Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals

The following are examples of the contribution of SPC’s work to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

43,000 vegetable seedlings provided to Fiji farmers following Tropical Cyclone Winston (SDG 1 and 2)

Capacity to meet market quality and safety standards strengthened in Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, and Palau (SDG 8)

Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu have developed plans to improve the realisation of human rights, based on the implementation of international human rights treaties or human rights accountability mechanisms’ recommendations (Universal Periodic Review) (SDG 5 and 16)

About the Pacific Community

SPC is the largest scientific and technical international organisation in the Pacific, working at both regional and national levels to support members in achieving their development goals. This unique organisation brings together the leadership and guidance of member countries and territories, and the scientific and technical capabilities and deep understanding of Pacific contexts and cultures of its staff, to deliver responsive expertise and collaborative solutions to improve the lives of Pacific people.

In the current strategic period, SPC is committed to ensuring its work remains highly relevant to members’ development priorities, and is delivered efficiently and effectively, by focusing on 5 Organisational Objectives.

Contributing to SPC’s 5 Organisational Objectives

SPC continued to enhance its engagement with members to deepen its understanding of their priorities, values, cultures and contexts. It also provided a regional resource of specialist technical expertise to strengthen or supplement regional and national capacity, emphasising multi-disciplinary approaches. SPC worked to ensure the capabilities of its people, systems and processes were fit for purpose, including through improved planning, prioritisation, evaluation, learning and innovation.

Positioning of country focal officers in government ministries to increase government capacity in human rights.

27 SPC cross-divisional initiatives in the areas of statistics, aquaculture, post-recovery response, transport, climate change, forestry, biosecurity and environment, contributing to the well-being and empowerment of people in 18 PICTs.

2017 and beyond

In 2017 and into 2018, SPC plans to progress the rationalisation and programme prioritisation processes initiated in 2016, to further hone its areas of technical and scientific expertise. SPC will also continue to prioritise its work to ensure funding is linked to outcomes identified under SPC’s 5 Organisational Objectives.

Pacific Community Results Report 2016 Executive Digest

A brief overview

This Executive Digest describes the results achieved by the Pacific Community (SPC) in 2016 against the Pacific Community Strategic Plan 2016–2020. It outlines how SPC has contributed to its 9 Development Objectives supporting members’ development goals, and to its 5 Organisational Objectives to enhance and add value to its work. These Strategic and Organisational Objectives are described in the Pacific Community Results Report 2016: www.spc.int/resource-centre.

Contributing to SPC’s 9 Development Objectives

SPC’s results at the output, outcome and impact levels:

Scientific and technical outputs

Over 90 scientific and technical products delivered, including:
- methodologies, protocols, proposals and budgets
- data collection, data analysis exercises and other assessments
- expert advice, policy and legislation drafting
- peer reviewed publications and information dissemination
- convening, consulting and negotiating

Changes in knowledge

Nearly 25% of all results relate to demonstrated or expected changes in knowledge resulting from SPC’s training, mentoring and capacity strengthening.

Post-training assessment and follow-up provide valuable lessons for improving training design and implementation.

Changes in behaviour

More than 60 incidences of Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) endorsing and/or implementing new policies and new ways of working.

Changes in practice

More than 60 quantitative and qualitative descriptions of PICTs improving practices, with over 80% of these examples relating to small island developing states (SIDS).

Impact

SPC is improving its performance management system to enable identification and tracking of longer-term impacts from its assistance in PICTs.

SPC is an international development organisation established in 1947, owned and governed by its 26 country and territory members: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Nouvelle-Calédonie, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Polynésie française, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis et Futuna.
**Highlights – Results against Development Objectives**

**Improved multi-sectoral responses to non-communicable diseases and food security:** SPC worked to improve multi-sectoral responses to non-communicable diseases (NCDs). It also worked in the areas of agricultural genetic resources, coastal fisheries and aquaculture to address the negative impacts of climate change and overfishing on food security.

*Nauru* introduced a ban on a range of sugary foods and drinks, while *Solomon Islands* enforced the Tobacco Act.

