

Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

Logon to: Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

Issue VI, August 2005

Highlights

News

Partnership Arrangement

Publication

Multimedia

Pacific Water Agenda

Websites

Welcome to the **sixth** official mail-out of the **Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management**. We have come up with this new face for the newsletter along with a new logo for the partnership. We would appreciate your help in forwarding the newsletter to other colleagues who may be interested in this initiative so that it reaches the widest possible audience.

Highlights

This Newsletter is produced by the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management to provide water and sanitation information to Pacific member governments, professionals, NGO's, CBO's, researchers, private sector and counterparts in the donor community who are interested in water sector issues and initiatives.

Pacific Partnership Website Launched

USP establishes Pacific Water Virtual Learning Centre (WVLC)

Pacific Hydrological Training Programme 2nd course on Surface & Groundwater, 4 - 22 April 2005

GEF Project development Fund Approved

Pacific Island Climate Predictions Project

Pacific Water Focal Groups

Pacific SIDS promote IWRM strategy at CSD13

Water for life: Samoa discusses Water Sector Strategy and Framework for Action

IHP Aitutaki's Water resources Highlights

UNESCO's Small Islands Voice wraps up Public Water Forum

GPA launches wastewater training course for the Pacific

4th World Water Forum preparations underway

24th Pacific Islands Environment Conference

Postgraduate Diploma in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

Publications

Multimedia

Pacific Water Agenda 2005

Selected Water Websites

News



For further information on the Partnership Initiative please visit:
http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?
page=CLP+Pacific+Partnership
or contact:
Shivanjani Naidu
shivanjani@sopac.org

Pacific Partnership Newsletter and Website launched

The Coordination Unit of the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management has put in more force and commitment to provide the Pacific region with water and sanitation information, thanks to the support from the Asian Development Bank. Besides the new face of the newsletter, the Initiative has recently launched a new partnership website under the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission's banner.

The website is the interface of the network that has been established between members of the partnership, to support the implementation of water and sanitation activities articulated in the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (the Pacific RAP).

The technical expertise for the Coordination Unit of the Partnership is provided as part-time assignment of SOPAC's Water Adviser, Mr Marc Overmars, supported by a Programme Officer, Ms Shivanjani Naidu, who is experienced in research and building and maintaining internet-based networks.

The Partnership newsletter will be updated on a quarterly basis and the next issue can be expected in November 2005.



International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) to formalise the establishment of a Regional Centre of the **UN Water Virtual Learning Centre** (WVLC) in the Pacific. The programme of the WVLC Regional Centre will focus on improving water resource management and water services of developing countries, and to improve training and education in the water sector. The MOU was signed on 19 May 2005 by the Vice-Chancellor of USP, Professor Anthony Tarr, and the Assistant Director of UNU-INWEH, Dr Colin Mayfield.

This Regional Centre is part of a pilot programme of the UN's project on Capacity Building to Improve Water Management and to Accelerate Sustainable Investments in the Water Sector which is to see the implementation of a WVLC in Africa, Asia and the Pacific focussed on training in Integrated Water Resources Management. The main objective of WVLC Pacific Regional Centre, which will be located at the School of Pure and Applied Sciences (SPAS), is to provide adult training in Integrated Water Resource Management through a core curriculum in distance learning using the Internet, CD-ROM etc. The project aims to assist current managers, scientists and policy makers to improve water resource management practices in Pacific Island Countries. This programme will target professionals in the water sector wishing to upgrade their knowledge of integrated water management. Its long-term goal is to enhance national capacities fir the development and implementation if sustainable water strategies at local, regional, sub-regional and basin scales.

The courses designed by UNU-IWEH will assist in meeting USP's long term objectives and visions to introduce courses in water resources and management which strongly believes in the objectives of the WVLC programmes. The Integrated Water Resources Management curriculum will comprise 10 courses and will run as a pilot project for approximately 10-15 months. The courses include an introduction to IWRM; Water Transfer; The Terrestrial Ecosystem and the Impacts of Land Use Changes; The Aquatic Ecosystem; Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Impact Assessment; Water Use; Wastewater; Governance and Community based approaches; Organisational infrastructure and Management and Applying Integrated Water Resources Management. Students who complete the course successfully will receive a UNU Diploma in Integrated Water Resources Management.

The course will run through the Continuing Education stream of the Distance and Flexible Learning Support Centre (DFLSC) which provides a range of educational opportunities no matter where a student is located using USP's advanced satellite communications Network, USPNet, audio conferencing tutorials via USPNet and access to online learning through email. Apart from co-ordinating the programme, USP will also provide academic expertise in the areas of Environmental Science, Aquatic Ecology, Earth Science, Land Management, Hydrology, Geography, Chemistry, Sociology, Law, Public Administration and Management.



For further information on the Water Virtual Learning Centre please contact:

Kifle Kahsai kahsai_k@usp.ac.fj

top



For further information on the Hydrological Training Programme please contact:

Alena Lawedrau alena@sopac.org

Pacific Hydrological Training Programme

The 2nd WMO/UNESCO/SOPAC **Hydrological Training Course** on Surface & Groundwater was held from 4 - 22 April 2005 at the training venues of the SOPAC Secretariat and Fiji's Mineral Resources Department. Hydrological technicians from 13 Pacific Island Countries participated including the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The 3-week NZAID funded programme, was aimed at providing specialized training to technical staff of the National Hydrological Services of participating Pacific Island Countries to assemble, maintain and apply data and information on national water resources, and to be able to pass this knowledge and skills on to others, in the field of surface and groundwater hydrology.

The lectures for surface water hydrology were prepared and provided by John Fenwick, Pete Mason and Mike Butler from the National Institute for Water & Atmospheric Research (NIWA) in New Zealand. The groundwater hydrology lectures were delivered by David Scott and Tony Falkland with extra modules provided by SOPAC's water quality officer, Tasleem Hasan, and by Dr Kifle Kahsai from the University of the South Pacific.

