



# **Towards a regional framework for action on ocean acidification?**

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# What?

## Another regional framework???

HERE WE HAVE A TIMETABLE  
FOR SETTING A TARGET FOR WHEN  
WE CAN CONFIRM A TARGET FOR  
GETTING RID OF MORE TARGETS!



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Are you lonely?

Tired of working on your own?  
Do you hate making decisions?

**HOLD A MEETING!**

*You can —*

- See people
- Show charts
- Feel important
- Point with a stick
- Eat donuts
- Impress your colleagues

All on company time!



**MEETINGS**

THE PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE TO WORK

# Some key needs



- **Coordinate research and monitoring**
- **Ensure continuity over time**
- **Provide a platform to develop in-country capacity (research and monitoring, management)**
- **Encourage filling gaps in domestic legal/policy frameworks and provide guidance on where to anchor OA**
- **Rationalize / coordinate efforts/projects, especially donor-funded**
- **Cooperate on OA-related interdependencies (e.g. fisheries)**
- **Share experiences and pool expertise**
- **Support and legitimize concerned local / national stakeholders**



# Potential arrangements

**Informal**

(GCF) Regional OA project

Priority action programme

OA Alliance or challenge or...

Regional OA strategy

Revised CC DRM strategy

**And  
many  
more!**

**Formal**

Protocol to the Noumea Convention



# A crowded regional landscape



**SRDP**



# Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific (SRDP)

## 1.2 Climate Change and Disaster Risks in the Pacific

(...) **Ocean acidification** will continue, with the rates of **acidification** proportional to the emissions scenario. The impacts of **ocean acidification** will be felt more strongly in the Eastern Equatorial Pacific, for example, the easternmost islands of Kiribati at the end of the 21st century under the RCP8.5 scenario (Ciais et al., 2013)v. **Ocean acidification**, in association with increasing sea surface temperatures, is also projected to result in an increase in the frequency and severity of coral bleaching events. (...)

## 1.6. Strategic Approach and Rationale

(...) New and possibly unforeseen challenges to achieving and maintaining the resilience of PICT development outcomes are likely to arise through the lifetime of this Strategy. Some will manifest relatively slowly, and may represent issues that are already apparent but not yet of major and widespread concern. This includes the use of geoengineering to combat climate change. Others will occur as relatively rapid onset events, such as the ongoing process of **ocean acidification**, which may have dire consequences for PICTs. Despite the inherent shortcomings in information and understanding, and the resulting uncertainties, it is important that PICTs, and their development partners, have in place procedures that facilitate early identification of these issues, as well as appropriate responses. (...)



# A crowded regional landscape

Framework for  
Nature Conservation  
and protected Areas  
in the Pacific Islands  
Region 2014-2020

Pacific  
Ocean  
Alliance

Pacific  
Oceanscape

GOPS

SRDP

Regional  
Observatory for  
Protected Areas  
and Biodiversity  
in the Pacific  
Islands region

PI-GOOS

Noumea  
Convention

PIROP

RFMOs /  
RFBs

PACIS

Pacific action  
plan for  
implementation  
of improved  
climate services

OAIRUG

IAEA OA-ICC

UNFCCC-  
CTCN

IOC-UNESCO



IPCC Oceans?

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# Next steps?

1. **Detailed needs analysis**
2. **Regional / global landscape strategic analysis**
3. **Gap analysis**
4. **Options identification:**
  - Drawing on lessons learnt from other regions / other Pacific initiatives
  - Including feasibility study (political, funding, backers, ...)
  - Lead agency / “Champion”
  - SWOT or equivalent
5. **Anticipate conditions and resources for implementation**
6. **Country and/or stakeholder-driven decision**



# Conclusion

A check list

Obvious but...

Helps decide and design

Regional mechanisms have a mixed track record of delivering change -  
current international mood is not favourable

The “age of innocence” has come to an end: ever more justification will be  
deemed necessary for each new piece to the system

A constraint to action, but a positive one if used to develop more strategic  
instruments



# Thank you

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