**Advancing social development through the promotion of human rights, gender equality, cultural diversity (traditional knowledge and cultural practices) and opportunities for young people:** SPC promoted resilience and empowerment in human rights, gender equality, cultural diversity (traditional knowledge and cultural practices) and opportunities for young people: SPC promoted resilience and empowerment in human rights issues related to access to justice, health, education, housing, and freedom from violence, while paying particular attention to the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities.

*Tuvalu* was the first PICT to develop a national human rights acton plan, which will address key human rights issues related to access to justice, health, education, housing, and freedom from violence, while paying particular attention to the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities.

**Improving education quality:** In 2016, SPC assisted PICTs to improve the quality of their educational achievement by supporting curriculum development, the development of teacher and school leadership standards and frameworks, educational assessment, research and policy development. SPC also maintained the Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards.

The large-scale literacy and numeracy assessment test (PUNA) undertaken in *Cook Islands*, *Federated States of Micronesia*, *Kiribati*, *Marshall Islands*, *Niue*, *Palau*, *Papua New Guinea*, *Samoa*, *Solomon Islands*, *Tokelau*, *Tonga*, *Tuvalu* and *Vanuatu* in 2015 revealed significant improvement in numeracy and notable improvement in literacy compared to 2012 results.

**Strengthening regional public health surveillance and response:** SPC remains the coordinator of the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (PPHSN) – a voluntary network of countries and organisations working together to improve public health surveillance in the region through early detection and response.

The *Guam* Public Health Laboratory performed in-country diagnostic tests for influenza, dengue, chikungunya and Zika for the first time, following diagnostic capacity strengthening by SPC.


**Strengthening sustainable management of natural resources:** SPC provided scientific, technical and management advice to PICTs and regional agencies in the areas of sustainable management of oceanic, nearshore and coastal fisheries resources, policy development and economic and environmental analysis of agriculture, forestry and land management, and the delimitation of maritime zones, shared boundary solutions, extended continental shelf submissions and marine cadastral systems.

First seeding of sandfish to restock overexploited sea cucumber fisheries in *Kiribati*, *Fiji*, *Kiribati*, *Samoa* and *Tuvalu* farmers adopted customised soil-health regimes as a result of sustainable soil-health trials.

Wide use of SPC-produced annual tide calendars in *Cook Islands*, *Kiribati*, *Marshall Islands*, *Niue*, *Samoa*, *Tonga*, *Tuvalu* and *Vanuatu* for public information, forecasting and planning, tidal warnings and coastal assessments.

**Strengthening sustainable transport and energy security:** SPC worked to strengthen sustainable transport and energy security by providing technical, legal and policy advice and services to promote reliable, affordable, safe and clean transport and energy services.

Ports in *Cook Islands*, *Samoa* and *Tonga* began developing their own quality management systems, notably to improve shipping procedures and standards.

**Strengthening access to and use of development statistics in policy development and monitoring of progress:** SPC continued to provide technical support to PICTs to enhance and support national statistics systems.

Assistance to *Cook Islands*, *Kiribati*, *Marshall Islands*, *Niue*, *Tokelau*, *Tonga* and *Tuvalu* for Household Income and Expenditure Surveys.

More performance stories are described in the Pacific Community Results Report 2016: www.spc.int/resource-centre

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**Performance Story:**

'Tails' mobile application for small-scale tuna fisheries information

Monitoring small-scale tuna catch is important to tuna fisheries management in the Pacific region, however regular and reliable data collection has been a challenge, particularly for small island developing states (SIDS) that rely on paper-form collections.

SPC developed a prototype application to test whether mobile technology could provide a solution for artisanal tuna data collection in remote islands across the region. The app – called *Tails* – aimed to improve artisanal data collection and increase the volume of small-scale tuna catch data collected.

The test version of the app was trialled in Nauru, contributing to refining and further developing the tool. An improved version of the app was then made available to PICTs via Google Play store. Within 5 months of launch, the app had been used in Nauru, Samoa, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, to record 1882 fishing trips, compared to 3082 trips recorded using paper forms during the same period.

Since the introduction of Tails, Tokelau has moved from ad hoc availability of artisanal tuna data, to having comprehensive information on artisanal fishing trips and integrated tuna data management.

More performance stories are described in the Pacific Community Results Report 2016: www.spc.int/resource-centre