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Contents

Foreword

This second integrated strategic plan of the Land Resources Division of SPC is the outcome of an extensive participatory consultative process involving representatives of many of LRD's stakeholders at national, regional and international levels. Technical meetings (including the 2006 Heads of Agriculture And Forestry Services (HOAFS), 2007 Regional Technical Meeting on Plant Protection (RTMPP), and 2007 Pacific Heads of Veterinary & Animal Health Production Services (PHOVAPS) held over the last biennium provided inputs into the formulation of the plan. Reviews of achievements of the first integrated strategic plan, 2005-2008, were undertaken, internally by LRD staff, and independently by a consultant who visited seven Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs). A regional participatory workshop, with participants drawn from representative PICTs (mainly at the CEO level) of Melanesia, Polynesia and Micronesia, and experts in crops, livestock and trees, was held in Suva, Fiji, to consider the review results and inputs from the various sources, and develop the framework of the new strategic plan. The resulting logical framework matrix was shared widely with stakeholders. Comments received were incorporated and a final draft LRD strategic plan, 2009-2012, was presented to and endorsed by the Third Regional Meeting of the Heads of Agriculture and Forestry (HOAFS) and approved by the Second Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (MOAF), in Apia, Samoa, during September 2008.

This new LRD strategic plan has three objectives: improved food and nutritional security; integrated and sustainable agriculture and forestry resource management and development; and improved biosecurity and increased trade in agriculture and forestry products. The second and third objectives continued from the previous plan, although the respective outputs have been broadened in coverage and deepened in scope. The first is a new objective, brought to the fore by the global soaring food (and fuel) price crisis.

LRD Director, 'Aleki Sisifa

The new LRD strategic plan provides the platform for SPC LRD to respond effectively to emerging issues at the global and regional levels which threaten the agriculture and forestry sectors of PICTs and the wellbeing, livelihoods and safety of Pacific peoples. The Pacific Island Forum Leaders in their annual meeting held in Niue in 2008, highlighted these issues in their communiqué. They pointed to food security, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and land management and conflict minimisation, as new priorities for the Pacific Plan, going forward. Private sector development and helping PICTs integrate into the international and regional trade arena are also priority areas in the Pacific Plan and will continue to be addressed under the new LRD strategic plan. Addressing these overarching cross-cutting areas underpins all the work that LRD will undertake under the new strategic plan.

The management structure and work culture of the division, which emphasise collaboration, integration (within and outside of the division), use of participatory approaches and taking development the extra mile, to the community level, are now robust and will continue into the next plan period.

The remaining major challenge is for SPC's development partners, both old and new, to help by providing adequate resources to enable LRD to deliver on the new LRD strategic plan, 2009-2012.

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'Aleki Sisifa
Director,
SPC Land Resources Division

1 Introduction to the Land Resources Division and its strategic plan

Growing the Pacific.
Growing our future together.
L'Océanie, le terreau de notre avenir.

The mission of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is 'to help Pacific Island people position themselves to respond effectively to the challenges they face and make informed decisions about their future and the future they wish to leave for the generations that follow'.

To fulfil this mission, SPC has three divisions, Land Resources, Marine Resources and Social Resources that carry out a wide range of programmes in areas such as health, statistics and demography, culture, gender, youth and natural resources. Within this broad mandate, the Land Resources Division (LRD) is responsible for issues relating to land, agriculture and forestry. LRD's key stakeholders are regional government departments that deal with land, agriculture, forestry, biosecurity and trade facilitation; smallholder farmers and farming communities; and the donor community. At the regional level, LRD's strategic focus on cross-cutting issues aligns with and supports the thematic pillars of the Pacific Plan.

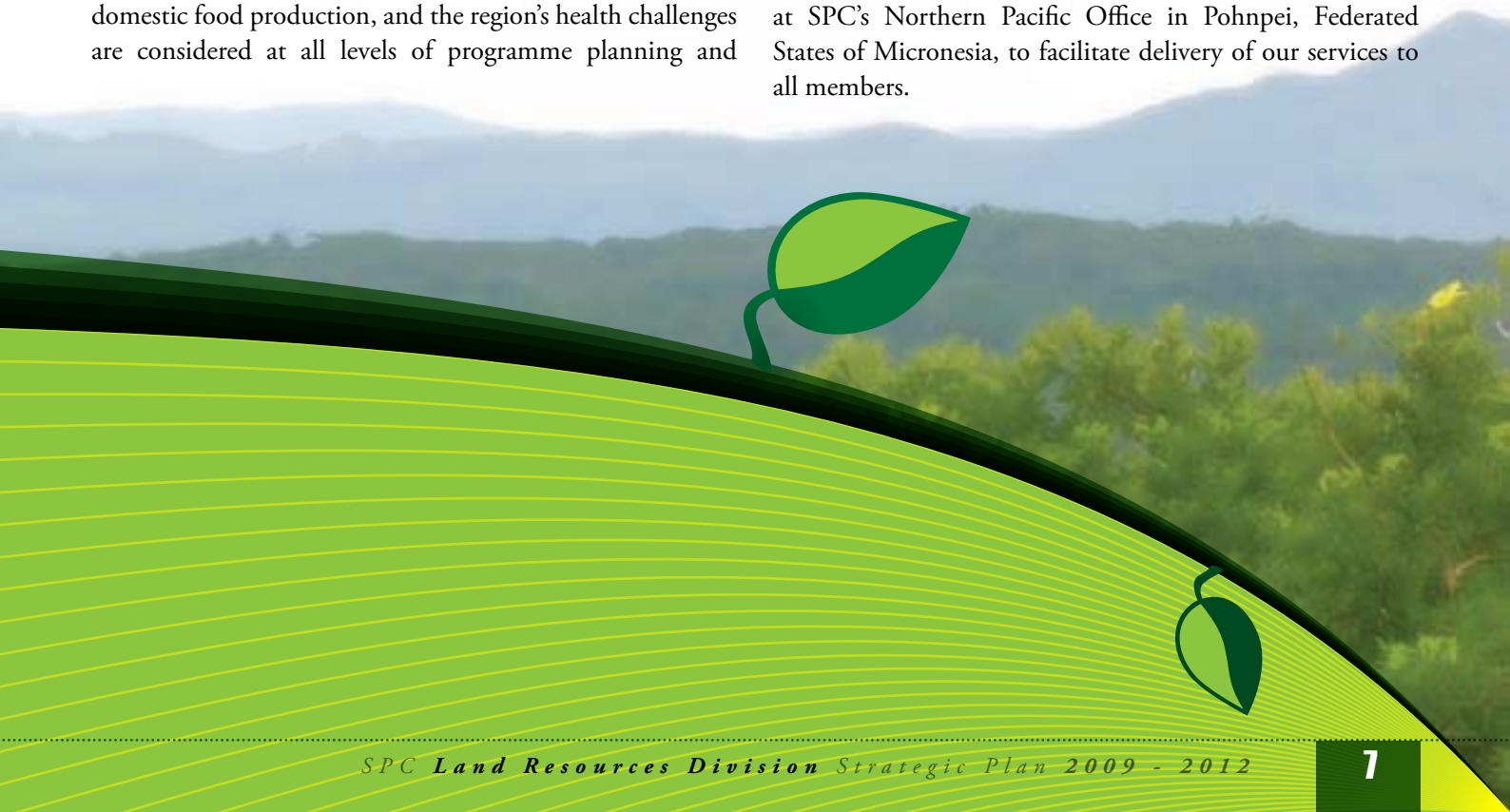
The LRD's present structure was established in 2005 through an amalgamation of SPC's previously separate agriculture and forestry programmes. This organisational restructuring was based on the recognition that sustainable land management can only be achieved by looking at agricultural and forestry management and development in an integrated way.

The LRD's second strategic plan (2009–2012) builds on the integrated approach developed during the implementation of the first strategic plan (2005–2008), which focused on improving the services delivered to member countries. The LRD is also increasingly working with other SPC divisions to ensure that the close links between food security, domestic food production, and the region's health challenges are considered at all levels of programme planning and implementation. Further, the strategic plan period will see the division focus on promoting agriculture and forestry to young people in an effort to address problems of youth unemployment and increasing rates of rural-urban drift. Partnerships with other CROP agencies and international organisations will continue to ensure that the priority development needs of SPC member countries are addressed as effectively as possible.

LRD's core business is to improve the food and nutritional security of the Pacific Community through the sustainable management and development of land, agriculture and forestry resources. This is accomplished through the delivery of technical support, training and advice to our member country governments in the areas of plant protection, conservation and use of plant genetic resources, animal health and production, agroforestry, sustainable systems for agriculture, forestry and land management, and biosecurity and trade facilitation.

