



Secretariat of the Pacific Community

TOKELAU PROGRAMME



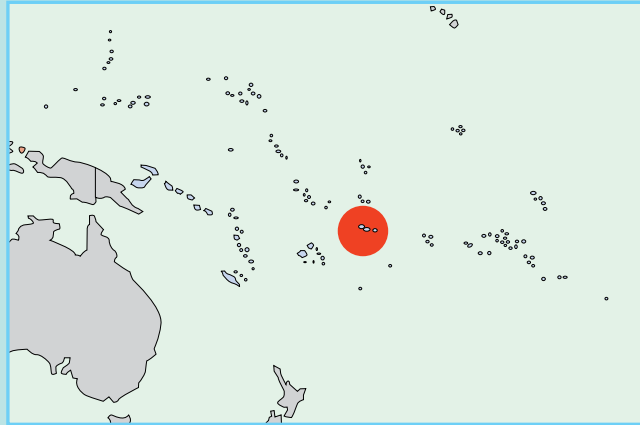
TOKELAU



2014 REPORT



Tokelau



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2014 Report



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Foreword



I am pleased to present SPC's annual report on its programme with Tokelau. The report provides a snapshot of the development results Tokelau is achieving with SPC's support. It includes two feature articles illustrating the effectiveness of our joint effort and how the collaboration between Tokelau and SPC works in practice. A more comprehensive list of SPC's work, including training, is provided at the end of the report.

As this is the first report I have presented as Director-General, I would like to acknowledge the people and Government of Tokelau as Small Island State members of SPC and partners in development of the Pacific region. SPC is proud to work with Tokelau, and you have my commitment that SPC will strive for continuous improvement in the work we undertake with Tokelau to achieve your development objectives.

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

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

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

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

Dr Colin Tukuitonga
Director-General, SPC



SPC cooperation with Tokelau

This report provides an overview of SPC's work with Tokelau in 2014. It is intended to show how SPC's national-level activities, initiated by Tokelau, complement our regional work to benefit the people of Tokelau and the region. The report provides an overview of how SPC aligns its work with Tokelau to achieve the development priorities detailed in Tokelau's National Strategic Plan 1 July 2010–30 June 2015.

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

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

This year, we have summarised activities and results achieved in Tokelau under these three development themes so it is easier to understand the effectiveness of SPC's work as a whole. The work SPC supports builds on the specialist sector expertise for which SPC is most recognised. These sector areas include transport and energy, statistics, fisheries and aquaculture, mineral resources and geoscience (including geographic mapping and modelling), agriculture, forestry and land, health, water and sanitation, education, gender, youth and human rights.

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

Regionalism in practice

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

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

SPC's regional services to members include:

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



Examples of SPC work in Tokelau

➔ Enhancing capacity of Tokelau's inshore fisheries officers

Right: Underwater surveying of marine resources by inshore fisheries officer



Given the importance of fishery resources to communities, the national fisheries policy emphasises that inshore resources will be used primarily for subsistence purposes of food security and nutritional health, with the potential to explore the commercial viability of just a few target species. The fishery is managed through customary and traditional approaches, and there has been little monitoring of coastal resources and catches in the past.

Inshore fisheries resources of Tokelau have been used primarily for subsistence purposes, with only occasional exports. Fish consumption is estimated at around 200 kg per person per year and is amongst the highest in the region. Given the importance of fishery resources to communities, the national fisheries policy emphasises that inshore resources will be used primarily for subsistence purposes of food security and nutritional health, with the potential to explore the commercial viability of just a few target species. The fishery is managed through customary and traditional approaches, and there has been little monitoring of coastal resources and catches in the past. Anecdotal reports, however, indicate declines in catches and depletion of some species.

Tokelau's Department for Economic Development, Natural Resources and Environment (DEDNRE) recently employed three inshore fisheries officers to support the local governing councils (tapulega) of Atafu, Nukunonu and Fakaofu Islands in the sustainable management and monitoring of inshore fisheries.

In 2012, due to community concerns on the island of Nukunonu about the commercial exploitation of sea cucumbers and resource sustainability, DEDNRE requested technical assistance from SPC's Coastal Fisheries Programme to work with the inshore fisheries officers in assessing sea cucumber stocks at Nukunonu.