The programme included classroom sessions as well as fieldwork on the island of Makuluva, east of Suva and at the water intake at the Savura Catchment. Overall emphasis was placed on the techniques of data collection, processing and analysis with other topics of relevance including data quality assurance and safety aspects for fieldwork and the use of survey equipment.

The Fiji Meteorological Services hosted the trainees to a tour of their complex in Nadi and provided an introduction to their work programme on weather forecasting and climate predictions.

dot



For further information on the GEF IWRM programme please contact:

Marc Overmars marc@sopac.org

GEF Project Development Fund approved for IWRM

The Global Environmental Facility (GEF) through UNDP signed a PDF-A agreement with SOPAC in November 2004 to develop an innovative programme on **Sustainable Integrated Water Resources Management** (IWRM) in Pacific Island Countries (PICs) in response to the request by the region's diplomatic missions at CSD12.

Based on the endorsement of 10 PICs, the GEF CEO approved entry into the GEF pipeline of this proposal and approved the request for financial resources to further develop the project and the PDF-B phase in the coming two years.

The full-sized project, is to be implemented through UNDP and UNEP and executed by SOPAC through the Pacific Partnership in the period 2007 - 2012. The project will support PICs in the implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management that aims to improve the assessment and monitoring of water resources, reduce water pollution, improve access to technologies, strengthen institutional agreements, and leverage additional financial resources in supporting IWRM. Further design for this project in a so-called PDF-B phase, requires all partnership members' input and additional information on the follow-up will be provided in the coming months.

top



Climate Predictions for Pacific Island Countries

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), in collaboration with a number of partners, is implementing an AusAID-funded project entitled "Enhanced application of seasonal climate predictions in Pacific Island Countries".

The project aims to develop the seasonal prediction capacity in Pacific Island Countries, similar to the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, so that the National Meteorological Services (NMSs) have the ability to perform seasonal forecasts, or at least have access to forecasts specifically tailored to their region/country.

The project commenced in mid 2003 in the nine participating Pacific Island Countries: Fiji, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Niue, Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Tuvalu. It is scheduled to be completed by early 2007.

The project consists of four parts:

- § Development and installation of PC-based climate prediction software;
- § Training of NMS personnel in the use of the climate prediction software and the establishment of a climate prediction service:
- § Facilitation of linkages between NMS staff and clients making climate sensitive decisions; and

For further information on the Climate Predictions Project please visit:

http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pi-cpp/index.shtml

or contact:

Janita Pahalad

J.Pahalad@bom.gov.au

§ Training of clients in the effective and prudent use of prediction information.

§

Activities to date:

- § High level discussions on the project were undertaken with appropriate Government officials from all potential participating Pacific Island Countries from February to May 2004.
- § Computer procurement purchased and delivered to each participating PICs National Meteorological Service. PI-GCOS kindly contributed AUD15000 towards the purchase.
- § Training and assisting NMS personnel in the establishment and provision of a climate prediction service was conducted from June to September 2004. Four-day on-site training took place in Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tuvalu, Tonga, Cook Islands and Solomon Islands.
- § The project is now well into its second and most important phase which involves the roll-out of the Seasonal Forecast System (called SCOPIC) to the local NMSs, training of local NMS personnel in statistics and forecast production and distribution, and the conducting of stakeholder workshops. The 3-day "Stakeholders' Workshop on Application of Climate Predictions" will be completed by early July in all nine PICs.
- § The implementation of the pilot project on sugarcane in Fiji started with a 2-day workshop on "Raising Awareness on Linking Climate Forecasting and Decision Making Practices for the Fiji Sugar Industry" from 21st to 22nd March in Lautoka, Fiji. This workshop was a joint effort of the Project Team and the Fiji Sugar Study Team (Fiji Meteorological Service, University of the South Pacific and the Fiji Sugar Corporation).
- § Other pilot projects will commence after July 2005 involving water management, media and fisheries. The pilot projects will aim to demonstrate application of climate data to management planning.

qot



For more information on the Pacific Water E-mail Focal Groups contact:

Hydrology and Water Resources group Alena Lawedrau alena@sopac.org.

Water Engineering group Sarah Davies sarah@sopac.org

Water Quality group Tasleem Hasan tasleem@sopac.org

Wastewater focal group Kamal Khatri kamal@sopac.org

Pacific Water Focal Groups

As part of the services of the Partnership Coordination Unit you can now join one or more of the **Pacific Water E-mail Focal Groups**. Everyone working in the Pacific is facing challenges of remoteness, isolation and lack of access to information and human or technical resources.

With the Water E-mail Focal Groups we aim to address these challenges by building an active network of people working in the water sector in the region. By exchanging experiences and offering a forum for asking questions and promoting discussion, we hope to assist in tackling some of the issues that water specialists face.

Four separate groups have been set up in the areas of Hydrology and Water Resources; Water Engineering; Water Quality; and Wastewater and Sanitation. You can subscribe to any of the groups as follows:

The Hydrology and Water Resources group is co-ordinated by Alena Lawedrau and comprises mainly of hydrological technicians and focal points for UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme. To join send an e-mail to PICHydrologicalNetwork-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or alena@sopac.org.