The mission of the second strategic plan reinforces the corporate vision, objectives and key initiatives of the Secretariat during its current plan period 2007–2012. Accordingly, LRD's strategic plan encourages a stronger focus on members' priority needs, and strategic engagement at both the policy and programmatic level. The aim of both plans is to ensure that the organisation works in true partnership with its member countries to fulfil their development aspirations.

LRD is based at SPC's Suva Regional Office, Fiji Islands, and has approximately 108 staff and an annual budget of around CFP 1,071 million (USD 10.71 million). Several staff are located in other countries and territories, including at SPC's Northern Pacific Office in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, to facilitate delivery of our services to all members.



2 Geographic, social and economic context

Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) are geographically, ecologically, sociologically and economically diverse. The region is home to an estimated 9.5 million people on islands with a land area of 550,000 km2 surrounded by the largest ocean in the world. Five of SPC's 22 member PICTs (Fiji Islands, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) account for 90 per cent of this total land area and more than 85 per cent of the population. The region is also home to some of the world's smallest island states and territories, such as Nauru, Tuvalu and Tokelau.

The importance of the agriculture and forestry sector in sustaining livelihoods varies greatly. These sectors remain the mainstay of the economy and employment in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and contribute significantly to household income and increasingly, export earnings. In contrast, in some of the smaller PICTs, agriculture is mainly based on subsistence farming and activities in the forest and trees sector involve management of watersheds and coastal forests, and agroforestry development.

PICTs face numerous social and physical challenges in maintaining and improving the productivity of their agriculture and forestry sectors and protecting their biological diversity. They are prone to natural disasters and their size and geographical isolation result in a narrow genetic and production base with limited opportunities to develop their economies by scaling-up production. In the forest-rich countries, unsustainable logging in response to short-term economic needs is destroying valuable forest resources with negative economic, social and environmental impacts on rural communities. Additionally, the drift of youth to urban centres in many PICTs has resulted in shortages of labour in rural areas and increased social problems in towns. Many PICTs also face significant challenges associated with rapidly growing populations. For example, in the smaller PICTs, growing numbers of humans and animals live in close proximity, increasing the risk of zoonotic diseases (diseases transmitted by animals) and pollution caused by agricultural activities (fertiliser run-off, animal waste).

Increased regional and global trade and travel and associated movement of people (tourists, travelling residents, fishers) have also heightened the risk of introducing unwanted plant and animal pests, weeds, diseases and other alien invasive species, threatening the fragile ecosystems and resource base of PICTs.

More broadly, PICTs face a number of social challenges that also impact on the land resources sector. For example, rural to urban migration has the potential to reduce agricultural production and increase reliance on imports; and there are strong links between the rising incidence of 'life-style' diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease, and increased consumption of processed foods rather than staple food crops.

Climate change will exacerbate many of these challenges. Related disasters such as tropical cyclones, flash floods and droughts impose serious constraints on development in the islands, so much so that some PICTs seem to be in constant 'recovery-mode'. Food availability and people's access to food are among the first essentials to be affected following such disasters.

LRD faces the challenge of ensuring its activities support the needs of all of our member countries despite their diversity. The division is keenly aware of the need to address transboundary issues and commonalities and ensure that each member can benefit from lessons learnt in others. We also recognise the need to tailor our approach to the specific concerns of individual member countries and territories, especially when addressing the needs of small island states.

3 International and regional context

Global food prices have risen significantly over the past few years and are expected to remain high for the foreseeable future. Given the dependence of PICTs on imported food, high prices present a threat to food security but also an opportunity to boost domestic production and to recognise the value of our domestic agricultural sectors in limiting our vulnerability to external factors. In the context of higher prices, boosting domestic production is all the more urgent. Promoting and increasing the availability of traditional food crops will also help halt the growing incidence of non-communicable diseases such as heart disease and diabetes.

Strengthening local food production is not without challenges, not least that of climate change. The fourth assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirmed the vulnerability of small islands states to the effects of climate change. Changes in temperature and rainfall patterns will affect agricultural yields and the type of crops that can be grown. More extreme rainfall patterns will result in production losses due to heat stress, drought conditions and water-logging, increased flooding of river catchments and soil erosion. Climate change could also result in the introduction, establishment and increased intensity of new pests and disease vectors, further threatening production.

Many member countries are signatories to various international conventions and have committed to global targets that relate to our activities. These include the United Nations (UN) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF), and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA). LRD provides technical assistance to member countries to assist them in complying with their obligations under these conventions. In partnership with SPREP we also provide technical briefings and support to countries attending international meetings to facilitate their effective participation and ensure that their needs are addressed in the global arena. Global targets include the 2000 United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development declarations.

Global trade will continue to grow and PICTs need to position themselves to take advantage of trading opportunities, while protecting their natural resource base from potential risks. To facilitate trade, LRD supports member countries in meeting the sanitary and phytosanitary requirements (SPS) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and in introducing biosecurity legislation to facilitate trade under the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA) and the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER).

LRD also provides assistance in identifying suitable opportunities for export trade, including potential new commodities. An important part of this assistance involves the development of technologies to improve productivity and quality (e.g. post-harvest technologies) and quarantine treatments that enable member countries to comply with the biosecurity requirements of importing countries. Identifying niche markets and developing organic crop production have also been highlighted by member countries as priority areas. The private sector has a crucial role to play in identifying market opportunities and expanding exports. LRD will expand its activities over the next planning period to provide direct support for enterprise development in member countries.

In line with SPC's Corporate Plan and to assist member countries in responding to emerging global and regional issues, LRD will strengthen its role in providing policy and analytical support to member countries and territories through the development of policy papers and briefings on current trends relating to land use, agriculture and forestry. This work will require building statistical and economic capacity in these sectors to support analysis and effective decision making.

4 Pacific challenges

4.1 Challenges for land use and planning

PICTs have identified sound land-use policies and practices, and improvements in soil management, as pivotal requirements in promoting sustainable and integrated management of land resources and ensuring that land is allocated to maximise sustainable benefits. Smaller PICTs, especially atoll islands, face special difficulties in improving their soils, managing water resources for agriculture and improving food security.

Effective management can help to maintain the productivity of land resources, strengthen food security, safeguard the environment and increase tourism and revenue. Improved land information, evaluation and geographical information systems (GIS) are required to support informed decision making by policy makers, land users and owners. Improved awareness and education regarding the environmental, social and economic implications of different land-use practices can also facilitate improved management.

Land administration and management in PICTs are often based on narrow sectoral interests, which can lead to conflict, resulting in mismanagement and disputes. There is increasing recognition by our leaders that integrated land-use planning and management are key factors in minimising land-use conflicts.

There is a need to create mechanisms to facilitate the active involvement and participation of communities and people at local level in land management. The formation of land-care groups, where both tenants and landowners can discuss issues that affect their livelihoods, can help to create partnerships and trust among stakeholders and minimise conflict over land.

4.2 Challenges for crop production

The economic viability of crop farming in PICTs, as elsewhere, largely depends on the efficiency of production. Production efficiency is achieved and sustained when farmers adopt good husbandry practices and have access to a wide range of effective crop protection services, coupled with skills, information and knowledge. Climate change adds a new dimension to crop production, highlighting the need for diversification of production systems. Farmers, extension workers, and researchers will have to strive to be one step ahead to ensure sustainable crop production.

Opportunities for expanding agricultural production vary, depending on the specific circumstances in individual PICTs. Some have rapidly growing populations and there are significant opportunities to expand production for the domestic market. In PICTs where there is with a strong tourism sector, opportunities exist for supplying hotels and associated facilities with fresh produce and substitutes for current imports, but the necessary linkages and systems must first be in place.

In some PICTs, increasing population limits the availability of land for cultivation and the temptation to mine the land is overwhelming. This practice, which is born out of necessity, results in a downward spiral in soil fertility. It gives the farmer little flexibility for diversity or sustainable rotations as the whole farm must be used to produce basic foodstuffs and meet other needs. Crop systems are required that take this constraint into account.

Priority needs for crop protection in smaller PICTs are to prevent incursions of exotic pests, diseases and weeds and other invasive species that negatively impact on agroecosystems, and to manage pests that threaten food security, using integrated pest management regimes with minimal pesticide use. With the predicted changes in climate, incursions of new pests and diseases are more likely and may be more extensive. The challenges to addressing pest, disease, weeds and other invasive species issues/threats in PICTs is the ongoing lack of or low levels of national capacities and capabilities (trained and skilled personnel, financial and infrastructure), the lack of an aware and concerned public that is able to detect crop protection problems early before impacts become severe.

