

MEETING THE SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE IN THE PACIFIC

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This presentation will cover:

- The Pacific context and the work of SPREP
- Some key elements of a resilient Pacific
- Conclusion

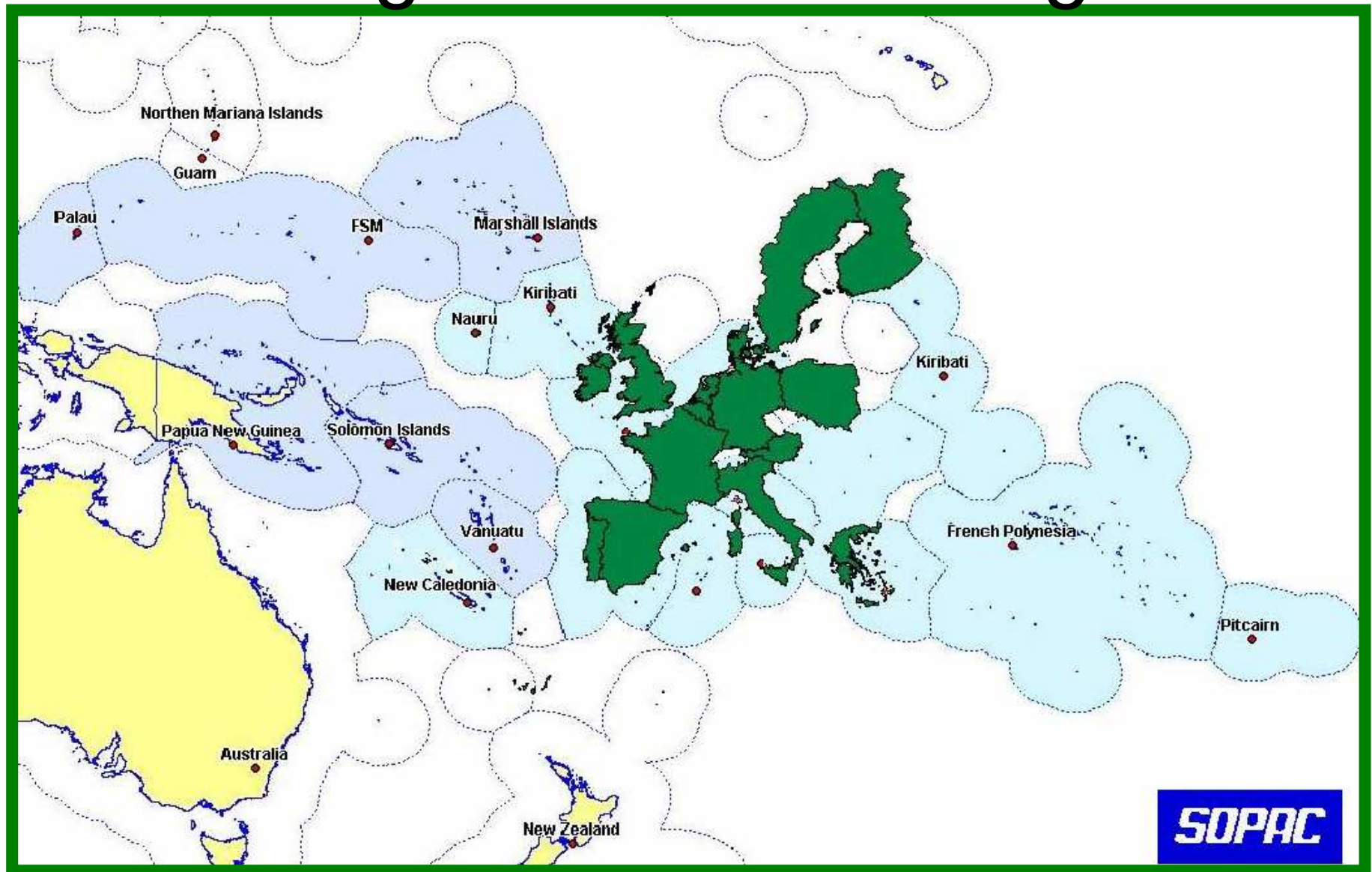
INTRODUCTION TO THE PACIFIC AND TO SPREP

Introduction - the Pacific

The Pacific is characterized by:

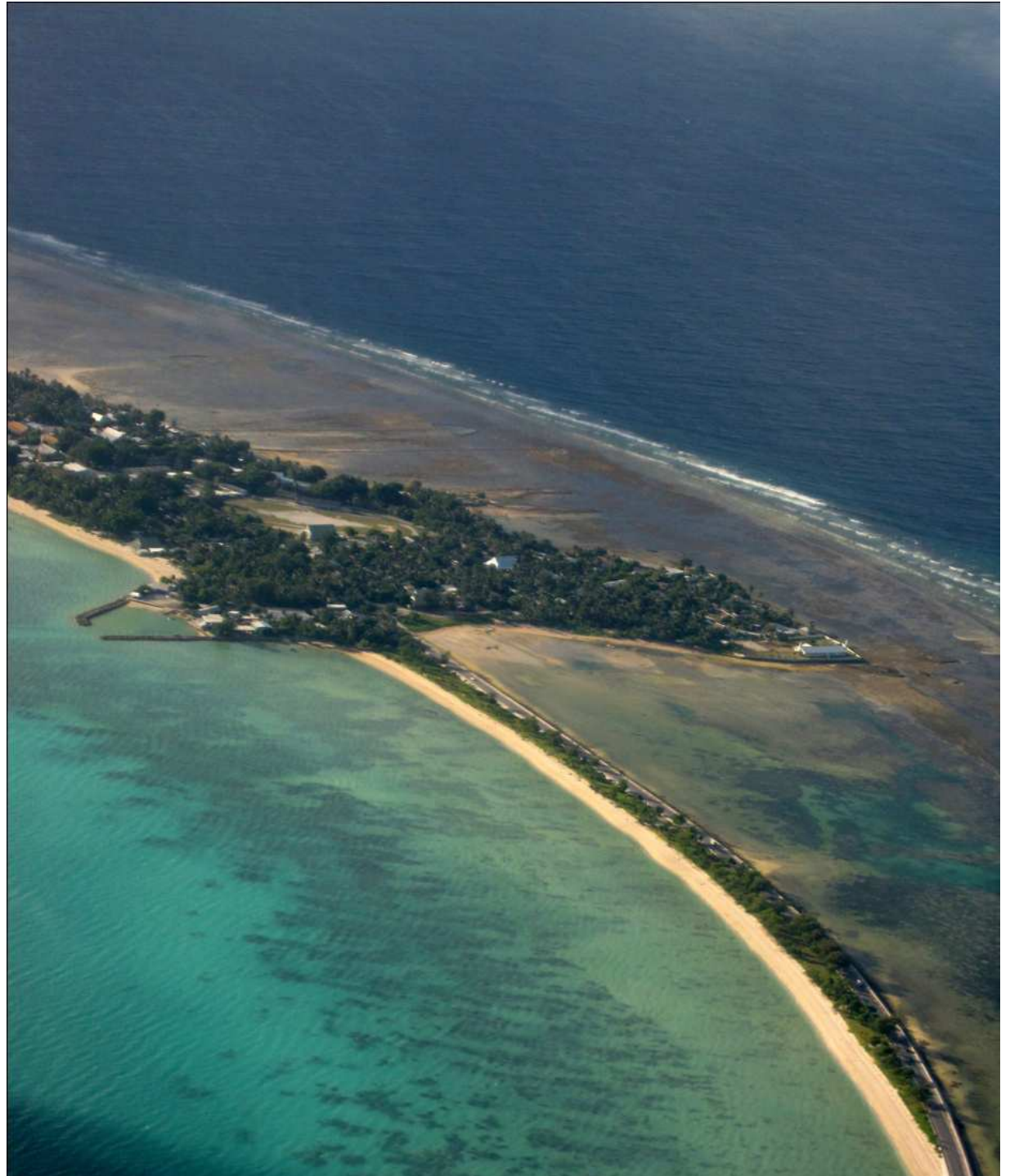
- vast distances
- many isolated islands
- high level of vulnerability to climate change
- limited human capacity and resources to address these issues
- the Pacific Ocean is our lifeblood

How big is the Pacific region?