The Water Engineering group is primarily targeted at those working at water utilities and is co-ordinated by Sarah Davies. To join send an e-mail to PICWater-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.au or sarah@sopac.org

The Water Quality group has members from both the water supply and health sectors and is co-ordinated by Tasleem Hasan. To join send an e-mail to water_quality-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or tasleem@sopac.org

The Wastewater focal group looks at raising awareness on water, sanitation and hygiene issues and implementation of the Pacific Wastewater Policy and Framework for Action with membership from wastewater operators, specialists as well as NGO's and is co-ordinated by Kamal Khatri. To join send an e-mail to wastewater_group-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or kamal@sopac.org



For further information on the Commission for Sustainable Development please visit:

CSD13

http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev /csd/csd13/csd13.htm

SIDSNET

http://www.sidsnet.org/

or contact:

Marc Overmars

marc@sopac.org

Pacific SIDS promote IWRM strategy at CSD13

The 13th Session of the **UN Commission on Sustainable Development** (CSD13) was held in April 2005, New York, for the second year of the two-year focus on water, sanitation and human settlements. Last year, at CSD12, countries reported on their progress towards achieving the water & sanitation related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Targets, and identifying the challenges they had to overcome. CSD13 saw countries reporting on their strategies for achieving the water and sanitation MDGs. The Pacific Missions, briefed by SOPAC, were able to articulate to the UN and larger donor and development community, the endorsed regional and national strategies developed over the last 3-4 years to achieve sustainable water and sanitation, including the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management and the Pacific Wastewater Policy Statement and Framework For Action.

It was noticeable that in the last year, the donor and development community has done much to realign their own funding programmes to that of the CSD bi-annual cycle, and the existence of endorsed Small Island Developing States strategies was recognised by some agencies, notably the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as putting the Pacific Islands ahead of most other countries in terms of their ability to engage resources for strategy implementation.

In a similar vein, there was much discussion and prominence at CSD13 given to IWRM as a process for achieving sustainable water management, a theme which is likely to be taken onto the 4th World Water Forum. A SIDS Side Meeting on IWRM progress in Caribbean and Pacific SIDS, provided a further opportunity to demonstrate not only how IWRM related to the regional water strategies, but furthermore what donors were actively being engaged in IWRM type initiatives. Again GEF representatives noted that the Pacific was not just attempting to reach the WSSD target of developing national IWRM plans, but was commended for focusing instead on IWRM plan implementation.

CSD13 has provided an important opportunity for advocating the Pacific regional strategies to the global development community, and progressing the engagement of specific donors in supporting these initiatives. The larger development community is now preparing to support implementation of the national and regional strategies developed by countries in advance of the Water for Life Decade (2005-2015). The ACP-EU Water Facility and GEF IWRM programmes are both examples of this. The role now for the Pacific Partnership is to ensure a holistic partnership exists to implement and support these multistakeholder initiatives, as donor support comes on-line over the next year or two, and to continue to engage the bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies during a time when their attention is turning towards water and sanitation.

The final message to come out of CSD13 was the need to integrate and prioritise water and sanitation into national sustainable development strategies, if countries are to successfully engage bi-laterally with external assistance. The Partnership as a whole can play an important role in advocating this prerequisite condition in their home capitals.

top



For further information on Samoa's *Water for Life* consultation please contact:

Nigel Walmsley nigel@iPasifika.net

Samoa moves toward a Sector-Wide Approach

Over the past two years, Samoa has been developing a solid foundation to enable water resource development and management to be tackled on a sector-wide basis. The Government and other key stakeholders are convinced that drawing together combined interests and expertise is the best way to achieve national goals and to deliver benefits to its communities in a more effective and sustainable manner.

As part of this process a major 3-day *Water for Life* meeting was held in April 2005. The meeting provided an opportunity to raise awareness of sector-wide approaches, to get feedback on the *Water for Life*: Sector Plan and Framework for Action, and to strengthen strategies and actions to meet identified priority needs.

The meeting brought together over twenty national, regional and international organisations representing all stakeholder interests to discuss factors essential for successful sector-wide approaches. Means to address identified gaps and weaknesses were proposed including measures related sector policy and strategy, sector and donor coordination, performance monitoring, medium-term expenditure frameworks and institutional capacity. The outcomes of the meeting included recommendations for immediate action and a commitment to support the continuing process of change.

The European Union (EU) provided support to help facilitate the *Water for Life* process and they will also be a major partner during programme implementation following approval for a 5-year **Water Sector Support Programme (WaSSP)** valued at €19.09 million (~SAT\$ 65 million).



For further information on the CBDAMPIC Project in Aitutaki please visit:

Cook Islands National Environment Service www.environment.org.ck

or contact:

Pasha Carruthers climate@environment.org.ck

Preparing Aitutaki's Water Management for a Changing Climate

The island of Aitutaki in the Cook Islands was selected as pilot site for a project called "Capacity Building to Enable Adaptation Measures in Pacific Countries (CBDAMPIC)" on its unique almost atoll geography, previous vulnerability assessments, and community interest.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded this regional project with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) for the period 2002 - 2005, with pilots in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, and Vanuatu.

The broad aim for the pilot in Aituitaki is to increase the ability to cope with climate change on water resources from saline water intrusion and changing rainfall patterns.

Using a participatory approach termed Community Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment & Action (CV&A), the people of Aitutaki identified climate related issues and prioritised solutions where consistently salty, poor quality and insufficient drinking water as priority problems where mentioned, with household and community rainwater tanks and improvements to the main supply system as locally appropriate solutions.

Under the various climate change scenarios Aitutaki is likely to suffer increased rainfall variability and sea level rise, with less predictable fresh water lens recharge and salt-water intruding into ground water extraction galleries.

- § Rainwater Harvesting: Distribution of 200 water household tanks (2000 litres) and enabling maintenance of community tanks and catchment surfaces, promotion of traditional practices;
- § Management of Infiltration Galleries and Water Mains: locate and GIS map water infrastructure, provide meters for monitoring through an MOW subcontract, analysis with SOPAC, & facilitate training & repairs;
- § Improvement of water quality: Water testing and monitoring with various agencies;
- § Water Demand Management: Awareness, conservation, plans & policies working with Island Council and private sector.