SPC trained the three fisheries officers in assessment methods and how to collect data on a range of important invertebrates such as giant clams, coconut crabs, sea cucumbers, sea urchins and crown-of-thorns starfish. These invertebrates were selected

SPC trained the three fisheries officers in assessment methods and how to collect data on a range of important invertebrates such as giant clams, coconut crabs, sea cucumbers, sea urchins and crown-of-thorns starfish.

as they are either key sources of food for the local communities, or are used as income sources, or serve as environmental indicators of changes in habitat. The two-week field training focused on developing resource monitoring capacity for the fisheries officers so that they can respond to a range of resource management questions and address the concerns of the Nukunonu community on the sustainable levels of commercial harvest and export of sea cucumber resources. The training covered species identification, recording, safety during field assessments and implementing a range of invertebrate survey methods. After the training, the local officers were able to successfully replicate the assessments on the islands of Atafu and Fakaofu without the assistance of SPC staff, demonstrating a sound understanding of the methods needed to continue this work on their own.

By early 2013, invertebrate assessments were completed for all three islands of Tokelau by the three Inshore fisheries officers, who then spent three weeks on attachment training at SPC's headquarters in Noumea. There they received hands-on training and practice in data processing, analysis, interpretation of results and reporting with a focus on resource management. With training, assistance and guidance from SPC over a total period of 13 months, these three Tokelau officers were able to complete field assessments, data processing and analysis, and produce a scientific report to the tapulega on the status of invertebrate resources in their respective islands.

This assistance addressed a need to build the capacity of local DEDNRE staff to conduct invertebrate resource assessments, analyse the information, and provide resource management advice to the local governing council. 'This is all to do with nurturing and ensuring the food security objective of the Tokelau Fisheries Policy 2011. Agencies such as DEDNRE, the New Zealand Ministry of Primary Industries and SPC have improved the capacity of our newly appointed inshore fisheries officers. It is now up to them to accomplish the tasks required of them, and this requires passion, commitment and dedication. If nothing is done we might be jeopardising the chances of future generations to enjoy the marine resources we enjoy now,' says Mikaele Perez, Director of DEDNRE.

Capacity building for local resource assessment is part of SPC and Tokelau's joint priority of supporting improved economic, cultural, environmental and spiritual sustainability. Funding support was provided by the Australia Climate Change Multi Country Support Program and covered the cost of the field training and assessment in Nukunonu and the attachment training for the three fisheries officers at SPC in Noumea.



→ Strengthening water security in Tokelau

Right: Matiti students at the WASH training on Nukunonu



Tokelau is dependent on rainwater as its sole source of potable water and most houses and buildings are fitted with a rainwater catchment and storage system. In general, the catchment system consists of guttering around the edge of the metal roof with one or two down-pipes that drain the gutters into one or more storage tanks. Most houses have an 'under-house' cement tank beneath part or all of the first floor of the house, acting as a foundation. If the area of the house is large enough, the under-house tank is divided into two or more tanks, to provide structural support for the house, and also to allow the emptying and cleaning of one of the tanks when the other is full (Nukunonu Drinking Water Risk Assessment I, Yates 2012).

In 2011, Tokelau experienced a drought that seriously affected its drinking water supplies. A state of emergency was declared, triggering a response effort nationally, as well as from partners in the region. As a longer-term support measure, SPC was able to secure Australian Aid International Climate Change Adaptation (ICCAI) funding for a project titled 'Strengthening the capacity of Tokelau to effectively manage freshwater resources for enhanced water security'. Activities currently performed under this project are focused on building the capacity of Tokelau water managers to: (i) assess current freshwater resources and the implications of climate change on these resources; (ii) monitor water quality; (iii) reduce the impact of humans on water quality by reducing water resource contamination (with improved sanitation); and (iv) enhance health and hygiene.

In August 2013, a team of four from SPC's Water and Sanitation Programme and Disaster Reduction Programme travelled to Tokelau to conduct field work with the Tokelau Affairs and Liaison Office (TALO), the Department for Economic Development, Natural Resources, and Environment (DEDNRE), and the governing councils, the Taupulega, of Atafu, Nukunonu and Fakaofu Islands.

The team carried out three separate activities on each atoll: water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) training in schools and communities, a geographical information system (GIS) survey of rainwater harvesting systems and community storage tanks, and the installation of rainfall gauges on each atoll with training and capacity building of key personnel from Tokelau Meteorology and DEDNRE.

Right: Tokelau meteorology officer taking the first rainfall reading from the newly installed rain gauge on Fakaofu



WASH advocacy and training in schools and communities were carried out on each atoll, as was the development of tailored resource materials, such as a WASH Training of Trainers Guide.

WASH advocacy and training in schools and communities were carried out on each atoll, as was the development of tailored resource materials, such as a *WASH Training of Trainers Guide*. This, together with a basic stationery pack to get started, was left with the Health and Environmental Officers to continue with raising awareness. The purpose of the training was to enable better understanding and managing of potential risks to their drinking water supply.