For atoll PICTs, basic needs take precedence. They include developing productive atoll farming systems; improving the profile of agriculture and agroforestry to attract youth and women; and identifying new varieties of food crops for local consumption. This need for a different approach to the requirements of atoll communities has been taken on board by LRD, as demonstrated by the launching of the first Centre of Excellence for Atoll Agriculture Research and Development at Tarawa, Kiribati, in July 2008.

4.3 Challenges for genetic resources

Diversity is an essential tool for farmers in meeting the challenge of revitalising local food production within an environment of climate change. There is a need to evaluate and utilise traditional diversity effectively and efficiently so that species and varieties with useful characteristics are made available quickly for farmers to use. This same process can also identify potential crops for domestic, regional and overseas markets. The region has a wealth of underutilised species yet to be evaluated.

No one country or territory is self-sufficient in genetic diversity. Therefore mechanisms must be put in place to ensure access to global diversity to strengthen the resilience of food production in the region. This interdependence will become stronger with PICTs having to manage climate change and increase food production at the same time. The region cannot rely on the genetic diversity within its borders to manage all these challenges.

Access to diversity is often taken for granted by policy-makers and donors, to the extent that funds are not readily available for conservation of germplasm collections. It is assumed that the diversity will be available for use when required. This situation is improving, but there must be recognition of the increasing importance of diversity to sustaining food production now and in the future.

Protection of agrobiodiversity, which also includes soil and general biodiversity and pollinators, is fundamental to ensuring the sustainability of agriculture in a time of rapid environmental, biotic and socio-economic change. Knowledge of the role of agrobiodiversity in the various production systems in the Pacific is lacking. Research is needed to determine which management practices result in higher levels of agrobiodiversity, thereby increasing agricultural sustainability.

4.4 Challenges for animal health and production

The Pacific suffers from a shortage of trained veterinarians which has resulted in adeterioration in the health and welfare of animals in all PICTs. LRD's paraveterinary training programme is vital in building capacity in PICTs to address this skills shortage. Over time, the programme will extend its support to members by including more production-oriented topics.

More Pacific Islanders are becoming involved in intensive livestock production systems, increasing their exposure to potential health risks from zoonoses (diseases transmitted from animals to humans, such as leptospirosis and avian influenza). LRD are building capacity at the national level to develop, test and implement emergency response plans to deal with potential disease outbreaks of emerging and re-emerging diseases. Improving the health, welfare and general management of farm and other domestic animals is vital in minimising the risks.

Concern has been expressed in regional forums that most PICTs assign low priority to the development of their domestic livestock sector. Developing this sector could reduce spending of foreign earnings on imports of animal products, consumption of which is steadily increasing, driven in some PICTs by increased tourism. Productivity improvements are possible by developing breeds adapted to Pacific conditions and through training programmes for livestock farmers. Identification of locally grown raw materials for feed could also lead to productivity improvements.

The pressure on land and water resource in smaller PICTs means that livestock waste can have a severe impact on the environment if good husbandry practices are not followed. LRD has developed comprehensive waste management practices that can be used by PICTs to utilise livestock waste as organic manure.

4.5 Challenges for forestry

Forests and trees help protect areas of human settlement and agricultural land by controlling soil and coastal erosion and providing a steady supply of clean water. They protect maritime resources, including coral reefs and mangroves from sedimentation. Forests and trees also contribute to global biodiversity resources due to an extremely high incidence of endemic species, the occurrence of which may be limited to a single island. Despite their crucial role in these ecosystems, the importance of forests is often not well understood or acknowledged by stakeholders, including decision-makers.

Sustainable management of forestry resources in PICTs faces serious challenges including the conversion of natural forest land for agriculture and other purposes; overexploitation and degradation (soil erosion, choking out of useful species by invasive species) of forest areas by unregulated commercial logging; land tenure conflicts that hamper long-term-oriented management; and lack of effective enforcement of environmental standards, especially in logging operations.

Forests have economic and cultural significance and play a critical role in sustaining livelihoods and contributing to poverty reduction. Loss or degradation of forests and trees due to unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber products are serious concerns for all PICTs. Such practices cause significant loss of forest biodiversity with many tree species of economic and traditional value already lost or bordering on extinction. Forests and trees also play an important role in protecting the environment and biodiversity. Current international negotiations on climate change have highlighted the role of forests and trees in mitigating the impacts of climate change, both in preventing emissions of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and sequestering carbon from the atmosphere. There is an urgent need to build the capacities of PICTs to take advantage of opportunities for potentially new sources of funding for forestry arising out of climate change mitigation efforts.

LRD supports PICTs' efforts to address these challenges by strengthening their capacity to implement sustainable forest management and develop appropriate forestry and agroforestry policies, strategies and legislation. LRD also supports capacity building in PICTs to research and develop new income generating opportunities from the sustainable use of forest and forest-related products.

4.6 Challenges for biosecurity and trade facilitation

Increased movement of people, goods and services in the region poses important challenges for biosecurity (quarantine) services in the PICTs. The increased movement proportionately increases the potential introduction of invasive species, pests and diseases to the islands and thus threatens their agriculture, environment and livelihoods. PICTs must ensure strong protection of their borders to minimise and/or mitigate potential SPS risks and facilitate the movement of people, goods and services with the limited resources available. It is also critical that PICTs are prepared to deal with incursions by invasive species, pests or diseases.

The main concern for agriculture trade and trade facilitation remains PICTs' capacity to operate within an international trading regime based on global rules. Building the capacity and ability to influence trade (facilitation) or participate in the rulemaking process, together with capacity to implement these rules to gain market access, are considerable challenges for PICTs. The most immediate challenge facing the region is the ability of PICTs to facilitate trade between Pacific Islands, as envisioned in PICTA.

A major barrier to trade facilitation is that the legislative framework under which most biosecurity (quarantine) services operate is often archaic and requires modification to provide legislative cover for the multitude of functions required by various international treaties and conventions. The operating processes and procedures of most biosecurity services either need to be developed or revised. To ensure effective coordination between agencies, the working relationships between the various areas of biosecurity (animal, plant, aquatic and environment) need to be developed and strengthened at national, regional and international levels.

5 SPC LRD response

LRD thematic teams will continue to provide the core services required by PICTs. The LRD Strategic Plan 2009–2012 has been developed in response to the emerging priority needs of PICTs and to provide the support needed to meet the challenges faced by the region. In addition, capacity will also be developed and strengthened in the following areas, which are seen as underpinning all work over the strategic plan period:

5.1 Climate change:

Climate change poses the most significant long-term threat to food security and traditional livelihoods in the region, and adaptation costs will be disproportionately high relative to national incomes. Ensuring that communities are equipped with the necessary skills and tools to adapt to these changes is essential to minimise the economic, social and cultural costs associated with climate change. Land-use change, in particular deforestation, also contributes to the problem and LRD will assist countries in responding to incentives provided for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Pacific leaders have recognised the urgency of addressing climate change impacts and have prioritised action on climate change under the Pacific Plan in 2008 and 2009. LRD is already undertaking a significant amount of work in this area but will strengthen the coordination of these activities in support of country adaptation strategies over the next planning period.

A climate-change-ready collection of crops is being established at the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) to ensure that member countries and territories have access to planting material with climate ready traits, such as drought and salt tolerance. The use of this planting material will be linked to crop production systems, which take into account the problems associated with climate change.

Our animal health, plant health and biosecurity teams will assist countries in managing the threats posed by the potential introduction of new pests and diseases to the region or individual PICTs as a result of climate change.

In partnership with German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), LRD will implement a climate change project supporting three PICTs to manage their response to the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change and assist them in meeting their international commitments under the United Nations Framework for the Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). LRD will continue to work closely with SPREP in implementing activities in support of the Pacific Island Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change (PIFACC), and in partnership with them will also continue to provide technical advice and support to Pacific Island representatives at international meetings relating to climate change.

5.2 Land:

Sustainable management of land resources is important not only as a means of ensuring its continued productive use for food and shelter but also from the cultural perspective of Pacific Islanders as guardians of the land for future generations. Land disputes can lead to conflict, and strengthening land management systems has been recognised as a priority for leaders under the Pacific Plan for action during 2009.

LRD will establish an integrated advisory and technical assistance centre on land use and expand the scope of its assistance to members to also cover land management and conflict minimisation. LRD will provide support to countries to undertake participatory land-use planning consultations, develop land-use mapping capability, and undertake evaluation of land resources. Additional technical capacity will be acquired to improve generation and storage of land management and administration information and access to that information by all stakeholders. LRD will also establish a user-friendly geographical information system (GIS) containing a wealth of land-use information that can be used by policy makers, land owners and users to improve land management.