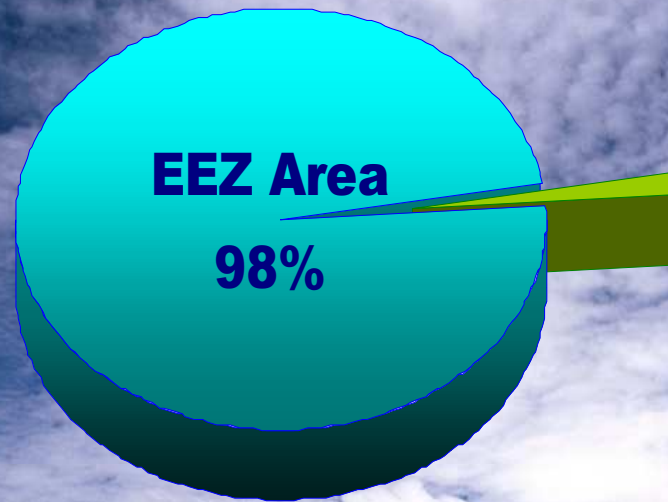




**The Pacific
has 3 of the 5
lowest
countries on
Earth**







Pacific
Island Land
Area 2%





Introduction - SPREP

- the Pacific regional agency for the environment
- sharp focus on 4 areas: climate, biodiversity, waste, governance
- working for 40 years in the region, 20 as an independent organisation (16.06.1993)
- belongs to the governments of the Pacific (21 Pacific island countries and territories) as well as 5 “metropolitan” members (Aust., NZ, USA, France, UK)
- Governance structure based around an annual SPREP Meeting – we are fully accountable to all Pacific countries



21st SPREP Meeting
Officials Meeting Group Photo
Madang Resort, PNG
6 – 10 September, 2010