One of the WASH activities was a sanitation survey. This was done mainly through observation in order to provide some key recommendations to the Taupulega for their consideration in managing their waste.

Jewel Toloa, Project Support Officer from TALO stated, 'This is the first time the WASH Programme of SPC has been carried out in Tokelau and, from a project management side, we are pleased to see that the project team was able to work and spend time in all three atolls.'

The GIS survey mapped rainwater harvesting systems, community storage tanks and priority infrastructure. The survey will be a key decision support tool for future infrastructure investment in this sector. The dataset has been shared with the Tokelau office for continuous future updating and further analysis.

Finally, with the installation of two manual rain gauges and one automatic rain gauge, each atoll is able to monitor rainfall capacity in order to determine the adequacy of existing supplies to deal with increased climate extremes, such as periods of drought.

This work is part of SPC's support for Tokelau's national priorities of improved health and well-being of communities and improving standards of living through adequate, reliable and efficient infrastructure. It is funded by the Government of Australia.



Summary of SPC development cooperation

The feature articles in the previous section provide examples of how SPC is working with the Government and people of Tokelau to support achievement of their national development goals.

In addition to the work featured, SPC provided a wide range of support to Tokelau in 2014 aligned to Tokelau's National Strategic Plan 1 July 2010–30 June 2015. Technical cooperation and support were provided by many divisions and programmes across SPC on both multi-sector issues such as disaster risk reduction and climate change, and specific-sector issues in agriculture, forestry, coastal and oceanic fisheries, public health, water and sanitation, energy, transport, human rights and development statistics. Tokelauans took part in approximately 93 days of SPC training over the period July 2013 to June 2014 in these different areas. Details of the technical cooperation and training provided are listed in Annexes 1 and 2.

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

funding. SPC's direct financial inputs are only a small part of the picture. However, SPC recognises individual members are interested in the financial value of SPC's work as it relates to them. For Tokelau, in 2014, this is estimated at NZD 632,597 (474,448 CFP units). This amount includes both the direct costs of SPC's work with Tokelau (including technical staff time and travel) and an allocation of the costs of SPC's regional work and indirect costs of managing and operating SPC programmes.

As highlighted in the feature articles and in the following table of outputs, the collaboration between SPC and the Government of Tokelau has involved considerable activity. While significant progress has been made, SPC is committed to understanding better what has worked and what has not, in order to inform and improve the value of its work in Tokelau in 2015 and beyond. We want to understand whether measurable and sustainable development results are being generated by SPC's activities and, if not, try to work out why and adjust our approach accordingly.

Annex 1: SPC training provided in Tokelau: July 2013 – June 2014

Capacity building is an important aspect of SPC's overall technical assistance. It includes formal training programmes, targeted classroom training in response to members' needs, attachments and on-the-job training. The following table gives a detailed breakdown of the type of training.

	F	M	Total trained	Total person days
Nearshore fisheries business management	1	4	5	23
Implementing the inshore fisheries management plan		3	3	9
Oceanic fisheries basic observer course, all gear		1	1	31
Enhancing cultural life and making cultural policy count workshop		1	1	1
Regional training workshop on geological, technological, biological and environmental aspects of deep-sea minerals		2	2	10
Regional workshop on educational data and indicators in the Pacific		1	1	4
Strengthening water security of vulnerable island states		3	3	15
Total	1	15	16	93

Note:

- The above table covers training workshops, attachments and on-the-job training. It does not include meetings, conferences, seminars and consultations.
- Some individuals received training in more than one area. For this reason, the total number of individuals reached may be smaller.



Annex 2: Summary of key outputs of SPC cooperation with Tokelau in 2014

The table below summarises the key outputs of SPC cooperation with Tokelau in 2014. It shows how SPC's work contributes to national development objectives and provides a basis for further development of SPC's results-driven focus.



While SPC's performance in contributing to national development goals can be measured more realistically and appropriately only over the long term, SPC aims nevertheless to evaluate interim performance and test programme logic wherever possible. Gathering evidence from SPC programmes and international experience will be even more critical in coming years to enable SPC to evaluate whether its work has achieved the intended results and to improve its performance. SPC's key regional work is covered in its Annual Report.