5.3 Private sector:

LRD recognizes the role of the private sector in stimulating rural economic development and contributing to food security and increased trade. In acknowledging this, LRD will support countries to create an enabling environment for private sector development through the FACT project.

FACT is a new EU-funded project that will assist 14 Pacific ACP countries to better integrate into the regional and global economy. This project will complement the EU Pacific Regional Indicative Programme (PRIP) to facilitate regional economic integration, both by developing Pacific ACP countries' human resources and expanding their economies through an increased volume and expanded range of exports. This is crucial in achieving the objectives of the Pacific Plan to boost economic growth through regional integration.

FACT aims to sustainably increase the quality and range of PICT exports of agriculture and forestry products through the following steps:

- Analysing agriculture and forestry enterprises and farming ventures for commercial viability and prioritising and supporting interventions for 15 enterprises and products.
- Analysing supply chains, export and marketing systems and proposing appropriate technical interventions for each supply chain.
- Improving quality assurance, post-harvest and marketing systems for selected exports.

The project supports the objectives of the Pacific Plan to boost economic growth through regional integration. A major supporting objective of the project will be to work towards improved mutual understanding of the respective roles of the private and government sector in advancing agricultural and forestry trade.

LRD will work towards improving market information to support increased trade in agriculture and forestry products. With the support of EU and UNCTAD, through the All ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme (AAACP), LRD will host a regional market information system that will initially cover Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu. LRD will work closely with PITIC offices in the various locations, particularly the offices in Auckland and Sydney, to collate and disseminate market information to PICTs.

6 Goals and objectives

SPC's corporate plan **(2007-2012)** provides the over-arching framework for this strategic plan. Goals, objectives and outputs have been developed with reference to SPC's corporate objectives.

SPC corporate objectives 2007-2012

- Increased focus on member priorities
- Strategic engagement at national, regional and international levels
- Strategic positioning of the organisation

A number of key corporate initiatives associated with the objectives are:

- Proactive monitoring and analysis of regional and international developments relevant to PICTs
- Development of country strategies
- Further decentralisation
- Greater complementary of national and regional programmes
- Strategic alliances, effective partnerships and engagement at the regional level
- Increased international advocacy and representation of the Pacific Island region, and its countries and territories
- Translation of international requirements to regional and national frameworks that can be implemented and monitored

In line with the emphasis on responding to member priorities LRD goals and objectives align to priorities identified in national sustainable development strategies and agricultural and forestry sector plans. Other relevant priorities include those identified as part of the joint country strategies (JCS) developed with SPC, recommendations of the Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Services (HOAFS), Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (MOAF) and the SPC Governing Council, Pacific Plan and Millennium Development Goals.

6.1 LRD goal

To assist the Pacific Community to improve food, nutritional and income security and manage agricultural and forest resources in a sustainable way

This goal is derived from SPC's corporate vision of a region that is secure and prosperous, and whose people are educated and healthy and able to manage their resources in an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable way.

6.2 Performance indicators

The work of LRD contributes to the achievement of the internationally endorsed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular:

- **Goal 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger – LRD has a strong focus on building and maintaining food security.
- **Goal 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability – LRD is working closely with PICTs to build capacity in sustainable management and use of forestry and agricultural resources.
- **Goal 8:** Develop a global partnership for development – LRD is helping to increase trade by building trade capacity and strengthening PICT biosecurity services in the region.

As the MDGs are long-term indicators of sustainable development, progress is unlikely to be measurable in the short-term. LRD relies on data collected by international organisations to measure progress against these goals.

The division also contributes indirectly to MDG 3 – promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women. Addressing gender equality is a cross-cutting issue for all SPC programmes. Data on gender will be gathered at activity level (e.g. by recording the number of women and men who receive assistance or training).

At the level of the overall goal of the division, LRD uses data collected at a national and regional level by governments and international organisations on food consumption, production and trade (household income and expenditure surveys, agricultural censuses, food and nutrition surveys, national trade statistics), environmental indicators (national reports to UNCCD, UNFCCC, CBD, UNFF), and trade data (National Trade Statistics).

The performance indicators for the goal are:

Performance Indicators	Objectively Verifiable Indicators
Prevalence of dietary related diseases and malnutrition reduced	Ministry of health records, WHO reports, Nutrition surveys
Increased per capita GDP and contribution from agriculture and forests to household incomes	National accounts, Household and income expenditure surveys
Rate of deforestation, land degradation and biodiversity loss reduced in PICTs	UNCCD / FAO – forest resource assessment, CBD reports, Biodiversity Index

The collection of this information will not necessarily coincide with the planning period and supplementary information may therefore have to be collected directly by LRD through questionnaires and focus group surveys.

To measure the impact of LRD's work in contributing to these higher level objectives more directly, specific indicators relating to lower level outputs are detailed in Section 11.

6.3 Objectives and outputs

LRD will focus on three key objectives for the period 2009–2012:

Objective 1 : Improved food and nutritional security

Objective 2 : Integrated and sustainable agricultural and forestry resource management and development

Objective 3 : Improved biosecurity and increased trade in agriculture and forestry products

As detailed in Section 5, a number of cross-cutting issues are crucial to the achievement of these objectives, and they have been incorporated across all objectives and outputs.

LRD works in an integrated way in implementing programmes, projects and activities to support these objectives. The objectives are not mutually exclusive but reinforce each other. Outputs are grouped under the three objectives to provide a clear and focused plan, and to facilitate monitoring and evaluation of outputs and outcomes.

Objective 1: Improved food and nutritional security

Food security is a key objective of the agriculture sectors in all PICTs. Although food security can be achieved through a combination of local and externally sourced foodstuffs, there has been increasing reliance over the years on imported convenience foods with generally low nutritional value. This has contributed to the increasing incidence of lifestyle and dietary diseases in PICTs, such as diabetes and heart disease, and more recently, has emphasised PICTs' vulnerability to changes in the global market, such as rises in food prices. Apart from the very real threat to food security, reliance on imported foodstuffs has exacerbated the significant trade deficits that exist in most PICTs. The current unpredictability in the fuel market has added to the impact of the food crisis and created more uncertainty about the future.

Opportunities to respond to the food crisis through boosting the agriculture sector vary with each country, but generally more investment in agriculture is needed. The challenge is to match 'new' money with new commitments to improving the quality of agricultural spending. This approach should encompass a comprehensive set of agricultural policies, including investment in research and development supported by extension and training services. Linkages between all stakeholders in the food production chain must be encouraged and strengthened.

The inclusion of nutritional security in this objective reflects the fact that although daily consumption of calories is above minimum requirements in most PICTs, nutritional deficiencies are common. With the rising cost of food, this situation could worsen, with the need to put food on the table being more important than concern for nutritional quality. Links will be established between agriculture and health, promoting both the production of local food and at the same time, nutritionally-rich food. Close linkages with education are also essential to ensure a cross-sectoral approach to encouraging youth to enter agriculture and food production.

Climate change presents a challenge to any system of food production – we now have to try and grow more food in climatic conditions that are predicted to be very different from those we have been used to managing. Communities will have to be equipped with a wide range of tools to produce food in these challenging conditions.

It should be emphasised that at the national level, food security is affected by natural disasters, availability of effective agricultural practices, and trade restrictions. At the household level it is a matter of access to food, whereas at the individual level it is a matter of each person's access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food

The key performance indicator to measure the achievement of objective 1 is:

- Increased contribution of locally grown foods to diets in PICTs

Output 1.1 : Development of policies to support the production, utilisation and consumption of locally grown food sources

LRD will focus on working with PICTs in a participatory manner, ensuring strong involvement of women and youth, to develop appropriate policies to promote and strengthen the production, utilisation and consumption of locally grown foods. Policies should stress the social, economic, environmental, cultural and nutritional benefits of locally grown traditional food to raise awareness and also counteract the promotional skills of those involved in marketing imported, highly processed foods. Such policies must be supported by capacity building for extension officers in the civil service, NGOs and community groupvvs so they can advise communities on the nutritional qualities of various crops and preparation methods.

Output 1.2 : Agro-biodiversity conserved, developed, promoted and utilised

The conservation and utilisation of agrobiodiversity plays a crucial role in contributing to food and nutritional security by enabling PICTs to respond to emerging challenges, such as climate change and the global food crisis, as well as strengthening the cultural base of the region. Different types of agricultural biodiversity are used by different groups at different times and in different places, and so contribute to livelihood strategies in a complex fashion. Agricultural biodiversity and its manipulation by various users also help sustain many production functions in both low input and high input-output agriculture (e.g. soil organic matter decomposition, nutrient cycling, pollination, pest control, yield functions, soil and water conservation, action on landscapes, climate, and water cycling).

