CBIT-GSP Event Report:
Annual Network Meeting of Pacific
- Virtual Meeting -

1.

Date:	*January 28, 2025*
Time and Time Zone:	*10:00 AM – 12:00 PM* *AEDT (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)*
Language:	*English*
Participants:	*Total: 21 participants (11 female, 9 male)*
Participating countries	*Participants represented by 10 Pacific Network Member Countries and 4 Development Partners*
Satisfaction	Not available
Organizers	*UNEP CCC CBIT-GSP*

2. GENERAL BACKGROUND

Background	The Pacific region includes 14 Pacific Islands Countries (PICs). PICs are among the most vulnerable nations to climate change and global warming. Despite the region contributing 0.14 percent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, climate change possesses a profound threat to the hard-earned development gains of PICs. The comparative smallness, remote location and archipelagic character of the PICs (see location map of PICs in large blue ocean and PICs indicators) with diverse and unique national circumstances present challenges to meet UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement reporting requirements. Despite these challenges, governments in the PICs are making strides in enhancing their climate reporting efforts by taking initial steps in integrating transparency requirements into their national reporting framework. However, understanding and raising awareness of the ETF in the context of each PIC's national circumstances are crucial with a view to facilitating preparation and submission of the BTRs and informing the preparation of the next Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In 2024 the CBIT-GSP network for Pacific focused on in-country support in the PICs. The absence of a dedicated Pacific Coordinator during the first half of the year 2024 made it more difficult to bring support to the Pacific countries, nevertheless the CBIT-GSP team in Copenhagen managed to conduct two in-country capacity-building training courses and to support PICs participation during the Global Transparency Forum in May 2024. The annual meeting serves as a collaborative forum for member countries to discuss and agree on the network's priorities.

Objective	The overall objective of the Pacific Transparency Network meeting was to strengthen Pacific Islands Countries transparency journey by evaluating the progress made in 2024 and reviewing key findings from the feedback received through the Rapid Assessment of Transparency Capacities survey. Selected PICs shared their experiences with CBIT-GSP's in-country support and regional events and collectively developed the 2025 work plan, taking into account each PICs national circumstances. This meeting also provided an opportunity to identify areas for enhancement, tailor support and avoid overlapping activities.

3. MAIN TOPIC DISSCUSSED

Main Topics	With welcoming remarks from Francesco Locatelli, Project Officer CBIT-GSP UNEP CCC, all participants introduced themselves. A total of 21 participants joined the network meeting with gender balance. There were also three development partners who were invited to share their respective transparency programs in the Pacific. Pacific Transparency Annual Network meeting focused on three main elements • Brief overview of CBIT-GSP – key objectives and activities in Pacific Transparency network in 2024. • Key findings from Rapid Assessment of Transparency Capacities survey • Presentation of annual work plan 2025 for the Pacific Transparency network. **Brief overview and key activities in 2024:** CBIT-GSP is a five-year global climate transparency project funded by GEF, implemented by UNEP and executed by UNEP-CCC. Pacific Transparency Network is one of the ten networks around the globe. The overall objective of the project is aimed at supporting developing countries in the transition to the ETF and its first BTR submission under the Paris Agreement. In 2024 the CBIT-GSP network for Pacific focused on in-country support. Countries identified areas where support is required in 2023 and followed in 2024. New country requests originated from in-person meeting with PICs focal points during the 2024 global transparency forum and via online meetings. A total of five in-country activities have been completed in the Pacific. Pacific specific contexts are also discussed, including status of climate reporting, lessons learned and challenges and opportunities. The absence of a dedicated Pacific Coordinator during the first half of the year 2024 made it more difficult to bring support to the Pacific countries, nevertheless the CBIT-GSP team in Copenhagen managed to conduct two in-country capacity-building trainings, and to support PICs participation during the Global Transparency Forum in May 2024. **Key findings from Rapid Assessment of Transparency Capacities:** Ten out of 14 PICs responded to a rapid assessment of transparency capacities survey. While no PICs submitted BTR by the end of 2024, several PICs indicated that BTRs will be submitted during 2025 and 2026. Most PICs also highlighted that support is needed to understand NDC 3.0 and BTR. Institutional settings and lack of domestic technical expertise are the two main challenges identified that prevented most PICs to prepare BTR. PICs also shared challenges in terms of NIR, NDC tracking and mitigation. All PICs who responded to the rapid assessment ranked high in regard to reporting on adaptation. This is followed by support needed in terms of support needs and support