SPREP's work is based on partnership



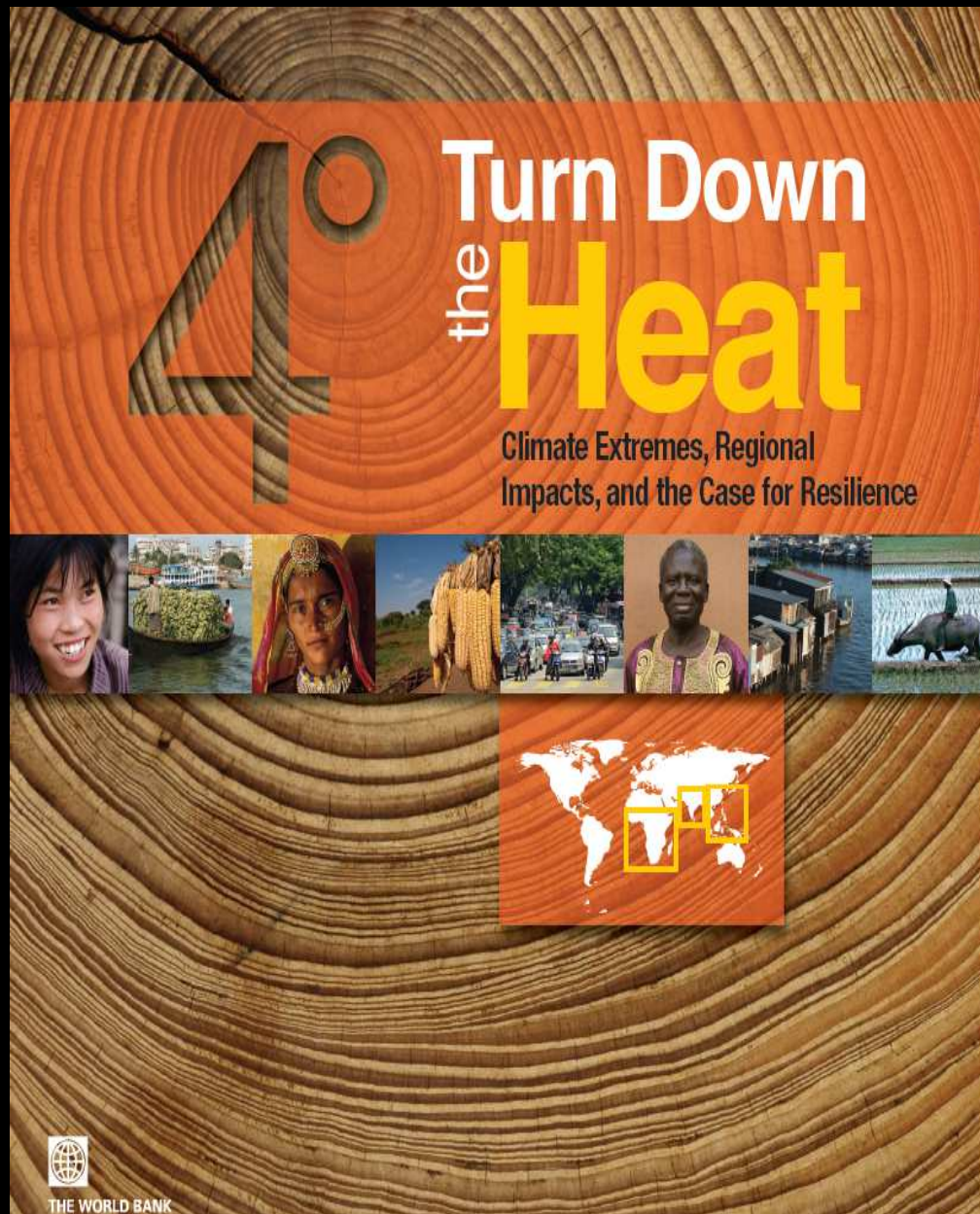


SPREP STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-
2015 www.sprep.org

SOME KEY ELEMENTS OF A RESILIENT PACIFIC

Predictions from IPCC by 2100 (4 scenarios)

- Temperatures increases up to 4.8 degrees C
- Sea level rise predictions up to 97cms
- Continuing and accelerating ocean acidification
- More very hot days
- Changing rainfall patterns
- More intense tropical cyclones



Impacts and responses

- Pacific Heads of Governments have consistently identified climate change as the most important threat facing the Pacific region, including through the 2013 Pacific Islands Forum where they adopted the “***Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership***”
- The impacts of climate change can be clearly seen in all Pacific countries. SPREP and other Regional (CROP) agencies are supporting Pacific countries but the challenges are vast and ever increasing



Vulnerable sectors in Kiribati



Water
resource
security



Coasts



Food
security



Health



Bio-
diversity
based
resources



Social
Dimensio
n

NATIONAL SECURITY













Towards a Resilient Pacific

- Pacific Countries are developing their own tailored approaches to ensure resilience to climate change and natural disasters
- President Loek, Marshall Islands, Chair of the Pacific Forum noted *“we are not just standing on the shore waving our hands”*
- **Pacific solutions to Pacific problems** are being developed in many countries in areas such as climate adaptation, renewable energy and the integration of climate change and disaster risk reduction.



14 PICTs

Cook Islands
Fiji
Nauru
Niue
PNG
Samoa
Solomons
Tokelau
Tonga
Tuvalu
Vanuatu



Australian Government
AusAID





PACC Solomon Islands – Food Security



Farming and water systems exposed to inundation by high tides, storm surges and to changes in rainfall duration

PACC focus on introduction of new farming methods and different crop varieties – work in Ontong Java in Malaita Province



Solomon Islands

PACIFIC ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

www.sprep.org/climate_change/pacc



VANUATU – PACC SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE PROOFING OF INFRASTRUCTURE - FIELD SITE IN EPI



DESIGN AND
CLIMATE
PROOFING OF
ROADS AND
AIRSTRIPS



LINKING TO
NATIONAL
ROADING PLAN



CIDA



NACCC



SPREP

Tegua Relokesen Projek
Liraq Komunity
Ol Wok Blong Adaptesen Long
Klaemet Jens Long Vanuatu
2002 - 2005

Tegua Relocation Project
Liraq Community
Pioneering Climate Change
Adaptation in Vanuatu
2002 - 2005

Project de Reamenagement
Locality de Liraq
Adaptation Novatrice au Ch
Climatique a Vanua
2002 - 2005

WITH FUNDING FROM THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA)
AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM
EXECUTED BY THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE (NACCC) FOR THE VANUATU





Climate change vulnerability assessment

Choiseul Province,
Solomon Islands



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



giz



Pacific Oceanscape is a major new initiative

- Pacific efforts to better conserve and manage marine and coastal resources are coordinated through **The Pacific Oceanscape** an initiative developed by Pacific Leaders
- This aims to ensure sustainable fisheries, identification and protection of important marine habitats and species, and better protection of coral reefs
- It is important the international community support Pacific efforts on Oceanscape and efforts by countries to protect their marine resources (LMMAs, WH, Marine sanctuaries)