LRD will focus on conserving, developing, promoting and utilising traditional varieties and animal breeds, ensuring that countries have the diversity needed to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Systems will be put in place to enable access to global diversity, where it is considered necessary, and to the use of international institutes to facilitate research on Pacific diversity. More nutritional diets will be made possible through the conservation and availability of nutrient-rich crop varieties.

Agrobiodiversity includes soil biodiversity, pollinators, pest and disease control, which are all important for maintaining and improving productivity. LRD will develop further understanding of these components through this output.

As a regional resource, the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) provides PICTs with access to a wide range of crop varieties for use by farmers. The expansion of CePaCT will ensure that LRD meets farmers' diversity needs. Working with and supporting community genebanks will guarantee extensive use of that diversity

LRD will collaborate with FAO on a characterisation study for poultry and pig breeds in Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and Niue. The study is aimed at identifying different genotypes that can be used for conservation and selection for adaptation purposes.

Output 1.3 : Diverse food supply systems promoted

Diverse production systems are required to ensure the supply of a diversity of safe and nutritious foods. There is no 'one size fits all', with different supply systems required for foods such as underutilised species and forest foods.

LRD will evaluate existing food supply systems for locally produced traditional food and determine best practices for achieving sufficient food availability through diversity of production systems and diversity of safe and nutritious foods. LRD's 'Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific' (DSAP) project plays a key role in the production of extension information relevant to sustainable agriculture across all sectors, and promotes innovative participatory approaches to extension, as well as playing a significant role in building national capacity to undertake participatory extension. This is critical to encouraging diverse food systems.

LRD will continue to provide information and advice on the safe use of inputs (including those based on animal waste), animal treatments, animal product processing, and pesticides. This activity will help address public health issues and reduce detrimental impacts on the environment and food chain that may have adverse effects on the promotion of diverse food supply systems.

Output 1.4 : Traditional knowledge preserved, enhanced, utilised and acknowledged

Farmers in PICTs have a wealth of traditional knowledge in planting methods, food processing and storage, food preparation, and different crops and varieties (genetic diversity), which can contribute significantly to food and nutritional security, income generation and adaptation to climate change. LRD will ensure that this traditional knowledge is identified and preserved for the benefit of future generations and that it is utilised where appropriate. LRD will facilitate the sharing of such traditional knowledge between communities within PICTs and, where agreement is reached, between PICTs.

Objective 2: Integrated and sustainable agricultural and forestry resource management and development

PICTs have fragile ecosystems and there is an urgent need to ensure that agricultural and forestry resources are managed and developed in a sustainable way to protect the resource base of PICTs for the future. The climate change phenomenon adds special dimensions to the already difficult problems facing the PICTs. LRD has a role to play in promoting sustainable resource management and ensuring governments and resource owners are aware of the costs associated with unsustainable resource use, including reduced yields from loss of soil fertility, mitigating the impacts of deleterious agricultural and forestry pests, diseases and other invasive species and damage to freshwater and marine resources through erosion and farm fertiliser runoff.

The key performance indicator to measure the achievement of objective 2 is:

- **Increase in number of PICTs adapting and promoting, and target communities applying, sustainable agricultural and forest management practices in an integrated way by 2012**

Output 2.1 : Development of sustainable forestry, agriculture and land-use plans, policies, and legislation supported

A key component of this objective is supporting governments to create an enabling policy framework for sustainable resource management. Such frameworks could include, for example, an outright ban on damaging practices or the amendment of codes of logging practice. Building on experience gained from previous engagement at country level in these areas, LRD will work with PICTs to develop or revise policies, plans and legislation based on national needs and priorities. Involvement of LRD in such work will be demand driven and will always use participatory approaches that have been found to be effective in the region. The Pacific Agriculture and Forestry Policy Network (PAFPNET) will be used for sharing information and lessons learnt and disseminating relevant research and policy briefs.

Output 2.2 : Sustainable and appropriate forest, agriculture and land use management practices developed and promoted

Supporting policies provide an enabling environment, but to achieve results on the ground sustainable management practices need to be developed and promoted. These practices are often most effectively promoted by getting farmers to participate in on-farm research and demonstration. LRD will work with member PICTs to strengthen participatory research and extension and management regimes. Capacity building for extension services is vital in terms of promotion as they are the outreach arm of agriculture and forestry departments (see Output 2.5).

Appropriate land information is required to support sustainable resource development. LRD will support PICTs in integrating land use information, including soil information, into geographical information systems (GIS) and developing land use capability guidelines and land use planning manuals.

Output 2.3 : National and regional capacity to prepare, respond, and adapt to climate change and natural disasters developed and strengthened

PICTs are prone to natural disasters and climate change will exacerbate these problems. As part of their its development initiatives, SPC places great emphasis on capacity building of both agricultural field staff and farmers. This capacity building will continue to assist countries to prepare for and respond to pest and disease outbreaks and to generally strengthen the resilience and adaptability of communities. Through Output 1.4, traditional knowledge will be a valuable tool in this process. Similarly the 'climate ready' collection established by LRD through CePaCT will provide the diversity required for managing the effects of climate change.

The role of ICTs in addressing these problems will be evaluated and promoted using experience from other countries, such as the Linking Farmers to Plant Protection Network project in Solomon Islands.

Output 2.4 : Invasive species, pests, and disease problems identified and addressed, and capacity to respond at national and regional levels supported

Appropriate management of pests, diseases and other invasive species is crucial in maintaining food security and protecting the fragile ecosystems of PICTs for the benefit of current and future resource users. LRD has supported PICTs for a number of years in strengthening national research institutes, building local identification capacity, supporting the development of emergency response plans in case of disease outbreaks and providing technical backstopping for countries with limited resources. Climate change will exacerbate pest and disease problems and it is therefore essential that this support continues.

Up-to-date data on plant pests and diseases, and animal diseases are essential for national animal health and plant protection programmes, and for the preparation of market access submissions for exports and import risk assessments for imported goods. LRD will assist member countries to undertake regular surveys of plant pests and animal diseases; update and manage pest and disease lists; maintain information databases such as the Pacific Animal Health Information System (PAHIS) and the Pacific Pest List Database (PPLD); and source or produce and distribute publications and other information resources on plant and animal health status.

Under this output, LRD will also focus on developing sustainable integrated pest and disease management skills and on passing these on to local counterparts through the Participatory Action Research method of learning, using case studies at country level. LRD will provide training on specific technical skills relating to plant health (pest and disease diagnostics and management) to increase PICT capacity in this area.

To enhance higher levels of biosecurity, which help safeguard food security, a priority need is to strengthen the capacity of biosecurity services to detect and respond to incursions of pests and diseases. LRD assistance in this area will include maintaining preparedness and developing emergency response plans for high priority pests and diseases; supporting and building the surveillance and diagnostic capacity of biosecurity (quarantine, plant and animal health) related personnel; supporting in-country surveillance and monitoring activities; and coordinating the response to new incursions, including containment and eradication activities.

Output 2.5 : National and regional capacity of extension, outreach and information services strengthened.

Extension services empower communities to improve their production practices by combining locally proven practices with scientifically proven sustainable production techniques. These services also raise awareness of the links between agriculture and health and support income generation and sustainable livelihoods. The DSAP project is a good example of national capacity strengthening leading to community empowerment. The project has worked with communities in a participatory way to identify their problems, prioritise them and develop sustainable solutions. Future support will build on lessons learnt as part of this project and utilise its mechanisms of participatory approaches and partnership development in building the capacity of national extension services.

Objective 3 : Improved biosecurity and increased trade in agriculture and forestry products

Trade has an important role to play in supporting economic growth in PICTs. Regional economic integration is one of the pillars of the Pacific Plan. Trade in agricultural and forestry products must be supported by effective biosecurity support services to enable PICTs to submit market access requests based on valid scientific evidence. LRD will support the capacity of PICTs to comply with the requirements of importing countries and ensure imports comply with their own requirements. Effective biosecurity support services also help reduce the risk that increased trade and movement of people will lead to more introductions of new pests and diseases.

The performance indicators to measure the achievement of objective 3 are:

- **PICTs comply with international standards**
- **Increased domestic and export trade**

Output 3.1 : National capacity to comply with international and other relevant standards strengthened

To facilitate trade in agricultural and forestry products, PICTs must meet a variety of international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) and food safety standards. LRD plays a crucial role in assisting countries to comply with international standards through training and capacity building to enhance PICTs' ability to take advantage of trading opportunities.