SPC's expected contribution to national development goals			
Expected long-term result (impact)	Expected medium-term result (outcome)	Status	Planned outputs in 2014
Pacific communities are empowered and resilient			
Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems			
Improved management of coastal fisheries	Enhanced capacity of coastal communities to respond effectively to climate change and improved assessment of climate change impacts on marine environments	Completed	Training provided in surveying, data analysis, and development of management arrangements to improve sustainable management of sea cucumbers and other invertebrate resources
Pacific Island people reach their potential and lead long and healthy lives			
Water and Sanitation			
Increased access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	Natural resources developed and managed and governance strengthened	On track	Review of options for water quality monitoring completed and recommendations presented – Initial water quality scoping undertaken in 2013 and will be progressed further by end of 2014
		Completed	Tool kit on drinking water, safety planning and water, sanitation and hygiene developed in local language for dissemination and use – Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) training-of-trainers guide developed for Tokelau and used as resource material for trained participants; currently in final stages of translation

SPC's expected contribution to national development goals

Expected long-term result (impact)	Expected medium-term result (outcome)	Status	Planned outputs in 2014
Increased access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	Natural resources, systems, and processes monitored and assessed	Completed	Water resources monitoring and assessment for longer term water security strengthened – Two manual rain gauges and one automatic rain gauge installed across the three atolls, and local meteorological and environment staff have been trained in installation and use
	Vulnerability and risks managed	Completed	Project-related geographic information system (GIS) established and relevant staff trained and are familiar with the use of the systems for on-going use – GIS survey to map rainwater harvesting systems, community storage tanks and priority infrastructure completed and provided to relevant Tokelau officials; training to be conducted before end 2014
		On track	National water, sanitation, and climate outlook drafted – Work has started through consultations with the Tokelau Apia Liaison Office and relevant staff on outlook overview
Educational Quality			
Improved quality of education	Framework and database of Pacific qualifications and standards established	Ongoing	Technical support, information and communications technology training provided, data tables and guidelines available in-house and to PICTs
	Increased student achievement in literacy and numeracy	On Track	Improved assessment and monitoring of literacy, numeracy, and life skills in the Pacific at the regional level – Review of instruments by December 2014
		Completed	Body of research evidence to support educational quality activities developed and disseminated through research publications and international and regional forums – Two research papers developed, one for publication and one for presentation



SPC's expected contribution to national development goals

Expected long-term result (impact)	Expected medium-term result (outcome)	Status	Planned outputs in 2014
The Pacific region and its people benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth			
Educational Quality			
Improved quality of education	Framework and database of Pacific qualifications and standards established	Ongoing	Pacific Register of Qualifications database updated with (i) accredited qualifications (ii) registered institutions (iii) professional associations and members (iv) accrediting agencies (v) regional standards in education – Participated in consultation of Small Island States
Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems			
Improved management of oceanic fisheries	National tuna oceanic fisheries policy and decision-making are informed by the best science-based stock assessments and advice	Completed	Updated country website for all PICTs with detailed characterisation of bycatch from tuna longline fisheries
		Completed	Country-specific reports of longline fishing performance in the southern longline fishery produced
Improved management of oceanic fisheries	FFA and sub-regional oceanic fisheries management initiatives are supported by the best science-based stock assessments and advice	Completed	Technical support provided and presentations made to the meetings of the Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC), including support for bioeconomic modelling and analysis of management options
		Completed	Technical support provided and reports presented to the Sub-committee for South Pacific Tuna and Billfish (SC-SPTBF); technical advice provided and reports presented to Te Vaka Moana
Increased contribution of fisheries to food security and livelihoods	Improved capacity for subsistence, artisanal, sport and industrial fishing activities within the sustainable production level	On track	National technical assistance provided to develop small scale (artisanal) tuna fisheries
		On track	Training in fish handling provided to small and medium enterprises (SMEs), associations and artisanal fishers to meet sanitary requirements of importing countries; industrial attachment organised for one SME on sanitary requirements for exports expansion
Geoscience			
Sustainable management and development of ocean and island resources	Natural resources developed and managed and governance strengthened	Completed	4th Deep-sea Minerals (DSM) regional training workshop, 'The Environmental Perspectives of Deep-sea Minerals Activities' held in Nadi, Fiji between 9 and 13 December 2013 – Key outcomes of the meeting were the development of environmental impact assessment templates for the exploitation of manganese nodules, cobalt-rich crust, and seafloor-massive sulphides
Land Resources			
Increased contribution from agriculture and forestry sectors to inclusive broad-based economic growth	Increased capacity of PICTs to meet standards, guidelines, and conditions for exports and domestic trade	On track	Pest incursion response support provided and plans developed for all requesting countries
Statistics for Development			
Pacific national and regional statistics are accessible and are being utilised	PICTs are undertaking key statistical collections as scheduled	Completed	Technical assistance provided to design the next household income and expenditure survey (HIES) – HIES attachment workshop covering HIES time lines, budgets, methodologies, and questionnaires conducted

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

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