ministries of Agriculture while the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) based in Samoa is the regional focal point for the Nagoya Protocol through the Ministries of Environment.

The multi-donor Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Capacity Development Initiative also participated in the meeting, sharing its experiences on supporting the national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-Sharing (a protocol to the **Convention on Biological Diversity**). The presentation highlighted the need for coordination between agricultural focal points and ABS national focal points when implementing the two instruments – the International Treaty and the Nagoya Protocol – at national level. The SPC Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees, conserves and distributes genetic material on behalf of the region and the provider countries, under both the SMTA and bilateral agreements.

Non-contracting parties attending the meeting include Niue, Tonga, Marshall Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Papua New Guinea