Mitigation and renewable energy

- Pacific contributes 0.03% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions but we stand to lose the most from a changing climate – we are in the front line
- All Pacific countries have established energy strategies and there have been some major successes – Tokelau is now 100% solar, Tonga's Energy Road Map has generated significant support and momentum, and all Pacific countries are moving rapidly on this issue.
- President Loek RMI *"if we can do it you can too"*
- The NZ Renewable Energy Summit (March 2013) has proved a major catalyst for action on RE



Biodiesel – Kulili Estate PNG



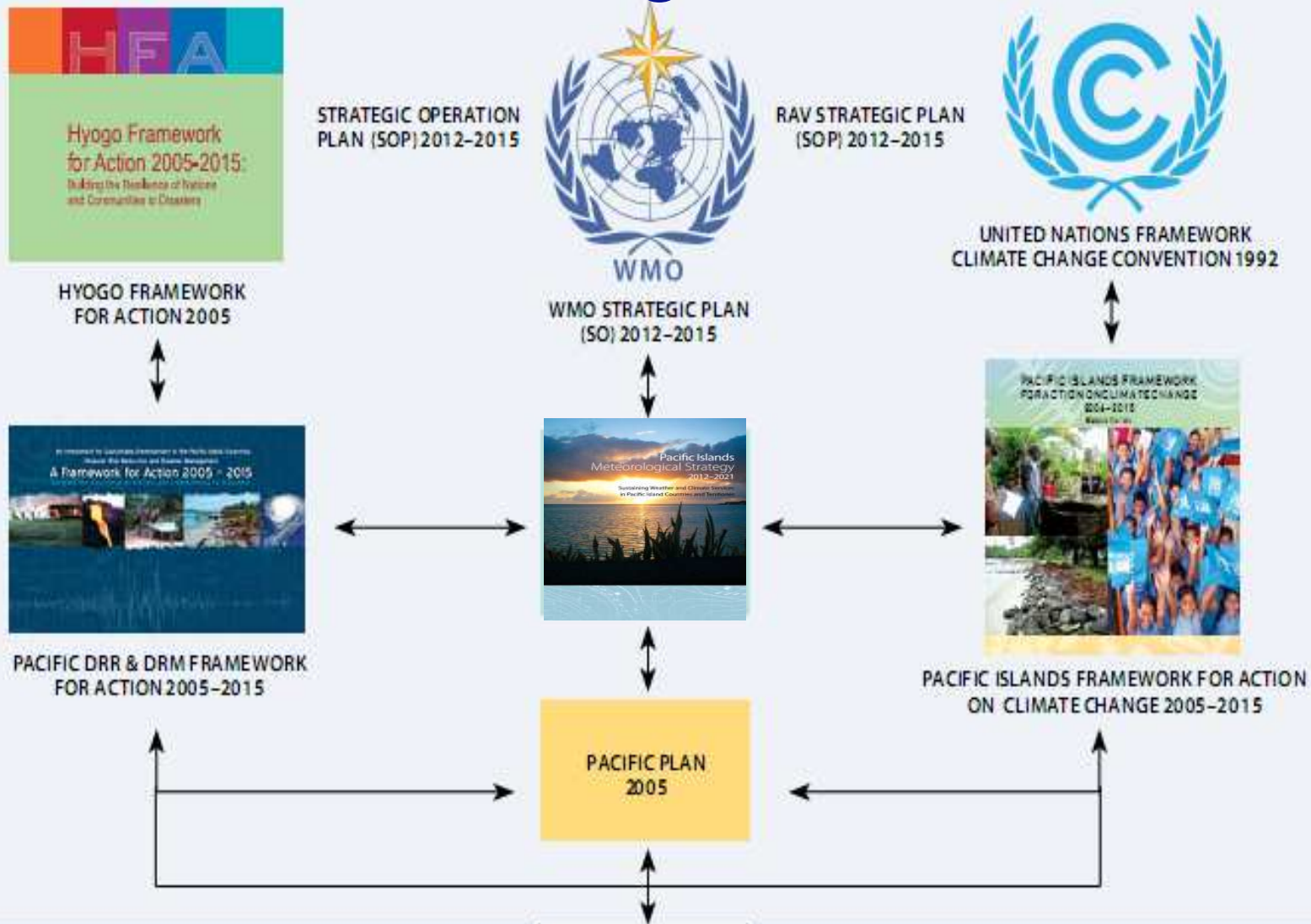
Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change approaches