received tracking. Over 80% of respondents indicated that support also needed for gender mainstreaming.

Annual Workplan for Pacific Transparency Network:
The annual workplan was presented to PICs colleagues. Development of the workplan is based on the following approaches:

- Bilateral meetings with CBIT-GSP Focal in PICs (ongoing)
- Meetings with international transparency partners (ongoing)
- Key findings and priorities determined in the rapid assessment for transparency
- Desk-top study (NCs and BTRs)

Participants were informed that the workplan is a live document, with the possibility to merge the events with other networks and synchronize with activities of other partners. All dates for the events are tentative and dependent on the resources and the workplan includes only those activities which are planned for 2025. Additional activities are welcome and will be added based on requests from PICs.

Intervention from PICs and development partners	Three PICs shared their intervention following guiding questions on 1. In what ways does CBIT-GSP support enhance awareness on transparency? 2. What are the main lessons learned from the support activities in 2024? 3. What are the areas for improvement for CBIT-GSP's support in 2025? **Papua New Guinea (PNG):** PNG received two in-country support during the year 2024. Jason Paniu from CCDA provided an overview of the two in-country supports (LEAP Model and GHG Inventory) that PNG received from CBIT-GSP during 2024. Jason highlighted that proper collaboration among development partners is the key to successfully delivering in-country capacity building training as per country needs. He continued that this reduced duplication of the training and engaging same stakeholders. In terms of areas for improvement, Jason emphasized having engagement with experts from the Pacific region. **Solomon Islands:** David shared overview of the support (LEAP Model) that Solomon Islands received. He highlighted that this was the first of this kind of in-country training that stakeholder received. David continued that CBIT-GSP could also provide training on ETF Reporting and IPCC Software with development of CRTs. **Cook Islands:** Terito shared an overview of the workshop on ETF. It was very useful as the stakeholders received first time training on ETF in the country. There was lots of engagement from the participants. She highlighted that NGOs from outer islands could join as there are lots of interest from NGOs. She highlighted the importance of considering the availability of the stakeholders as being a small size in the government office. Continuity of the training is crucial to keep the momentum and build capacity on emerging issues. One positive approach could be useful to bring Pacific experts and continue knowledge sharing. **Niue:**

The workplan has been supported by CBIT-GSP focal point from Director Haden, Niue. Haden mentioned that with a slow start of new year it is bit early to get into the work mode – especially in the Pacific. Director Haden cautioned that with limited capacity and there are a number of activities up to COP 30 and other international engagement, we need to plan these in a suitable time. He suggested that we need to better coordinate and maximiser PICs engagement. Additionally, PICs are requested to reach CBIT-GSP team to identify countries' needs and firm up activities for 2025.

DCCEEW, Australia:

Mike provided an overview of DCCEEW's activities on transparency and engagement with CBIT-GSP, NDC Hub and the Cook Islands for the upcoming events. He acknowledged receiving direct feedback from the governments in the Pacific. Mike highlighted that sharing regional expertise, knowledge and experience will not only strengthen transparency space but all other climate related activities that PICs are doing. Mike shared DCCEEW's plan for sub-regional capacity building workshops – hands-on training focusing on country's needs and engaging regional experts. Diversifying participants across government agencies – statistics, climate responsible will assist countries to build in-house capacity and capability. He acknowledges the busy activities by respective government stakeholders and hence these training will be designed to deliver during the quite time of the year. He invited PICs to reach DCCEEW for their interest to host sub-regional training event. He concluded with a message that Australia will have election in next few months hence, it may take few months to respond concretely to any request during this time.

