

# PACIFIC COMMUNITY RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS | 2019



Pacific  
Community  
Communauté  
du Pacifique

Since 1947, the Pacific Community (SPC) has been contributing to sustainable change in the region through science, knowledge and innovation.

As a member-owned intergovernmental organisation, SPC seriously considers the relevance and effectiveness of our work in meeting members' development needs. This has been most visible through our change and transformation process, through which we prioritised efforts to implement our Strategic Plan 2016–2020 and improve the efficiency of our internal services. This transformation process is yielding positive outcomes, and in 2019 we reported twice as many impact-oriented results as in 2018, creating sustainable, transformational change in our member countries.



Scan this QR code to read the full copy of the Pacific Community Results Report 2019

## REACHING OUT ACROSS THE PACIFIC WITH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

### 106 INFORMATION, DATA OR TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS



made available at local or national level (when we are innovating), and multi-country or across the region (when we are scaling out)



### 32 KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION PRODUCTS

taken up or adopted by our members



### 11 SUSTAINABLE CHANGES FOR OUR MEMBERS

from the application of SPC's science-based knowledge and innovation



Thanks to SPC's pilot project on solar power for shipping, the **Vanuatu vessel *Tiwi Trader*** now has solar panels to supplement electricity produced by diesel generators, **resulting in an 87.5% reduction in fuel costs and decreased greenhouse gas emissions at anchorage.**

## POLICY OR LEGISLATION CHANGES SUPPORTED BY SCIENCE-BASED KNOWLEDGE



### 30 POLICY OR LEGISLATION CHANGES IN 13 PICTS FOLLOWING SPC'S SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

SPC has been working with the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) – Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap – to support the national agenda for the protection of the rights of people living with disabilities through contributions to the review process of the Pohnpei Disability Act and a civil society organisation campaign on the rights of people living with disabilities.

## PROVIDING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



### MORE THAN 209 UNIQUE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY STRENGTHENING EVENTS OR PROGRAMMES WERE DELIVERED TO OVER 8000 PARTICIPANTS<sup>1</sup>

SPC developed three postgraduate courses on data management for health workers. More than 270 health officers have improved their skills in disease surveillance and epidemiology and there has been a notable change in practice when disease outbreaks occur, with higher rates of notification through the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (81% of countries with disease outbreaks or alerts reported in 2019, against 50% in 2017, or only eight of the 16 Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) with disease alerts).

## PROVIDING BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE, EQUIPMENT AND CIVIC SERVICES

### DELIVERY OF OVER 250 INFRASTRUCTURE EQUIPMENT OR PROGRAMMES IN THE FOLLOWING SECTORS:



- water, sanitation and hygiene
- climate and disaster resilience
- agriculture and forestry
- biomedicine
- access to justice
- youth employment



### IMPROVED ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION

for more than 26,000 people in Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), Niue, Palau and Tonga

1. Based on 2019 reported numbers



## OCEANS

### Oceans management and governance

Operationalising and structuring the Pacific Community Centre for Ocean Science (PCCOS) to support integrated programming for our members is progressing.

In 2019, sovereign rights were declared for FSM, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands over the 600,000 km<sup>2</sup> Ontong Java Plateau seabed after 10 years of review. Since 2001, SPC has supported the delimitation of 19 shared boundaries in the Pacific. Only 13 out of 48 boundaries remain to be delimited and declared.

### Fisheries science



Tuna stocks in the Pacific region are being managed and maintained above agreed sustainable levels, according to the 2019-released tuna stock assessment. The sustainability of the Pacific tuna stock is attributed to conservation and management measures taken on the basis of the tuna science and data and technical assistance that SPC provides.



### Climate change and disaster risk resilience and management

SPC's Climate Finance Unit is now fully operational, after the signing of the Accreditation Master Agreement between SPC and the GCF in November 2019. SPC is a direct-access entity for micro- and small-sized projects and has a growing pipeline of GCF support to countries (four concept notes were submitted to the GCF in 2019). SPC continued in 2019 to strengthen national capacity to access climate finance and is also supporting the building of information and knowledge management processes in the newly established Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Hub, hosted at SPC's Nabua campus in Fiji.