The implementing agency in the Cook Islands, the National Environment Service, has successfully learnt through a model approach for adaptation action at community and national level. It has received positive feedback that Aitutaki will be more resilient to shifts in rainfall patterns and sea-level rise as a result of these steps in climate change adaptation implementation.

top



For further information on the water entries to the Small Island Voices please visit: http://www.unesco.org/csi/smis/siv/Forum/keyissues13.htm

or

http://www.smallislandsvoice.org

or contact:

Small Islands Voice smallislandsvoice@sivglobal.org

UNESCO's Small Islands Voice wraps up Public Water Forum

UNESCO's discussion forum **Small Islands Voices** focused around the occasion of **World Water Day** in March 2005, on water supply and sanitation issues in small island countries.

In response to an article on Fiji's water woes, many messages were being sent with Rainwater harvesting - individual households and villages collecting rainwater in buckets, tanks and underground cisterns - as most favoured option. Desalination and utilizing underground water supplies were other options discussed.

The need to conserve water, regardless of the source, was a theme running through many of the responses. While we had insufficient space to post all of the replies, UNESCO has compiled all the responses and organised them by subject for your future reference.



For further information on the wastewater training course please visit: http://www.gpa.org/training

or contact

Robert Bechtloff
r.bechtloff@undp.nl

SOPAC
Kamal Khatri
kamal@sopac.org

USP-IAS **Prof. Bill Aalbersberg**aalbersberg@usp.ac.fj

GPA and UNESCO-IHE develop Pacific Wastewater Training Course

A **training course for wastewater management** has been jointly developed by UNEP's Global Programme for Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Sources of Pollution (GPA/UNEP) with the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education.

The wastewater training course is addressing one of the Guiding Principles of the Pacific Wastewater Policy and Framework for Action and will be implemented in the Pacific region in 2005-2006 by a consortium of SOPAC, USP-IAS, IOI, in collaboration with SPREP, UNESCO-IHE, GPA/UNEP and UN/DOALOS.

Using UN/DOALOS Train-Sea-Coast standards as well as the GPA Strategic Action Plan on Municipal Wastewater and the UNEP/WHO/UN-HABITAT/WSSCC Guidelines on Municipal Wastewater Management, the training will provide participants with analytical tools, substantive information and skills on how to select, plan and finance appropriate and environmentally sound municipal wastewater management systems.

The training is divided into 3 modules:

- § Module 1 : Objective oriented planning
- § Module 2: Conventional and innovative approaches to municipal wastewater management
- § Module 3: Presentation skills

Currently, a training needs assessment for the Pacific region is being carried by the implementing agencies with input solicited from the Wastewater Focal Group prior to the adaptation and final implementation of the course.

top



For further information on the 4WWF preparations please visit:

www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx

or contact:

Latu Kupa

latu@kew.com.ws

Marc Overmars marc@sopac.org

4th World Water Forum preparations underway

In preparation of the **4th World Water Forum** (4WWF), to be held in 2006 in Mexico, a first Asia Pacific Regional Committee Meeting was organised in Jakarta on 16 - 17 May 2005. The meeting was attended by Mr Latu Kupa from Samoa on invitation from the Japan Water Forum (JWF) who are facilitating the Asia and Pacific region's contribution to 4WWF. The meeting summarized the regional inputs to each theme and identified the preparatory meetings and local workshops at which the relevant inputs would be submitted.

Some major issues that were highlighted during the general discussion was climate change, the regular affects of flooding, drought as well as the recent tsunami experience in Indonesia and other Asian countries. It was recommended during the Pacific sub-regional discussion that a Pacific session be held before the Mexico Forum to register the progress of actions from each island country since the Sigatoka consultation meeting.

Following the successful participation in the 3rd World Water Forum the Pacific small island countries can use the 4th World Water Forum and the preparatory meetings to review the implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Plan and the sister Action Frameworks for Action on Wastewater and Drinking Water Quality and Health and the related Partnership Initiative.

The 4WWF preparation meetings are coinciding with the development of larger regional programmes on Integrated Water Resources Management in collaboration with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) in conjunction with UNDP/UNEP and the ACP-EU Water Facility. Collaboration with SIDS in the Caribbean and Indian Ocean will be considered under the IWRM theme since similar regional programmes are under development or implementation under the GEF in both regions.

The Japan Water Forum will support the Pacific region in its preparations and assist in the region to draft and finalize the Oceania sub-regional part of a Regional Position Paper for Asia and the Pacific that will be presented at the 4th World Water Forum. To this end a special agenda item will be included in this year's Science, Technology and Research network (STAR)

Shinobu Fukumoto

fukumoto@waterforum.jp

Water Working Group which is to be held in conjunction with SOPAC's Annual Session from 26 - 30 September 2005 in Apia, Samoa.

top



For further information on PIEC 2005 please visit: http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/ islands/conf05/piec-preconf-working-sessions.pdf or contact:

Barry Pollock

Pollock.Barry@epa.gov

24th Pacific Islands Environment Conference

As part of the **24th Pacific Islands Environment Conference** (PIEC 2005) organised by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA Region 9) in Guam 20-24 June 2005, a working session was held on water, wastewater and public health. This session focussed on three particular areas: (1) the link between public health issues and drinking water; (2) developing a water and wastewater utility training program; and (3) a regional perspective to water quality monitoring and the adoption of the Water Safety Plan concept.

In the first part facilitated by Bill Davis (USEPA) public health experts discussed the linkage of how utility operations, particularly drinking water, can have an impact on public health and the critical role utility operations play in protecting public health.

The second part of the session comprised of a workshop by Skeet Arasmith (ACRP) on developing an actual utility water and wastewater training program to build and develop operator knowledge and capacity.