Global Research Alliance, New Zealand:

Andrea from GRA provided an overview of GRA's engagement in the Pacific through the Ministry of Primary Industries. GRA focuses on the agriculture sector, which may not be a key category but as PICs want to be self-sufficient in this space, this sector may become a key category. Currently there are two projects in the Pacific and the support approach is in-person capacity building followed by virtual training. Andrea invited PICs to reach GRA if any PICs need support in the agriculture sector. She mentioned that when designing programs, usually she takes a stocktake on current and planned activities in order to avoid replication and filling the gaps. Andrea continued that GRA now focuses on sub-regional and regional activities and welcome any request.

PATPA, GIZ:

Iris from GIZ presented PATPA's activities. She highlighted the importance of learning from PICs on transparency and how partners like PATPA could assist. PATPA has a climate helpdesk which provides technical support covering various aspects on transparency. PATPA has a rich resources of knowledge products.

Key Takeaways	Few takeaways:
	1. PICs highlighted that support from CBIT-GSP was very useful. Often as a first-of-its-kind.
	2. In-person training helped to understand the subject matters and how PICs could enhance collaboration with respective agencies for data sharing and information flow.
	3. It is noted that PICs have limited capacity in the context of PICs national circumstances. Hence, planning and organizing in-country events need to take stock from current and on-going activities.
	4. Collaboration with partners is key to avoid replication of activities considering PICs absorption capacity and availability.

5. Engaging with Pacific experts will assist in knowledge sharing and best practices.
6. Bilateral discussion will continue to identify capacity building needs in each PICs,
7. Workplan will continue to add activities as new areas, for example on the basis of needs assessment survey will be added.
8. Development partners remain open to collaboration with CBIT-GSP in delivering in-country activities either for selected countries or regional, sub-regional activities.

4. NEXT STEPS

- Consultation will continue with PICs to identify their support needs.
- Engagement with development partners will continue to synchronize any planned event in the regional or sub-regional settings.
- Consultation with Pacific regional agencies will continue to foster collaboration in delivering support in the Pacific.

ANNEX 1. CONCEPT NOTE

Include here the concept note and agenda of the event.

PDF

Pacific Network
Meeting Jan 2025 Co

ANNEX 2. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organization name	Country	Gender
Reshma Ram	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Fiji	Female
Prashant Singh Rajput	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Fiji	Male
Ann Albert	FSM National Government	Federated States of Micronesia	Female
Francesco Locatelli	UNEP-CCC	Denmark	Male
Reeha Rishika Sharma	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	Fiji	Female
Deepitika Chand	Climate and Clean Air Coalition	Fiji	Female
Ian	Ministry of Climate Change	Vanuatu	Male
Taveli Pavihi	Department of Environment	Niue	Male
Andrea Pickering	NZAGRC	New Zealand	Female
Samisoni Tupou	Ministry of MEIDECC-Department of Climate Change	Tonga	Male
Tekimwau Otiawa	Office of Te Beretitenti	Kiribati	Female
Terito- Story	Climate Change Cook Islands	Cook Islands	Female
Iris Cordelia Rotzoll	GIZ	Fiji	Female
Akesiu Fifita	Department of Climate Change/MEIDECC	Tonga	Female
Joanna Latasi	Tuvalu Climate Change Department	Tuvalu	Female
Priscilla Pep	Climate Change and Development Authority	Papua New Guinea	Female
Mike S	DCCEEW	Australia	Male
David T	CCD	Solomon Islands	Male
Noim Uddin	CBIT-GSP	Australia	Male
Jason Paniu	CCDA	Papua New Guinea	Male
Haden T	Niue	Niue	Male

ANNEX 3. SATISFACTION SURVEY

Not Applicable

ANNEX 4. PRESENTATIONS

If possible, include or attach any relevant visuals from the activity such as presentations.