Output 3.2 : National capacity to increase domestic and export trade developed and strengthened

Increasing international trade in agricultural and forestry products relies on obtaining market access approvals from importing countries. LRD has been working to build the capacity of PICTs to complete market access requests as part of the training provided by its IMPEXTEX centre. These activities are vital if PICTs are to realise the benefits of international trading opportunities.

Domestic trade also provides significant opportunities for income generation and more attention needs to be given to improving supply chains and marketing to expand domestic opportunities.

LRD will gather relevant economic and marketing information such as trade statistics, market prices and locations and gross margins to assist PICTs in evaluating potential trading opportunities. It will also expand its support services to member countries and territories in the areas of marketing and economics.

Output 3.3 : Sustainable and viable post-harvest technologies developed and promoted

Post-harvest handling and value-adding methods are important to meeting the quality requirements of the market and the quarantine requirements of importing countries. The small economies of PICTs preclude competing on cost grounds with many other competitors, but the development of innovative post-harvest technologies and value-adding methods can assist countries in developing niche products where they have comparative advantages.

LRD will continue to support research activities to develop and evaluate appropriate post-harvest technologies.

Output 3.4 : Improved information available on plant and animal health status

Accurate information on plant and animal pest status is a precondition for trading in agricultural and forestry products. The PPLD and PAHIS provide support for PICTs wanting to access overseas markets and maintain existing market access. These regional databases will be further enhanced by LRD's direct participation on the various global compendia produced by the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau International.

7 Reporting, monitoring and evaluation

The strategic plan will be accompanied by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework that identifies the baseline data required to monitor progress in each of the identified output areas. Baseline data collected at the beginning of the planning period are vital in monitoring changes over time. The framework will also identify responsibility for these data collections and for the collection of revised data at the end of the planning period and other appropriate intervals. Effective monitoring and evaluation of LRD activities depends on the support of member PICTs in providing the organisation with available data.

Annual progress reports and work plans are provided to the SPC Executive and donors, where applicable, with a mid-year update. In addition, LRD produces specific project reports and exception reporting as required. Heads of agency and other sectoral meetings have the opportunity to examine and comment on its work. The annual meeting of the SPC Conference or the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA), regularly monitor LRD's programme of work.

In addition, independent reviewers evaluate the programme every few years as part of SPC's programme of regular reviews. Evaluations focus on assessing results, impact and sustainability at the goal and objective level. The most recent review of LRD took place in 2003 (the report is available from the Secretariat on request).

8 How the division works

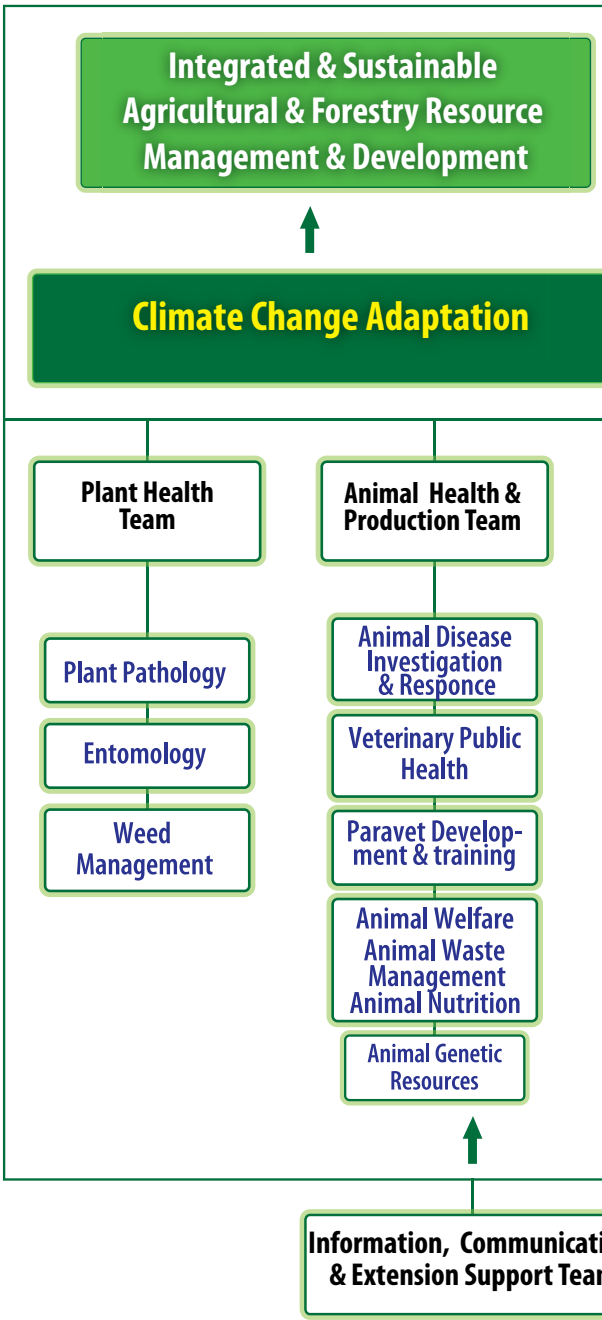
The LRD's strategic plan is guided by SPC's corporate objectives and guiding principles (see box).

The division has a flat organisational structure and features seven thematic area teams and three support teams, each with a coordinator directly responsible to the Director LRD (see below). This structure promotes sharing of resources, and encourages staff to work across themes to which their skills and competencies can usefully contribute. A major feature of the LRD programme is that it has an on-the-ground presence in 16 member countries and territories.

LRD places particular emphasis on an integrated and participatory approach, which involves listening to all stakeholders to increase their ownership of the solutions developed to problems. This approach is followed at the national and community level, with gender perspectives being an integral part of the process. The participation of LRD stakeholders in planning and implementing its work programme is crucial to the success of its programme. The benefits of this approach are now being realised at the country and community level, in that appropriate agricultural technologies have been identified and adopted to overcome problems. Many successes have in fact been achieved by adopting this approach.

Through the DSAP project, many young men and women have been trained in advanced participatory development approaches and have gained considerable experience in working in local communities in their own countries. LRD intends to utilise their skills, together with the approaches developed under the DSAP project, to continue to make an impact on the lives of Pacific Islanders.

LRD has long recognised the challenges facing Pacific youth in rural areas. The lack of substantial opportunities in rural areas has contributed to the drift of youth to urban centres in many PICTs, resulting in shortages of labour in rural areas and increased social problems in towns. In response to the recommendation of HOAFS 2006, LRD has developed a strategy to promote agriculture among young people. The agriculture sector is well-placed to make an important contribution to improving youth well-being and enabling them to find a rewarding place in society. This can be achieved by providing appropriate opportunities for youth to develop a sustainable livelihood based on on-farm and off-farm activities. Engaging youth in agriculture also recognises their potential role in sustainable development, particularly in preventing the deterioration of the natural environment. LRD will work in close partnership with all relevant stakeholder groups and organisations, and will be guided by the Pacific Youth Strategy 2010 (PYS2010), which is the regional framework for youth development in the Pacific.