- The Pacific faces major challenges with natural disasters and climate change
- The combination of disasters and climate change is the major threat to livelihoods and sustainable development in the Pacific
- Pacific Leaders have asked that approaches to climate change and natural disasters be integrated at national and regional levels

Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change approaches

- Why have an integrated approach ? (a) many of the responses are similar; (b) limited capacity and resources make this a sensible and practical approach; (c) integration ensures that synergies are identified and applied
- At **national** levels many countries are combining agencies responsible for climate change and disaster management and developing JNAPs. At **regional** levels an Integrated DRR/CC Strategy is being developed

Linkages...



- Implementing adaptation measures
- Improve understanding of climate change
- Knowledge, information, public awareness and education

- Improve weather and climate services
- Preparedness, response and recovery
- Early warning systems

- Timely weather, climate information and predictions
- Reduction of underlying risk factors
- Understanding root causes and vulnerabilities

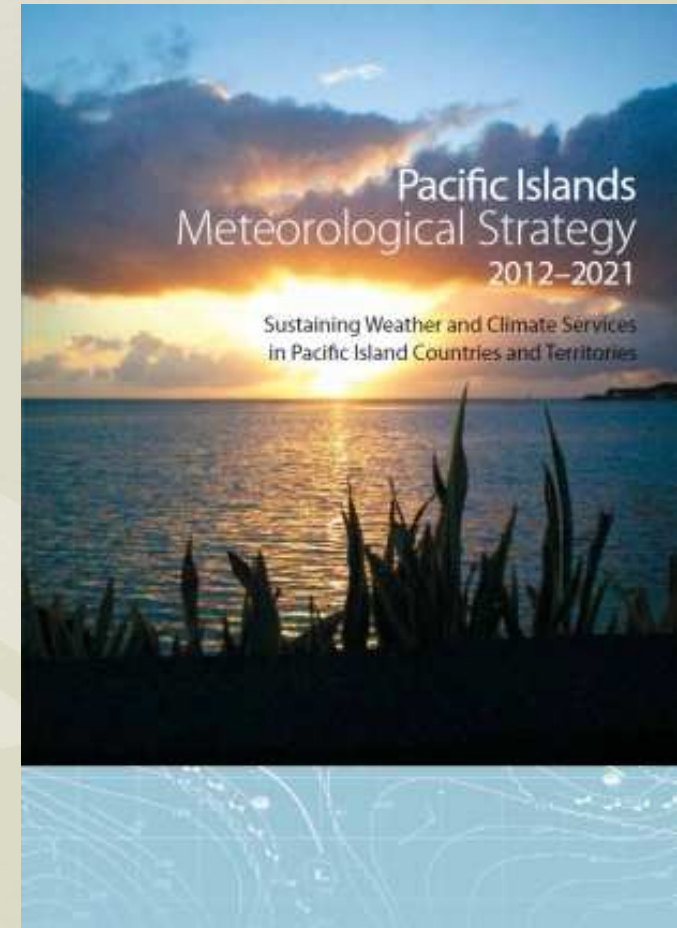
Integrated Approach for DRR and CCA

- Meeting (July, 2013) identified many synergies and opportunities through having a more integrated approach to climate change and disasters. Ms Wahlstrom participated.
- Meeting agreed a “Statement of the Joint Meeting” and a process to develop a Regional Integrated Approach for DRR and CCA from 2015 onwards, as requested by Leaders.



Pacific Meteorological Strategy 2012-2021

- A key element of an Integrated Strategy is strengthening the role of National Meteorological Services (NMS's) in the provision of climate and DRR information and services
- SPREP is working closely with WMO and NMS's to develop the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy and to strengthen the capacity of Met Services in the Pacific.



United Nations Climate Change Conference

Poznań, Poland, 1 - 12 December 2008

14



CONCLUSION

- The Pacific is one of the most vulnerable regions on earth to the impacts of a changing climate and natural disasters
- Many innovative approaches are being developed such as efforts to better integrate planning and management of natural disasters and climate change.
- Pacific solutions to Pacific problems should be encouraged
- The support of the international community is both essential and much appreciated”

THANK
YOU