## LAND

### Plant and crop genetic resources

245 new accessions (plantlets) of food crops and 40 new tree species were distributed for further mass multiplication in Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, PNG, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu. The Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) continues to strengthen national seed systems and support sustainable resilient food systems.

### Sustainable energy

Our work to reduce the carbon impacts of existing energy networks continues to pay dividends for our members, particularly for ports and ships in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. For instance, an 87% reduction in emissions was noted on board a vessel, in just three months, as part of a pilot greenhouse gas emission reduction project.



## PEOPLE

### Public health surveillance

SPC continued to monitor all ongoing health threats in the Pacific, including the measles outbreak, and disseminated health advice throughout 2019.



### Regional data coordination and dissemination



**A Pacific Statistical Collections Financing Facility proposal was formulated in partnership with UNFPA and UNICEF.** This was in response to a USD 40-45 million funding gap identified for the conduct of core statistical collections in the region in line with the 2019–2023 regional data collection plan in place following the 2017 Pacific Heads of Planning and Statistics meeting.

**Over 7000 datasets, stories and publications were collected for the Pacific Data Hub (PDH),** which acts as a central repository of open data and knowledge products from the Pacific.

### Non-communicable diseases

**The first dashboards for monitoring NCD action – MANA<sup>2</sup> dashboards** – were completed for each of our members in 2018. Since then, we have assisted our members to compile and update the dashboards and provided advice on NCD action, based on identified gaps.

### Human rights, including gender equity and youth issues



10 civil society campaigns, in FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, are bringing about significant changes in human rights policy, legislation or action. Our work to promote and protect human rights is gaining regional momentum. Domestic violence and family protection services were partially resourced and expanded in FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Since 2014, five member countries undertook an evaluation of progress and challenges in the area of gender equality integration through the publication of a 'Gender equality: where do we stand?' report.

### Regional education qualification and assessment



**Three cycles of the Pacific Islands Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (2012, 2015 and 2018)** have generated robust evidence which fed into the 2019 analysis of trends over three cycles of educational outcomes in Pacific education systems. This is the first time that evidence of this historic proportion is available to enable policymakers to make informed decisions on how to improve learning outcomes for students across the region.

2. Pacific Monitoring Alliance for NCD Action (MANA)

## PARTNERING FOR CHANGE

Partnerships are vital in providing the strategic capability, networks and visibility required to tackle the region's major sustainable development challenges. In 2019, SPC engaged with a wide range of members and development partners to achieve transformational change on specific challenges. SPC recognises the importance of this work and our ongoing flexible, multi-year partnerships with Australia, France, New Zealand and Sweden.

## HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019



### EDUCATION

Memorandum of understanding signed between APTC, SPC and SPTO for Cooperation on the Development of Regional Micro-Qualifications for the Tourism Sector, to address labour market demand and skills gaps in this sector



### STATISTICS

Increased coordination between our members, FAO, ILO, UNFPA, UNICEF, the World Bank and SPC in all areas of statistics development, including analysis and dissemination and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) reporting



### DATA

SPC and SPREP entered into an official partnership that will benefit our members through two online tools: the Pacific Environment Portal (PEP) and the Pacific Data Hub (PDH)



### CLIMATE CHANGE

SPC was accredited to directly access the GCF in February 2019 and signed an Accreditation Master Agreement in November 2019, allowing us to develop and submit projects to the fund, and unlocking climate finance for our GCF-eligible members



### HEALTH

A memorandum of understanding was concluded with WHO to strengthen collaboration in health policy analysis and advice, technical support, research, regional and subregional meetings and monitoring and evaluation



### HUMAN RIGHTS

The new Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls was launched nationally in Solomon Islands in 2019. The Pacific Partnership brings together government, civil society organisations, communities and other partners to promote gender equality, prevent violence against women and girls, and increase survivors' access to high-quality response services



### AGRICULTURE

The joint FAO and SPC Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry meeting during the 2019 Pacific Week of Agriculture discussed the need for a strategic partnership plan on the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework, currently being drafted



### GENDER

Assessments in the agricultural and rural sectors were conducted in partnership with FAO



### FISHERIES

SPC's role as the data manager and scientific services provider to the WCPFC delivers ground-breaking science to members in the Pacific region including the FFA and PNA, providing the best evidence and information to underpin fisheries management

decisions. In this role, SPC compiled its annual tuna catch estimates for the Western and Central Pacific tuna fishery, the largest in the world (~60% of the global catch)



## STRATEGIC PLAN 2021+ : A MEMBER-DRIVEN APPROACH

A five-phase approach to developing the Pacific Community's next strategic plan was endorsed in 2019 at the 49th meeting of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA) — the SPC body empowered to make decisions on governance issues.

This approach calls for members to be integrally involved in shaping and supporting the vision for the organisation in the years ahead.



**PRACTICE**

**SOLOMON ISLANDS** – SPC partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture to expand plant health clinics to the Western Province. Farmers can have their crop problems diagnosed at the clinic and obtain advice on how to manage pests and diseases.

**KNOWLEDGE**

**PALAU** – The SPC-built, web-based climate change portal became available, providing Palau climate change stakeholders with timely information to address climate change and disaster risk priorities.

**OUTPUT**

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA** – SPC-supported training attachment was organised, focusing on cost-benefit analysis of aquaculture feeds.<sup>6</sup>

**KNOWLEDGE**

**TUVALU** – Two fisheries public servants took part in SPC's Pacific Fisheries Leadership Programme, *Leadership for Effectiveness* and *Leadership for Change* courses. They both passed the University of Queensland's inclusive strategic leadership award course.

**PRACTICE**

**VANUATU** – Five small and medium-sized enterprises received SPC's technical assistance, machines and other materials to develop a sustainable coconut industry through production improvement, new product development, quality improvement, diversification, market access and replanting.

**PRACTICE**

**NEW CALEDONIA** – SPC launched NCD awareness products, such as a book,<sup>3</sup> and a series of videos on Pacific edible leaves, and supported local NCD awareness events, such as the 2019 "Fête des produits locaux", enhancing NCD interventions at community level.<sup>4</sup>

**PRACTICE**

**TONGA** – 112 protection orders issued for cases of domestic violence following SPC's training of judiciary and community facilitators, as well as outreach activities to women (up 72% from 2018 levels).

**PRACTICE**

**FIJI** – SPC supported the development of a micro-qualification programme for 31 Fiji National University courses, enhancing teaching and training quality and standards.

**KNOWLEDGE**

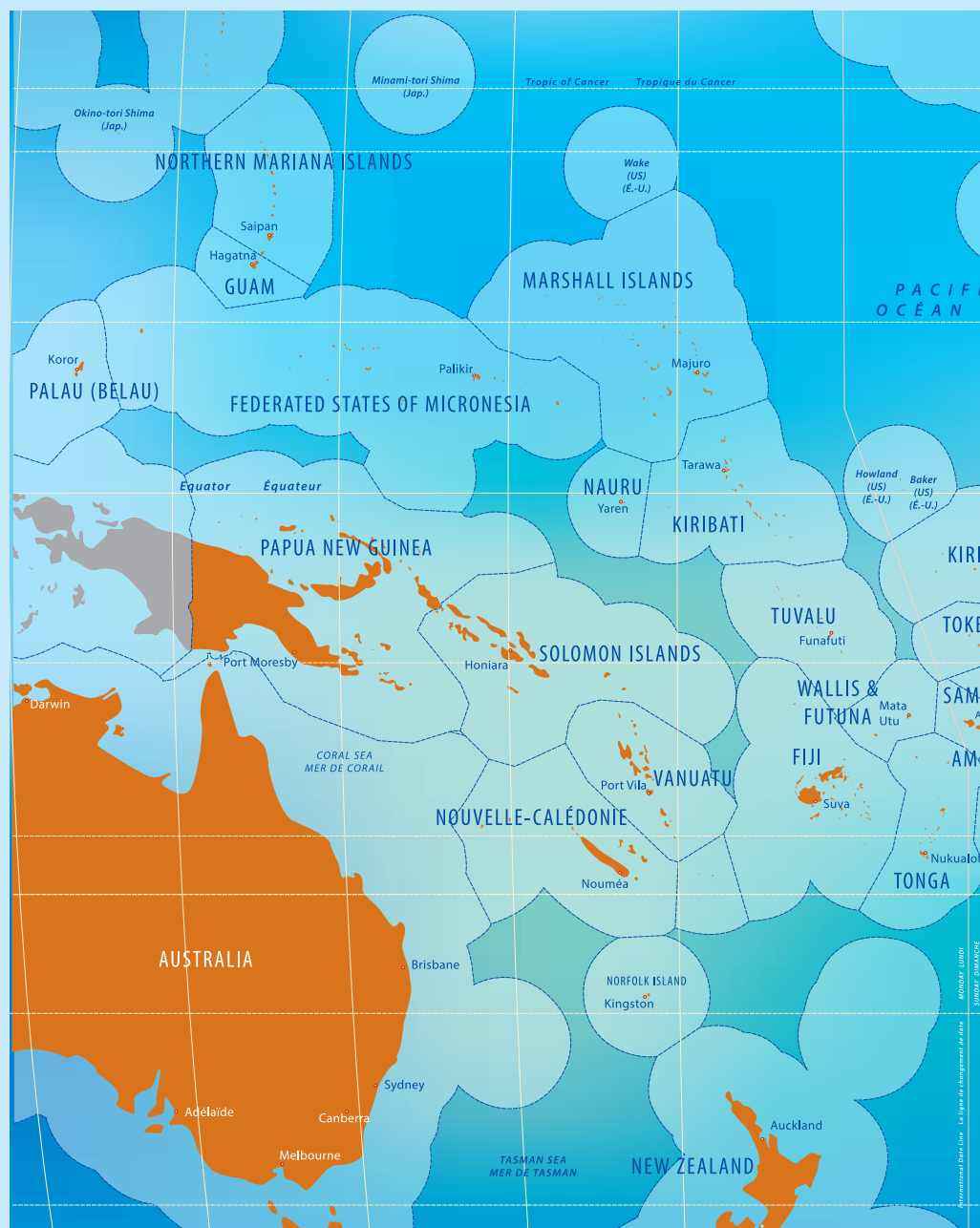
**NIUE** – A national dialogue on advancing Niue's energy and greenhouse gas mitigation targets was funded and facilitated by SPC to raise awareness about energy business opportunities, and PCREEE support available.

**OUTPUT**

**COOK ISLANDS** – SPC-supported POETCom delivered training on organics and the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) to 19 officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Organic Farmer Association to strengthen organic certification.

**PRACTICE**

**FRENCH POLYNESIA** – Using evidence from SPC's RESCCUE<sup>5</sup> project regarding sustainable pearl farming, the Department of Marine and Mining Resources is developing a country-wide pearl-farming waste management plan.



3. *Les feuilles comestibles du Pacifique: mettez du vert dans votre assiette !*

4. NCD awareness activities also took place in the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, French Polynesia, Solomon Islands and Tonga.

5. RESCCUE - Restoration of ecosystem services and adaptation to climate change

6. This result reported for Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea

7. PacNET is the communications platform of the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network (PPHSN). Read more at: <https://www.pacnet.org>

8. VNR support was also provided to the Solomon Islands and Tonga

9. PROTEGE ("Pacific Territories Regional Project for Sustainable Ecosystem Management" or "protect" in French) is an initiative and climate-change-resilient economic development in the European Pacific overseas countries and territories (OCT) by emphasis on sustainable and renewable resources. Read more at: <https://protege.spc.int/en>

## OUTPUT

**FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA** – FSM produced its Aquaculture Management and Development Plan for national and state governments, with financial and technical support from SPC.

## PRACTICE

**NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS** — Northern Mariana Islands shared disease alert or outbreak reports on PPHSN and its communication forum known as PacNet.<sup>7</sup>

## PRACTICE

**GUAM** – Improved ability of agriculture public servants to respond to the emerging coconut rhinoceros beetle pest, following training provided by SPC in partnership with the University of Guam.



## OUTPUT

**MARSHALL ISLANDS** – Nearly 40 youth were trained by SPC on sustainable atoll agriculture as part of efforts to enhance knowledge and skills in climate change adaptation.

## KNOWLEDGE

**NAURU** – SPC, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and UNESCAP assisted Nauru to complete its Voluntary National Review on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, notably through in-country workshops to assist sectors develop priority themes for reporting and mapping to SDG targets.<sup>8</sup>

## PRACTICE

**KIRIBATI** – In support of water and sanitation security, Drinking Water Safety Plans were developed for four villages in South Tarawa, and a Drought Management Plan was drafted for Christmas Island, following SPC's technical guidance.

## PRACTICE

**TOKELAU** – Developed a Water and Sanitation Policy (including a Drinking Water Safety Plan) and Drought Framework, with SPC's technical guidance.

## PRACTICE

**SAMOA** – Ratified the United Nations Convention against Torture, with SPC providing technical inputs to the ratification process.

## OUTPUT

**AMERICAN SAMOA** – A pilot training on risk communication, developed by WHO, CDC, PIHOA and SPC, was delivered to officials of American Samoa's Department of Public Health, and other government sectors, to strengthen national risk communication capacity, as part of public health emergency response.

## PRACTICE

**PITCAIRN ISLANDS** – Pitcairn Islands participated in the data collection process for the 2019 Coastal Fishery Report Card, providing high-level reporting on the status of national coastal fisheries in relation to the implementation of the Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Fisheries.

## OUTPUT

**WALLIS AND FUTUNA** – As part of the new PROTEGE project,<sup>9</sup> SPC technical assistance was extended to Wallis and Futuna to review the status of the coconut industry.

s, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Wallis and Futuna

y.pphsn.net/Services/PacNet/intro.htm

designed to promote sustainable  
basising biodiversity



Scan this QR code to access the online Results Explorer — an interactive results dashboard available on the Pacific Data Hub. Using the Results Explorer tool, you can interact with the results and search by country, by SDG, or by SPC development objective.

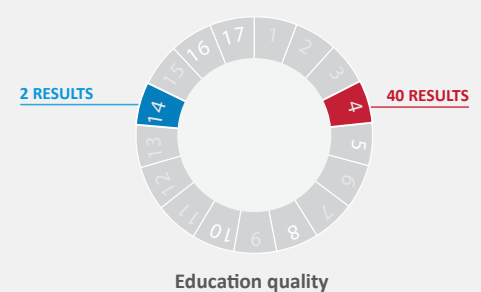
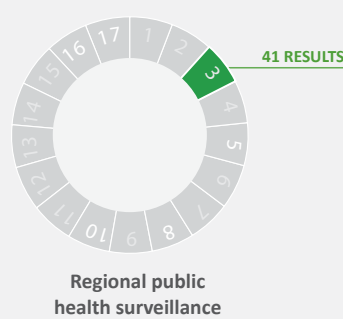
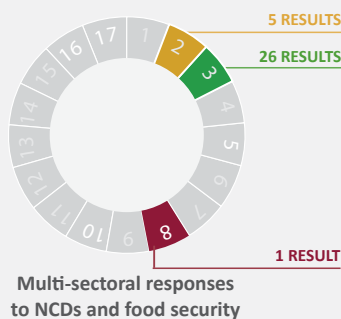
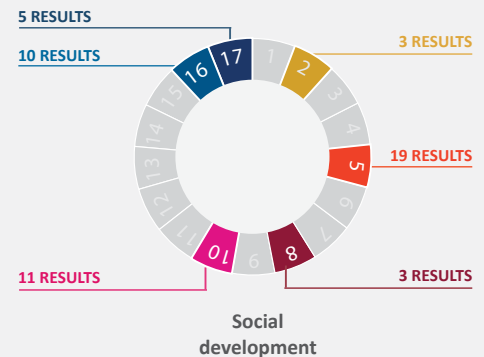
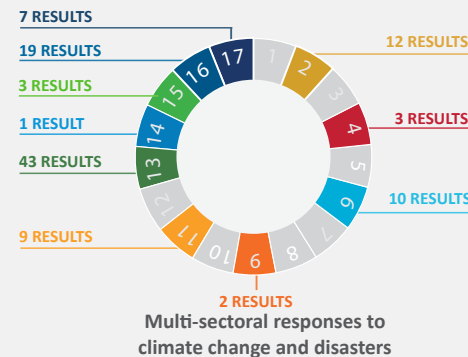
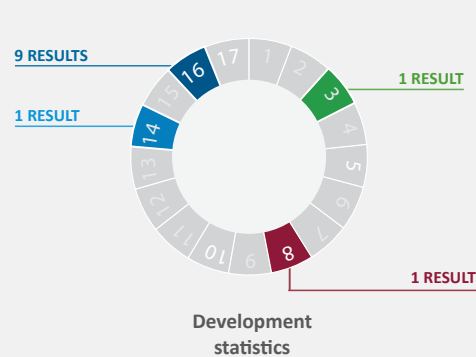
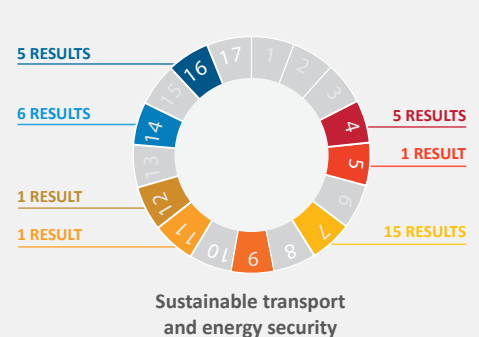
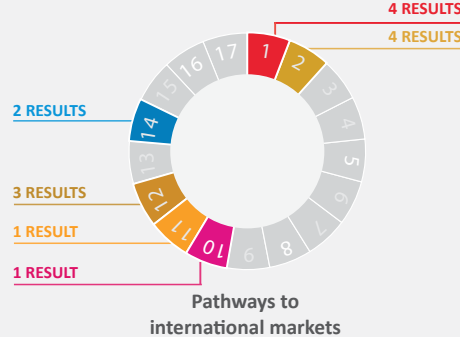
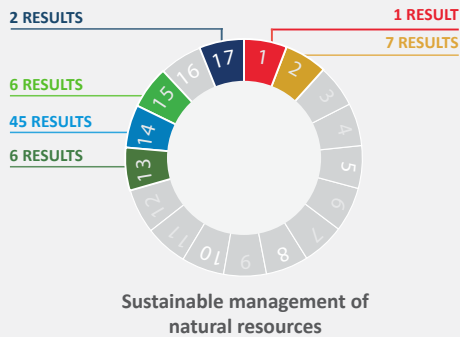


# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2019, SPC continued to play an essential role in bringing the SDGs to life in the Pacific region, working with PICTs to review and report on their progress towards implementing the 2030 Agenda. SPC's development goals and objectives align with the SDGs, and our work directly supports PICTs' efforts to achieve them.



## Organisation key

APTC – Australian Pacific Training Coalition  
 CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
 CePaCT – Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees  
 FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
 FFA – Forum Fisheries Agency  
 GCF – Green Climate Fund  
 ILO – International Labour Organization  
 PCCOS – Pacific Community Centre for Ocean Science  
 PCREE – Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency  
 PIHOA – Pacific Island Health Officers Association

PNA – Parties to the Nauru Agreement  
 POETCom – Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community  
 SPREP – Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme  
 SPTO – South Pacific Tourism Organisation  
 UNESCAP – United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  
 UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund  
 UNICEF – United Nations Children's Fund  
 WCPFC – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
 WHO – World Health Organization