



# The Pacific Community – SPC

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Restoration**

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# SPC's ROLE.....



- **SPC ([www.spc.int](http://www.spc.int))**
  - Technical international organisation
  - 26 members (22 member countries + 4 founding members);
  - 9 major divisions;

## *Land Resources Division*

4 programs (S.Plan:2013-17)

- Forestry Team under Sustainable Land Management Program





# SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

- **To enhance sustainable land, agriculture and forestry resources management and development**

*(Provision of technical assistance and advice on sustainable land use, agriculture and forestry management)*



# Result areas, outcomes and activities

## Outcome 1: Increased capacity of sustainable land and forest management (SLM&SFM)

- Development of sustainable forestry, agriculture and land use plans. Policies and legislations
  - National plans and policies
- Sustainable and appropriate forestry, agriculture, and land management practices developed and promoted
  - Agroforestry demonstration farms
- Capacity for forest genetic resource conservation, management and utilisation strengthened
  - Tree species by seed bank and countries involved in supply/exchange of species





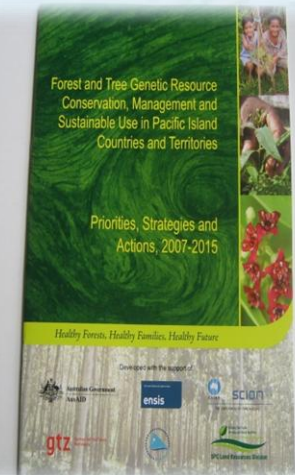
- **Outcome 2: National and regional capacity to mitigate an adapt to climate change and to respond to disasters for land, agriculture and forest resources developed and strengthened**
  - Capacity support to implement REDD+ activities developed and strengthened
    - PICTS participating in forest carbon trading
  - Capacity to implement forest monitoring activities developed an promoted
    - PICTs supported undertaking national forest inventories
  - Development of land resources climate change adaptation strategies and plans supported
    - National CC adaptation strategies

# Regional Strategy and Action Plan on FGR Conservation and Management



## Vision

*By 2020, the Pacific Island Countries and Territories are enjoying improved livelihoods, greater food security and increased environmental protection, resulting from enhanced collaboration and coordination within and between them in the conservation, management and sustainable utilisation of forest genetic resources, while maintaining their unique Pacific cultures*





## **Regional Strategy & Action Plan for the Conservation, Management and Sustainable Utilization of Forest & Tree Genetic Resources in the Pacific**

- Endorsed by the HOAFs & approved by the MOAF at the regional meeting in Apia, Samoa in September 2008, as the framework under which PICs develop and implement activities and policies for the development of their forest genetic resources; and
- Establishment of a regional tree seed centre (now called the “Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre”) and programmes under the centre are the priority actions agreed in the strategic action plan.



# Pacific Island Tree Seed Centre

## Strategy & Action Plan

### Vision Statement:

*“Assisting Pacific Island Countries to gain fair and equitable access to and benefit sharing from priority tree germplasm for sustainable development, rural livelihoods, conservation and climate change.”*



# Role of PITSC of SPC/LRD...



## MAIN AIM:

assist forestry development in the Pacific region (22 member countries) through the sustainable conservation and effective use of tree genetic resources

## Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre (PITSC)

- **Established:** 2013
- **Pacific Regional Tree Seed Centre** (Forest/Tree seeds only)
- **ACTIVITIES:** Safe exchange , Research, Capacity building/Training and Information Services for **priority tree species**



# Strengthening Capacities in Tree Seed Technologies in Pacific Island Countries (July 2011-June 2014)

## – CSIRO Project



Australian Government

AusAID

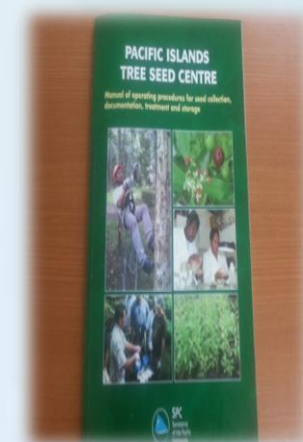
The three main aims of the project were to enable us to:

- work closely with key groups in the Pacific Island Countries e.g. forestry departments, quarantine & biosecurity personnel, to review and assess the relevant issues, risks and constraints which delay the efficient and safe movement of wild and improved tree germplasm between countries
- build capacities for improved governance and intra-governmental linkages to aid safe movement;
- make practical recommendations to minimise the problems



# PITSC OPERATIONS MANUAL

- Prepared with the assistance of our colleagues from the Australian Tree Seed Centre, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
- Published end of May 2014 and distributed in the PICTs through our stakeholders
- Aim – to have all the countries in the Pacific region using this manual to ensure that the quality of forest genetic resources exchanged is of good quality





# Collaborative Research Activity - FFPRI



Research on improving *Calophyllum inophyllum*, especially on tolerance to cyclone strength winds





# MOU with Royal Botanic Garden of Kew, England



## Under the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership (MSBP)

- The objective of this Agreement is to establish a framework for technical co-operation for the purposes of conserving forest biodiversity in the Pacific region with emphasis on sound and scientific tree seed technology
- Currently conducting collection of native tree species in Fiji in collaboration with the Fiji Forestry Department





# Projects Supported

- **ReForest Fiji Project – EU**

- *reforestation of degraded lands in the sugar cane belts on the western side of Fiji*
- *PITSC provides support to the project by importing tree seeds, storing and dispatching to project nurseries*

- **GEF-PAS**

- *our program provides support to this project on a project site on an island (Taveuni) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest island in Fiji on land use management including agroforestry*



# Main Issues and Challenges

- **Lack of Understanding of FGR**
  - *Access and benefit sharing (ABS)*
  - *Forest biodiversity*
  - *Economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits*
- **Regional cooperation** – willingness to exchange and share seeds
- **Biosecurity issues**
- **Lack of financial support**
- **Capacity building\training of SPC and national staff**
- **Research**
- **Monitoring and reporting**



# Key to the Success of the Operation of the Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre

- Regional cooperation among member countries to share their genetic resources with other member countries. To date Fiji, PNG, Tonga and Vanuatu have signed the Material Transfer Agreement (MTA).
- Financial and technical support from international and regional partners of its operational and related activities



***Vinaka!***  
***(Thank you)***