Cover Page 2025 Pacific Network Meeti...
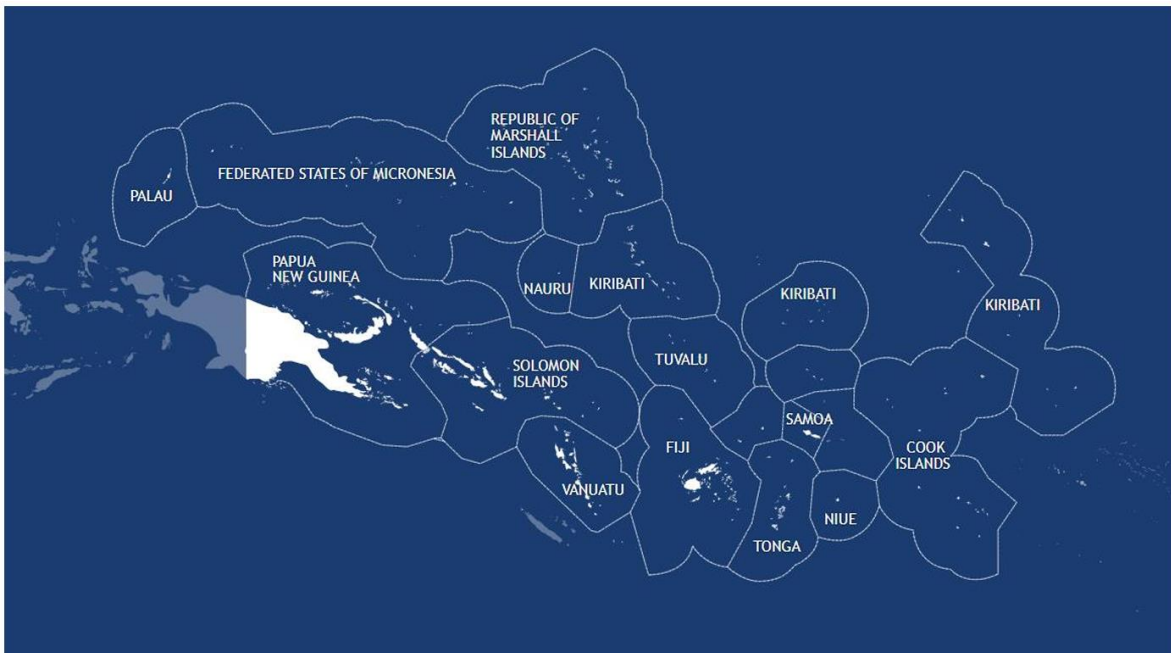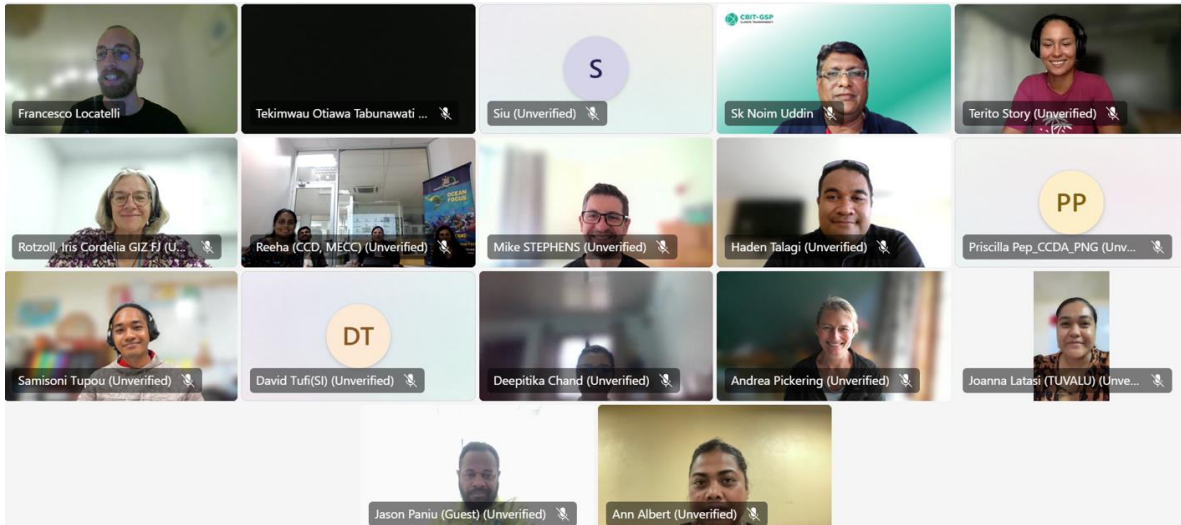
Brief Overview of CBIT-GSP Pacific Netw...