The third part gave an introduction to the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management Sustainable Water Management and outlined the implementation progress and future plans within the Pacific region with specific reference to water quality monitoring and the adoption of the Water Safety Plan concept with presentations by Marc Overmars (SOPAC); Steve Iddings (WHO Pacific Regional Office); and Abraham Hicking (RMIEPA).

top



For further information on the IWRM postgraduate diploma please contact:

Kifle Kahsai USP Coordinator of UN WVLC kahsai_k@usp.ac.fj

Postgraduate Diploma in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

Applications are invited for persons wishing to enrol for study towards a **Postgraduate Diploma** in **Integrated Water Resources Management** (IWRM). The course will be offered by the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Distance and Flexible Mode as a pilot project on behalf of the United Nations University (UNU). The course will run on a part-time basis for approximately 18 months, coordinated through the UN Water Virtual Learning Centre (WVLC), newly established at USP. Ten fully funded scholarships or study positions are available for suitably qualified postgraduate students from the 12 member countries of the USP region. Upon successful completion of the course participants will receive a Diploma from UNU.

Applicants should have obtained an undergraduate degree or tertiary qualification from a recognised University, or alternatively possess a relevant professional qualification with demonstrated experience and achievement relevant to the proposed IWRM programme of study. In addition, applicants should preferably be currently employed in the water sector or a related field, and must provide the written agreement of their employer to participate in the programme. Preference will be given to those applicants with affinity to water resources management.

Two copies of your application, including full *curriculum vitae* plus certified copies of academic qualifications and transcripts must be forwarded to Dr. Kifle Kahsai, the Coordinator of the UN Water Virtual Centre and Earth & Environmental Sciences Programme, The University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji. Applicants must request two professional referees to forward signed reports (quoting reference number) to the Coordinator by the closing date, 30th September 2005. Please note that applications and referees reports sent by e-mail will only be accepted if it is signed.

top

Background on Water in Small Island Countries

The global water community acknowledged the special vulnerability and particular needs of small islands by the inclusion of "Water in Small Islands Countries" as a special theme at the 3rd World Water Forum that was held in Kyoto, Japan from 16-23 March 2003. SOPAC and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) jointly led this Water in Small Island Countries session as well as its preparation through a regional consultation in the Pacific (Sigatoka, Fiji Islands, 2002).

A major outcome of the Pacific regional consultation was the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (Pacific RAP), which details priority actions of the water sector in the region. This action plan, endorsed by 18 island countries, 14 at ministerial level, (and 16 countries at Head of State level including Australia and New Zealand) has been incorporated into the Type II Water Partnership Initiative and was submitted by the Pacific Island Countries to the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) in Johannesburg during the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in August 2002.

The objective of this Partnership Initiative is to implement the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, inclusive of its sister strategies, the Pacific Wastewater Policy Statement and the Pacific Wastewater Framework for Action, as effectively as possible.

Over 200 participants were involved in the national and regional consultations and the Water in Small Islands Countries session and they form the core of the Partnership. Now, over 750 individuals have joined this network. Hardcopies of the Regional Action Plan have been distributed to all attendees of Sigatoka and Kyoto and are available from the SOPAC Secretariat. In addition you can obtain more information through the following website:

http://list.sopac.org.fj/Secretariat/Programmes/H2O/3rd_world_water_forum/index.html

top

Arrangements of the Pacific Type I I Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

The overall aim of the Type II Initiatives is to ensure coordination and increased partnerships in meeting the WSSD goals through its Plan of Implementation.

The Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management is coordinated and facilitated by the intergovernmental organisation SOPAC (South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission), which has the regional mandate to support the Pacific Island Countries in water & sanitation. SOPAC is assisted in this task by a deputy facilitator, the University of the South Pacific (USP).

The Partnership has a Facilitator (based at SOPAC) who is responsible for implementing the core functions of the partnership: liaising between the regional stakeholder groups and their subnetworks; researching and receiving stakeholder information on on-going and planned water activities; tracking donor and development agency programmes; identifying areas requiring implementation; and coordinating proposal submissions and project implementation. The Facilitator is also responsible for high-level advocacy of the strategic approach.

Monitoring and evaluation are carried out using a matrix inventory of previous, existing, planned and proposed activities, including details of the stakeholders involved, the intervention objectives, implementation duration and status, and anticipated impact.

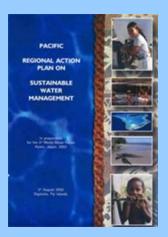
The Facilitator enables countries and development agencies to: identify successful previous activities and therefore improve the sustainability of subsequent interventions; reduce and prevent duplication of activities; link country requirements to development programmes (and vice versa); and augment existing and proposed activities nationally and regionally.

A working group of CROP agencies (Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific) and NGO representatives has been set up to act as the overall coordinating body of the Pacific Type II Initiatives. Facilitators are asked to report to this Sustainable Development Working Group on a regular basis.

If you have comments on this Initiative or would like to make contributions and be further involved please do not hesitate to contact Marc Overmars marc@sopac.org

top

Publications



Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management - Community Lifelines Programme

The national consultations as well as a regional meeting held in Sigatoka, Fiji from 29 July – 3 August 2002 provided a platform through which participants translated ideas into decisions and policy changes resulting in the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management (Pacific RAP).

The outcomes of the consultation was carried forward and presented during the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto as part of the theme "Water in Small Island Countries".

Copies of the Pacific RAP can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (arieta@sopac.org) or you can download the document via the following website:

http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=PPI+Activities

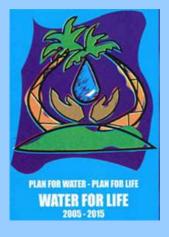
top

World Water Day Material 2005 available: Water for Life - Community Lifelines Programme

The World Water Day "Water for Life 2005-2015" Activity Booklet has been produced for schools and communities to further consider water issues through participative activities. The Activity Booklet should be used with the Water for Life Cartoon Scenes on the posters or calendars as the activities are linked to each cartoon scene. Alternatively, it can be used on its own to address different components of the theme "Water for Life".

Copies of the World Water Day Campaign are available from the SOPAC Secretariat (kamal@sopac.org) or Live & learn Environmental Education (marie@livelearn.org.fj), you can download the document via the following website: http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=WORLD+WATER+DAY+22+March+2005+-+WATER+FOR+LIFE

top



Third Edition WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality - Community Lifelines Programme

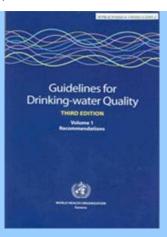
Since the second edition of WHO's Guidelines for Drinking water Quality, there have been a number of events that have highlighted the importance and furthered understanding of various aspects of drinking-water quality and health. These are reflected in this 3rd edition of the Guidelines.

The Guidelines for Drinking water Quality is kept up to date through a process of rolling revision, which leads to periodic release of documents that may add to or supersede information in this volume.

The Guidelines are addressed primarily to water and health regulators, policy-makers and their advisors, to assist in the development of national standards. The Guidelines and associated document are also used by many others as a source of information on water quality and health and on effective management approaches.

Copies are available from WHO's website: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/gdwq3/en/

or WHO's Pacific Regional Office (IddingsS@sp.wpro.who.int).



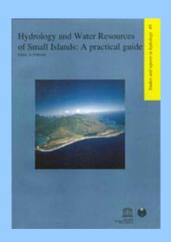
<u>Hydrology and Water Resources of Small Islands: A practical guide</u> - UNESCO IHP Studies and Reports in Hydrology 49, Editor: A. Falkland

In most small islands water development projects have not achieved any goal. This is often because the technologies, design and materials were not suitable for either the environment or the cultural habits of the population, or because the operation and maintenance cost were excessive. Combined with geological and other physical complexities and the exposure to natural disasters, the hydrological and water resources problems, must be carefully considered. The situation is aggravated by lack of qualified personnel.

This guide has been prepared to assist technicians, hydrologists, engineers and managers in the identification, assessment, development, management and protection of water resources of islands. It is intended to be a guide to the selection of methods and practices appropriate to the special conditions of small islands.

Copies of this publication can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (arieta@sopac.org) or UNESCO Apia Office (hans@unesco.org.ws)

top



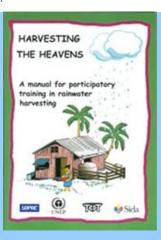
<u>Harvesting the Heavens, A Manual for Participatory Training in Rainwater Harvesting</u> - Community Lifelines Programme

This manual of Participatory Training in rainwater Harvesting was developed as part of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) project titled "Pilot Project on Empowering Women in Rainwater Harvesting in the Pacific Atoll Islands" with funding from the Government of Sweden.

The manual is targeted fro use by Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) or people involved in rainwater harvesting, and contains a number of participatory techniques, tools and activities based on best practices from a variety of sources.

Copies of the Pacific RAP can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (arieta@sopac.org) or you can download the document via the following website:

http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=CLP+Rainwater+Harvesting



Harvesting the Heavens, Guidelines for Rainwater Harvesting in Pacific Island Countries - Community

Lifelines Programme

The "Harvesting the Heavens: Guidelines for the Rainwater Harvesting in the Pacific Island Countries" were developed as part of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNDP) demonstrating projects on "Empowering Women in Rainwater Harvesting" funded by the Government of Sweden through their development agency SIDA and carried out in Africa (Kenya) and the Pacific (Tonga).

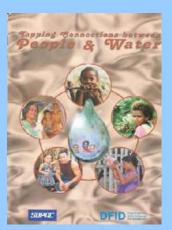
The guidelines capture the lessons learned during the preparation and the implementation of the demonstration project executed by the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) and carried out in the Island group of Vava'u of the Kingdom of Tonga through the Village Women's Development Programme (VWDP) of the Tonga community Development Trust (TCDT).

Copies of the Pacific RAP can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (arieta@sopac.org) or you can download the document via the following website:

http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=CLP+Rainwater+Harvesting

top





Tapping Connections between People & Water - Author: Dr. Leonie Crennan

Everyone uses water and everyone needs some kind of sanitation. The way water is used depends on the island where you live: the climate, the landforms, and the source of water. It also depends on the tradition and customs of the family and community, their income and the size of the population.

The handbook can be used by field workers when working with communities to install and maintain water and sanitation systems. It can also be used to support health and hygiene programmes. The handbook raises seven Questions to think about. The Questions can be a checklist to identify important connections between people and their water and their land.

Copies of the Pacific RAP can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (arieta@sopac.org) or you can download the document via the following website: http://www.sopac.org/data/virlib/MR/MR0577.pdf

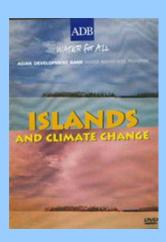
Multimedia

Islands and Climate Change

Islands and Climate Change examines and reports on a unique initiative on Fiji's Coral Coast where coastal communities and the tourist industry try to protect water resources. The Water Awareness Program aims to increase public understanding about vital water issues in the Asia and Pacific region; promote water sector reform; improve delivery of water services, especially to the poor; and foster conservation and integrated management of water resources.

Copies of the documentary can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat <u>(arieta@sopac.org)</u> or the Asian Development Bank (http://www.adb.org/Water/CFWS/Water Voices Videos.asp).

top





Harvesting the Heavens

A DVD documentary which follows the pilot project in Vava'u. The video highlights the important aspects of the project including community participation and ownership, encouraging women as well as men to participate in water management and promoting sustainable approaches. Harvesting the Heavens follows a rainwater harvesting demonstration project carried out in the villages of 'Utungake and Matamaka in the island group of Vava'u in Tonga. The project focused on the importance of community participation and ownership, encouraging women as well as men to participate in water management and promoting sustainable approaches.