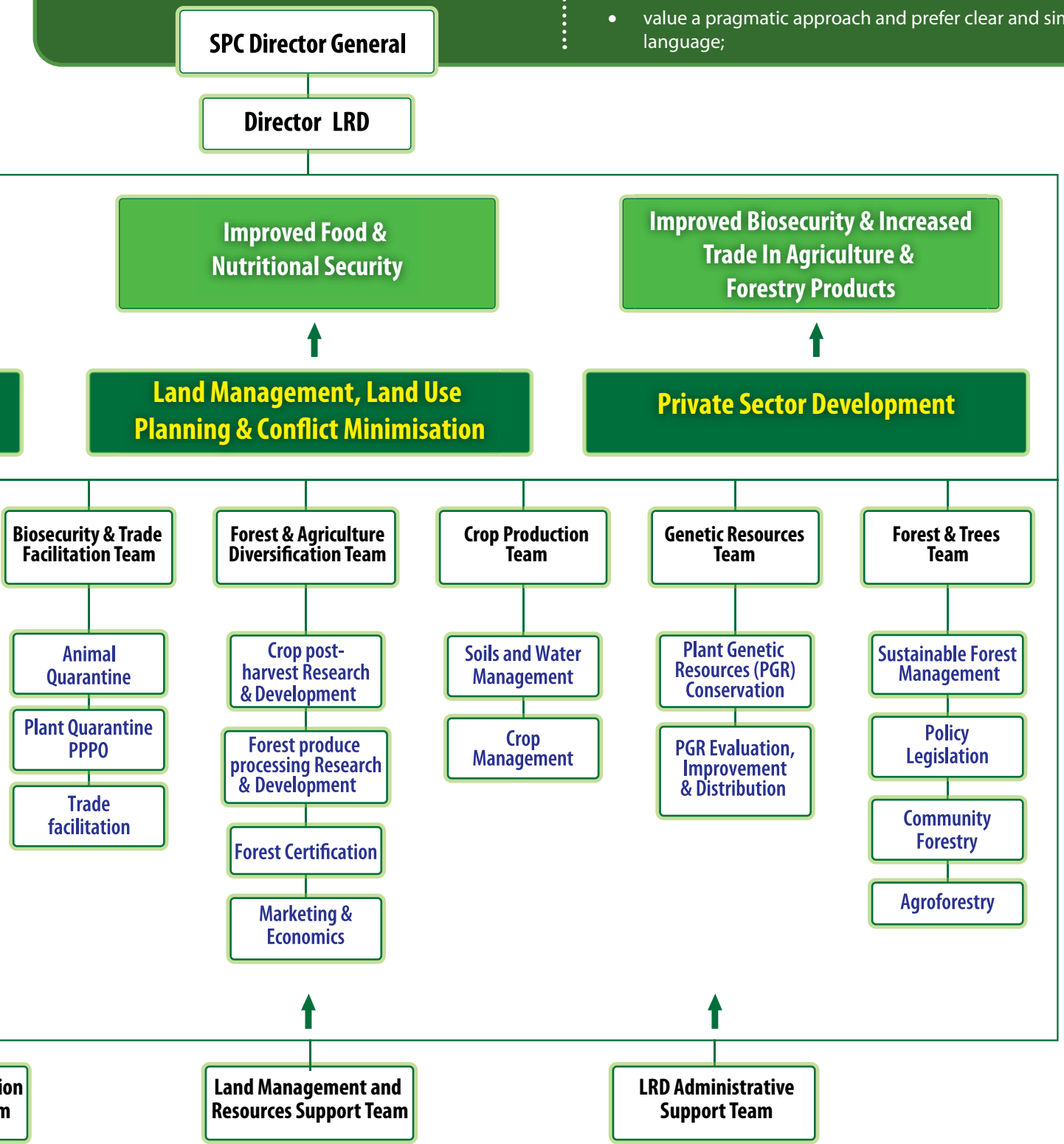


Corporate Guiding Principles

Our corporate values define the organisation's character and identity, and how it operates.

We:

- put people first;
- focus on the priorities of our member countries and territories, which determine SPC's direction;
- take an outcome-driven approach;
- contribute to alleviation of absolute poverty, poverty of opportunity and vulnerability to poverty;
- are committed to the three pillars of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental protection;
- foster strategic alliances and effective partnerships aimed at achieving more for Pacific people by working with and through others;
- strategically engage, analyse and provide options for responding to current and future opportunities and challenges, and proactively address regional and international developments;
- emphasise results and accountability;
- operate with transparency, based on clear policies and procedures;
- are committed to gender equity and equality;
- value a pragmatic approach and prefer clear and simple language;



LRD, particularly through DSAP, has promoted the involvement of women in agriculture in many different ways. These include LRD's recruitment process and capacity-building activities, with gender indicators being used to measure women's participation in all LRD activities. The DSAP project was awarded the SPC Gender Award in 2007 for its gender-inclusive approach to activities developed in countries throughout the region. LRD acknowledges that effective community change and development must include women as planners, sources of knowledge, decision-makers and implementers, and will work in close collaboration with the Pacific Women's Bureau to build on the progress made by DSAP to integrate gender into all aspects of the division's work.

Collaboration with other regional and international organisations on areas of mutual concern is also of great importance. RRRT have recently been incorporated within SPC, which will facilitate closer linkages with their programme. Human rights issues impinge on many of LRD's areas of work, such as land management, food security and fair labour practices. Efforts will be made to work closely with RRRT to ensure human rights are acknowledged and supported.

LRD's efforts to provide effective solutions to meet the different needs of individual PICTs have become more targeted. The integrated structure of LRD enables sharing of expertise and resources across the various work areas of the division and the delivery of more efficient and effective services to PICTs to assist them in addressing changes in the agriculture and forestry sectors in the region and internationally.

9 Partnerships and resources

LRD operates in partnership with other organisations to maximise the effectiveness of its support to member PICTs. The Land Resources Working Group (comprising PIFS, SPC, USP School of Agriculture and Food Technology, SOPAC, SPREP, FAO) of the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP), has been reformed to ensure effective coordination between these agencies. PIFS is the lead agency for policy advice and matters relating to trade at the political level, while USP and IRETA lead in the area of education and training. SPC leads on areas including plant protection, crop production and diversification, animal health and production, forestry, and soils and farming systems. SOPAC leads on geotechnical issues and the management of non-living natural resources (energy, water). SPREP leads on environmental issues but works with SPC on cross-cutting issues such as invasive species. Sharing of information and regular communication are vital to effective collaboration and the Land Resources Working Group facilitates this process.

LRD has strengthened its role to include policy analysis and advice at the sectoral level and this work will continue over this planning period.

Given the overlap between the work of all of these agencies and the importance of the work of others in indirectly contributing to land, agriculture and forestry management and development, close collaboration among all concerned is essential to avoid duplication and to add value to the efforts of every agency. Major areas in which there is already collaboration involve LRD's work with:

- FAO on food security, rural development, farming systems research and extension, plant and animal genetic resources, control of zoonotic diseases, statistical capacity improvement, forest policy advice, agroforestry development, forestry information dissemination and community forestry development;
- FAO-IPPC on phytosanitary standards setting processes;
- FAO and PIFS on biosecurity issues and trade facilitation, integrated pest management and biological control of agricultural pests and diseases;
- FAO and SPREP on invasive species, forest genetic resources and agrobiodiversity;
- SPREP, ISSG of the IUCN, Conservation International, Birdlife International and The Nature Conservancy on invasive species management and networking;
- Bioversity International on conservation strategies for plant genetic resources (PGR) and developing education strategies for PGR;
- ACIAR on research projects particularly in plant protection and animal health and welfare, forestry, crop production and floriculture;
- USDARS on developing integrated pest management;
- World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on animal health standards and issues
- USP on genebank duplication and taro breeding (Taro Improvement Programme) and other related activities such as training, conservation research and education;
- ADAP and USP on the paravet training programme; and

- Non-state actors, such as NGOs and community-based organisations.

There has also been active collaboration with some national research organisations, in particular with IAC in New Caledonia (horticulture research) and NARI of Papua New Guinea (crop production research, crop protection).

LRD will strengthen its collaboration with the following agencies over the next planning period:

- CABI on information resources and taxonomic support relating to pest and disease issues.
- FAO and PIFS in providing advice on agriculture and forestry policy and strategies, marketing and post-harvest processing.
- FAO on agriculture diversification, development of emerging high-value crops, agricultural research, and food security issues, noting the 2nd phase of RFSP, UN Summit recommendations.
- GTZ and SPREP on climate change adaptation and mitigation in support of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change.
- IFAD on atoll agriculture research.
- SOPAC on biofuels assessment and advice.
- USDAFS on watershed and coastal forest management.
- OIE/FAO on their GF TADS initiative – The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases.
- OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) on strengthening the region's animal disease reporting channels.
- CTA

Memoranda of understanding (MOU) involving SPC, FAO, USP and SPREP have been signed. However, joint activities, not just signed agreements, are needed to build meaningful and constructive partnerships. Developing partnerships at an operational level is also crucial in supporting joint working initiatives. The currently planned FAO regional programme on Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods (FSSL) presents an opportunity for strengthened collaboration.

SPC recognises that its donor partners often assist PICTs bilaterally in areas such as land management, biosecurity, and farming systems research and extension. In planning and implementing its programmes of work, SPC LRD will make every effort to avoid duplication of services by identifying gaps in support and focusing on areas of regional importance.

Funding for SPC activities comes from three main sources: core funds made up of SPC members' annual fees; assistance from metropolitan member countries in addition to their annual fees; and assistance from non-member countries and multilateral and international organisations. LRD has traditionally depended on project funding for much of the assistance it provides to PICTs. The Australian Government (through both AusAID and ACIAR) and the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID) have provided significant long-term support for LRD's plant protection work. AusAID has also funded the activities of the Forests and Trees Programme since 1998. The German government, through GTZ, has historically provided considerable long-term funding for the Pacific German Regional Forestry Project and will continue to support LRD activities during this planning period in the area of climate change. The European Union (EU) has also provided significant project assistance through European Development Fund (EDF) 8 via the Pacific Regional Agricultural Programme as well as specific funding for plant protection. EDF 9 has provided support for DSAP, and over this planning period, will support the Facilitating Agricultural Commodity Trade (FACT) project.