Key findings from Rapid Assessment of ...

Annual Workplan 2025 CBIT-GSP Pacific...

2025 Presentation PATPA.pdf

Pacific Islands Countries in the Pacific Ocean. White areas are landmass.

Pacific Sub-region	Country	Land Area (sq. km)*	Sea Area/ EEZ (sq. km)*	Island Type*	Popula-tion*	GDP in 2019 (US$ bil-lions)**	GDP per Capita in 2019 (current US$)***	Carbon dioxide Emissions (kilotonnes in 2016)****	Carbon dioxide Emissions (metric tonnes per Capita in 2016)***	Total Green-house Gas Emissions (kilotonnes of CO2e); 2012 or most recent year***	% of electricity generat-ed using renewables; 2018 or most recent year****
Melanesia	Fiji	18,272	1,290,000	High island with a few minor atolls	894,961	5.5	6,175.9	2,046.2	2.3	2,258.0	60%
	Papua New Guinea	462,840	3,120,000	High island with a few small atolls	8,934,475	25.0	2,829.2	5,078.8	0.9	11087 (2016)	62%
	Solomon Islands	28,370	1,340,000	High island with a few atolls	712,071	1.4	2,373.6	183.4	0.3	4,591.0	10%
	Vanuatu	12,190	680,000	High island with a few small atolls	294,686	0.9	3,115.4	113.7	0.5	446.0	6%
Micronesia	Federated States of Micronesia	701	2,980,000	High islands & atolls	105,503	0.4	3568.3 (2018)	124.7	1.3	58 (1996)	5%
	Kiribati	811	3,550,000	Predominantly atolls	118,744	0.2	1,655.1	66.0	0.6	53 (2009)	17%
	Nauru	21	320,000	Raised coral island	11,690	0.1	9,397.0	40.3	3.7	19 (2000)	2%
	Palau	444	629,000	High islands & atolls	17,930	0.3	14,902.0	216.4	12.6	248(2005)	2%
	Republic of the Marshall Islands	181	2,131,000	Atolls	54,590	0.2	3788.2 (2018)	135.7	2.5	5 (1989)	2%
Polynesia	Cook Islands	237	1,830,000	High islands & atolls	17,434	0.4	24,913.0	60.0	4.0	73(2014)	26%
	Niue	259	390,000	Raised coral Atoll	1,562	0	18,757	5	1	11.45 (2009)	0
	Samoa	2,935	120,000	High islands	198,646	0.9	4,324.0	198.0	1.3	356.0	42%
	Tonga	650	700,000	High island with a few small atolls	99,780	0.5	4,903.2	106.3	1.3	155 (2011)	10%
	Tuvalu	26	900,000	Atolls	10,580	0.1	4,059.0	11.0	1.0	5.0	23%

Notes
* https://sdd.spc.int/
** http://wdi.worldbank.org/table/4.2
*** https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/
**** SPREP (2020) State of Environment and Conservation in the Pacific Islands: 2020 Regional Report. Straza TRA (author). Wheatley A, Anderson P, Callebaut J, Reupena L (eds). Apia, Samoa: Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. Available at: https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/SOE-conservation-pacific-regional-report.pdf

Source: Strategy 2030, Regional Pacific NDC Hub