Copies of the Pacific RAP can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (arieta@sopac.org) or you can download the document via the following website:

http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=CLP+Rainwater+Harvesting

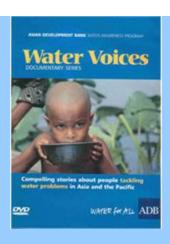
top

Water Voices Documentary Series

Water is essential to all life. And yet one in three Asians lacks access to safe drinking water, and half the people living in Asia and the Pacific do not have access to adequate sanitation. Conflicts over sharing of scarce water resources are increasing at an alarming rate.

A documentary series that recognizes the power of good examples and lessons learned to inspire 'home grown' solutions to water problems. The series recognizes the power of good examples and lessons learned to inspire 'home grown' solutions to water problems and looks specifically at communities in Fiji, Kiribati and Tonga.

Copies of the documentary can be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat <u>(arieta@sopac.org</u>) or the Asian Development Bank (http://www.adb.org/Water/CFWS/Water_Voices_Videos.asp)



DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	DETAILS
January 2005 10-14	UN Sustainable Development for SIDS, Barbados +10 Mauritius	BPOA+10 CSD/ UNDESA Port Louis, Mauritius	10 year Review of progress on the plan for SIDS sustainable development
			Review of Actions undertaken on the Joint Programme for Action (JPfA) and the South-South Partnership established between Caribbean and Pacific.
February 2005 7-10	Workshop on Drinking Water Quality Standards and Monitoring in Pacific Island Countries	WHO Nadi, Fiji Islands	Identify common water quality issues
			Review WHO WQ guidelines
			Propose practical approaches for National Water Safety Plans
			Recommendations for and Design of Regional Water Quality Monitoring Programme (WHO/USP/ IAS and SOPAC).
March 2005	World Water Day 2005	SOPAC / Live & Learn Pacific region	"Water for Life" Awareness Campaign
22			Raise awareness on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Pacific island countries and prepare for the "Water Life Decade" (2005-2015).
April 2005 TBC	Pacific Water Association Board Meeting, PWA	PWA Suva, Fiji (tentative)	Further Development of Regional Water Demand Management Programme (PWA and SOPAC).
April 2005 4-22	2 nd Course Hydrology Training Programme	SOPAC/WMO/UNESCO/NIWA, Suva Fiji Islands	Training on Surface and Groundwater Hydrology and introduction on the use of Climate Information and Integrated Water Resources Management.
			Review of the 1 st course and identification of contents of the 3 rd course. Preparations for the developmen and implementation of the Pacific Hydrological Cycle Observation System (HYCOS).
April 2005 11-22	13 th Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD13)	UNCSD New York, USA	Governments to agree on contents as well as next steps in IWRM planning. Water & Sanitation to be addressed at MDG Review Meeting in September 2005.
June 2005 20-24	24 th Pacific Islands Environment Conference: EPA meeting region IX	Guam	Presentations on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
			Review of Actions undertaken on Environmental Health and Water Management. http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/islands/conferences.html
	Comprehensive Review of ADB's Water Policy Implementation In Country Consultation: Fiji	Suva, Fiji	The in-country consultations are expected to:
Aug 9 2005			Focus on the three key areas highlighted in ADB's <u>water policy</u> : national policy reform, water resource management, and water service delivery. Address cross-cutting issues (e.g. resource conservation, region cooperation, partnerships, and governance). Incorporate key elements of ADB's poverty reduction strategy
			http://adbweb/Water/Policy/in-country-consultations/FIJ-2005.asp
Aug 29 - Sept 3 2005	2nd South East Asia Water Forum, GWP SEA	Bali, Indonesia	The 2nd SEAWF aims to build a regional commitment toward IWRM and effective water governance amor key stakeholders. Towards these, the forum will:
			Showcase various experiences and success stories on water management at various levels, ie. Basin, Country, Region). Define, validate and formulate actions plans to implement IWRM in SEA. Formulate strategies and plans for improving urban and rural water supplies in SEA. Promote collaboration and partnership among key water stakeholders. http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2005/2SEAWF/defau
			Presentations on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
		SOPAC	Identification of best practices and lessons learned.
September 2005 26-27	Science & Technology and Resources Network (STAR)	Apia, Samoa	The Japan Water Forum will support the Pacific region in its preparations and assist in the region to draft finalize the Oceania sub-regional part of a Regional Position Paper for Asia and the Pacific that will be presented at the 4 th World Water Forum. To this end a special agenda item will be included in this year's Science, Technology and Research network (STAR) Water Working Group which is to be held in conjunction.

September 2005 28-30	SOPAC Council Annual Session & Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Water Working Group	SOPAC Apia, Sam		SOPAC Work Programme Review and Approval Reporting to Member States on Pacific RAP review meeting, CSD12 and Barbados + 10, and implications for regional and national support. Identification of priority actions.	
October 2005 9-14	14 th annual CWWA Conference and Exhibition	The Hilton Hotel, Barbados		http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=Annual+Session+2005 Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association	
October 2005 17-21	4 th Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RA V (South-West Pacific)	WMO, RCD/RAP	Nadi, Fiji	Reporting on Pacific progress on Hydrology (Theme 1 Water Resources Management and Theme 2 Island Vulnerability) Review of Actions undertaken and contributions provided to the Operational Hydrological Programme (OHP).	
October 2005 24	4WWF Synthesis Regional Meeting	Tokyo, Japan	– TBC	Japan Water Forum	
November 2005 7-11	Hydrology for Environment, Life and Policy (HELP) Symposium	UNESCO, Nelson, New Zealand		HELP (Hydrology for Environment, Life and Policy) meeting scheduled for 7-11 November in Nelson UNESCO, LandCare, NIWA	
November 2005 15-18	XII International Rainwater Catchment Systems Conference	Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India		Invitation is for the practitioners of rain water harvesting, experts, academicians, technocrats, administrators, legislators, civic bodies, farmers, industrialists, householders - one and all from across the Globe. Theme: Mainstreaming Rainwater Harvesting. For more information: http://www.ircsa2005.org	
November 2005 21-25	13 th RSC Meeting International Hydrological Programme (IHP) for Southeast Asia and the Pacific	UNESCO IHP RSC Bali, Indonesia (tentative)		Reporting on Pacific progress on Hydrology (Theme 1 Water Resources Management and Theme 2 Island Vulnerability) Review of Actions undertaken and contributions provided to the International Hydrological Programme (IHP).	
November 2005 21-26	International Symposium on Ecohydrology	Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia		The theme of the symposium is 'Experiences and Best Practices of Ecohydrological Principles for Good Water Governance' Contact: Mr. Hidayat workshop_eco@yahoo.com http://www.limnologi.lipi.go.id/Bali2005_files/slide0002.htm http://www.unesco.org/water/water_events/ Detailed/1062.shtml	
Nov 28 - Dec 2 2005	NZHS-IAH-NZSSS AUCKLAND 2005 CONFERENCE	Auckland, New	Zealand	The conference theme is "Where Waters Meet", which will explore the transition phase where water transforms from one expression to another http://www.uscq.mil/d11/m/rrt9web/ / www.hydrologynz.org.nz	
December 2005 5-9	Partnership and GEF IWRM project steering	Suva Fiji - '	TBC	Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management	
Selected Water W	committee meeting ebsites				
ADR Water in Small Island	Countries		Dacific EN	SO Undata	
www.adb.org/Water/theme3.asp	ADB Water in Small Island Countries www.adb.org/Water/theme3.asp			Pacific ENSO Update http://lumahai.soest.hawaii.edu/Enso/subdir/update.dir/update.html	
AOSIS Alliance of Small Isla	AOSIS Alliance of Small Island States			Pacific Water Association	
www.sidsnet.org/aosis				www.pwa.org.fj	
AUSAID	AUSAID			SIDSNET	
www.ausaid.gov.au				www.sidsnet.org	
Australian Water Portal				SOPAC Water	
www.developmentgateway	.com.au/water/index.html		http://list.sopac.org.fj/Secretariat/Programmes/H2O/3rd_world_water_forum/index.html		
Barbados +10				UNEP	
www.sidsnet.org/Mauritius	www.sidsnet.org/Mauritius2004/			http://freshwater.unep.net/	
CSD12			UNESCAP		
www.un.org/esa/sustdev/c	www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd12/csd12.htm			www.unescap.orq	
Co-operative Programme o	Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate			UNESCO	
www.waterandclimate.org	·			www.unesco.org/water	
East-West Center	East-West Center			UNU	
www.EastWestCenter.org/c	www.EastWestCenter.org/climate			www.inweh.unu.edu/inweh	
ESCAP			WHO		
	www.unescap.org/esd/water/activities			http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/en/	
European Union www.europa.eu.int/comm/	development/publicat/water/en/frontpage_	en.htm			
www.euwi.net				WMO	
	http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/index_en.htm			o.ch/web/homs/index.html	
	http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/index.html				

Gender and Water Alliance www.genderandwateralliance.org	World Bank www.worldbank.org/html/fpd/water
Global Water Partnership	World Summit on Sustainable Development
www.gwpforum.org	www.johannesburgsummit.org
GWP Australia	World Water Council
www.gwpaustralia.org	www.worldwatercouncil.org
Island Climate Update	World Wide Fund for Nature
www.niwa.cri.nz/NCC/ICU	www.wwfpacific.org.fj
NZAID	WSSCC
www.nzaid.govt.nz	http://www.wsscc.org/
USGS	NIWA
http://hi.water.usgs.gov	<u>www.niwa.co.nz</u>
USP	SPC
www.usp.ac.fj	<u>www.spc.int</u>
UN-Water	Japan Water Forum
http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/	http://www.waterforum.jp/eng/index.html
	top

--- Please let us know if you think other websites are worth mentioning here! ---

We have the intention to change the frequency of issuing this newsletter from semi-annually to quarterly so you can be kept updated on the latest developments. As mentioned in earlier mail outs we would appreciate it if you could forward this to colleagues who may be interested in this initiative so that it reaches the widest possible audience.

Send a blank email message with the words

"unsubscribe PWPI update" in the subject field to: marc@sopac.org to unsubscribe from this list if you wish not to receive any further issues in the future.

The Pacific Water Partnership Initiative News is produced by the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management for Water Awareness Program to provide water information to Pacific member governments, professionals, researchers, private sector and their counterparts in the donor community who are interested in water sector issues and initiatives.

For comments or more information:

Marc Overmars

Facilitator Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management SOPAC South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

Postal **Address**: Private Mail Bag, GPO, Suva, Fiji

Street Address: Mead Road, Nabua, Fiji Tel: +679 338 1377 Fax: +679 337 0040

E-mail: marc@sopac.org

Web site: http://list.sopac.org.fj/Secretariat/Programmes/H2O/3rd_world_water_forum/index.html

Shivanjani Naidu

Communications Officer Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management SOPAC South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

Postal Address: Private Mail Bag, GPO, Suva, Fiji

Street Address: Mead Road, Nabua, Fiji

Mobile: +679 9243 175

*

file: ///S|/CL/WSS/Regional % 20 Projects/Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Type % 20 Two Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Water % 20 Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Partnership / Partnership / Partnership / Part... 0 Pacific % 20 Partnership / P

E-mail: shivanjani@sopac.org

Web site: http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php?page=CLP+Pacific+Partnership

Disclaimer

The Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management provides the information and resource contained in this newsletter and links to its website for the addressee only and may contain privileged or confidential information. Whilst Partnership tries to provide proficient content on its newsletter and web, any views or opinions expressed are solely those of the author and so not necessarily represent those of SOPAC, which hosts this email. the Partnership, will not be responsible for any viruses, omissions, or alterations that may occur in the disclosure of content in this newsletter. You should carry out your own virus checks before opening any attachments or links