AusAID and NZAID have agreed to move more of their assistance to programme rather than project funding. The Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees recently secured long-term funding from the Global Crop Diversity Trust. In the medium term, there is good potential for EU assistance to follow this funding trend, which will allow SPC greater discretion in allocating resources and responding to priorities determined by PICTs, and will also strengthen the sustainability of LRD's support for PICTs.

10 Logical Framework Summary Matrix

Objective 1: Improved food and nutritional security

Narrative	Indicators	Means of verification
Objective level indicator	Increased contribution of locally grown foods to diets in PICTs	• Nutrition surveys • Household income and expenditure surveys • Public health reports • Agriculture censuses
Output 1.1		
Development of policies to support the production, consumption and utilisation of locally grown food sources supported	Promotion of locally grown food sources incorporated into national strategies in relevant sectors in at least six PICTs by 2012	• Review of national and sectoral strategies, programmes and activities
	Policy guidelines developed and disseminated in all PICTs	• SPC website and PAFPNET • Information disseminated to all SPC focal points
Output 1.2		
Agrobiodiversity conserved, developed, promoted and utilised	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) ratified in all PICTs by 2012	• ITPGRFA website • Country surveys and reports
	SPC CePaCT collections of Annex 1 crops placed in the multilateral system by 2012	• Contractual agreement between ITPGRFA and SPC
	Genetic diversity and nutritional qualities of at least two traditional food crops investigated and documented by 2012	• CePaCT analysis reports, SPC website
	Regional tree seed bank integrated into CePaCT by 2012	• CePaCT collection database
	Increase in the adoption of community genebanks	• Thematic team quarterly reports
	Improvement in the genetic base and distribution of selected livestock materials	• CePaCT collection database
Output 1.3		
Diverse food supply systems promoted	Increased diversity of production systems	• Nutritional research and surveys • Thematic team reports • Forestry inventories
	Increased diversity of nutritional foods in PICT diets	

Output 1.4		
Traditional knowledge preserved, enhanced, utilised and acknowledged	Guidelines on the sharing and use of traditional knowledge developed and disseminated	• SPC website • Guidelines incorporated into sectoral strategies • Press releases
	Traditional knowledge management and dissemination system established	• SPC website • National agriculture and forestry websites
	At least two innovative products developed using traditional knowledge	• Press releases • Product development manual
	Increased use of traditional methods of food preparation and preservation	• Focus group surveys

Objective 2 : Integrated and sustainable agricultural and forestry resource management and development

Narrative	Indicators	Means of verification
Objective level indicator	Increase in number of PICTs adapting and promoting, and target communities applying, sustainable agricultural and forest management practices in an integrated way by 2012	• SPC project records • National agricultural reports
Output 2.1		
Development of sustainable forestry, agriculture and land use plans, policies, and legislation supported	10 PICTs supported in developing sustainable plans, policies and legislation	• Policy and legislative documents • SPC website and PAFPNET
	Agriculture, forestry and land mainstreamed within national sustainable development strategies in all PICTs	• PICTs national sustainable development strategies • Sectoral strategies including agriculture, forestry, environment, water and health
Output 2.2		
Sustainable and appropriate forest, agriculture and land-use management practices developed and promoted	Sites for on-farm participatory demonstrations of integrated farming systems established in at least 5 PICTs	• Thematic teams quarterly reports
	Increased awareness of sustainable forest, agriculture and land-use management practices in PICTs	• Awareness survey • Land use capability guidelines • Participatory land use planning manual
	Guidelines for at least 5 sustainable practices and technologies in agriculture and forestry developed by 2012	• SPC web site and PAFPNET • Press releases • Policy Briefs
	Land information data bases, integrated into GIS systems, established in at least 10 PICTs by 2012	• Land information databases and GIS systems • Land resources information maps
	Regional data base of representative soils developed and soil portal operational in at least 6 PICTs	• Soil information files • Soil portals

Output 2.3		
National and regional capacity to prepare, respond, and adapt to climate change and natural disasters developed and strengthened	National climate change and disaster response plans developed or reviewed in at least 5 PICTs in collaboration with SPREP and SOPAC	• Disaster response plans • Disaster response plans' review reports
	Climate-change ready collection of crop, animal and tree varieties adaptable to effects of climate change established	• CePaCT collection
	5 PICTs assisted to examine potential for forestry carbon financing	• Policy briefs • Press releases
	Coordination unit for addressing climate change impacts on agriculture and forestry established	• Structure in place and staff recruited
Output 2.4		
Invasive species, pests, and disease problems identified and addressed, and capacity to respond at national and regional levels supported	Regional invasive species strategies implemented in all PICTs in collaboration with SPREP	• Invasive species management strategy documents and reports.
	Appropriate pest and disease management strategies developed and implemented in all PICTs	• National pest and disease management strategy documents • Regional and national pest and disease lists
	At least 5 emergency response plans (ERP) and systems for pest and disease incursions developed and implemented	• Emergency response plans • Emergency response implementation and monitoring reports
Output 2.5		
National and regional capacity of extension, outreach and information services strengthened	Extension and outreach methods reviewed in 10 PICTs and participatory methods adopted	• Annual national progress reports • Feedback from stakeholders
	Formal partnership established with NGOs in 10 PICTs	• MOU/partnership agreement
	Regional strategy for engaging youth in agriculture developed	• Youth in agriculture strategy documents
	Extension staff in 15 PICTs supported to complete certificates in agriculture (CIA)	• Certificate in Agriculture records
	LRD materials translated into French and local vernacular as appropriate	• LRD publications
	LRD outreach supported in 16 PICTs	• Thematic team quarterly reports

Objective 3 : Improved biosecurity and increased trade in agriculture and forestry products

Narrative	Indicators	Verification
Objective level indicator	PICTs comply with international standards	• Number of PICTs ratifying IPPC, OIE and CODEX • Number of market access approvals and existing markets maintained
	Increased domestic and export trade	• Domestic market surveys • Trade Statistics
Output 3.1		
National capacity to comply with international and other relevant standards strengthened	Pest risk analysis undertaken and completed for at least 20 commodities by 2012	• Pest risk analysis reports • Market access records
	At least 5 people per country supported for training and application of relevant international standards	• Training certificates and reports • Compliance with standards
Output 3.2		
National capacity to increase domestic and export trade developed and strengthened	2 new commodity pathways established per country for at least 9 countries	• Commodity pathway manuals • Domestic market surveys • Export data
Output 3.3		
Sustainable and viable post-harvest technologies developed and promoted	2 viable post-harvest technologies developed and promoted	• Programme progress reports • Technology fact sheets
	Development of 10 value-added products supported	• Value-adding case studies briefing papers
Output 3.4		
Improved information available on plant and animal health status	Pest and disease surveys undertaken in 3 PICTs per year	• Pest and disease survey reports • Press releases
	Database on pests and diseases updated for PICTs quarterly	• Database records on PPLD and CABI Compendia
	200 paraveterinarians trained	• Paravet training records and certificates • Review of status of national level capacity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Acronyms

AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
CABI	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau International
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CePaCT	Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees
CFP	Comptoir Français du Pacifique (French Pacific Franc)
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIRAD	Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le developpement
CRGA	Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific
DSAP	Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific programme (SPC)
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GTZ	*Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH* (German Technical Cooperation Agency)
HOAFS	Heads of Agriculture Forestry Services
Impextek	Import-Export Technology Centre
IRETA	Institute for Research, Extension and Training in Agriculture
ISSG	Invasive Species Specialist Group
LRD	Land Resources Division
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NZAID	New Zealand Agency for International Development
OIE/WOAH	Office International des Epizooties/World Organisation for Animal Health

PACER	Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations
PAFPNET	Pacific Agriculture and Forestry Policy Network
PGRFP	SPC/GTZ Pacific German Regional Forestry Project
PHOVAPS	Pacific Heads of Veterinary & Animal Health Production Services
PICTA	Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement
PICTs	Pacific Island countries and territories
PIFACC	Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change
PPLD	Pacific Pest List Database
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
RGC	Regional Germplasm Centre
RPFS	Regional Programme for Food Security (FAO)
RTMPP	Regional Technical Meeting on Plant Protection
SOPAC	Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Islands Regional Environment Programme
SPRIG	South Pacific Regional Initiative on Forest Genetic Resources
SPS	Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
USDA-FS	United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service
USDARS	United States Department of Agriculture Research Service
USP	University of the South Pacific
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization