



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

JOINT FAO AND SPC PACIFIC MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY MEETING

Second Meeting
Apia, Samoa, 4 October 2019
Partnering to Develop Nutrition-Sensitive Food Systems in the Pacific Islands

Ministers are invited to:

- note the progress made in developing the Joint Action Framework for Food Security and Nutrition in the Pacific Islands (Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework);
- support the use of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework as the reference partnership framework and coordination mechanism to develop nutrition-sensitive food systems in the Pacific Islands;
- agree that a relevant subset of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework become the foundation of a Strategic Partnership Plan for collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Pacific Community (SPC);
- note progress in the implementation of the FAO Multi-Country Programming Framework for the Pacific Islands (2018-2022) as a specific input into the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework; and
- endorse the proposed Technical Cooperation Programme indicative pipeline for the period October 2019–December 2020.

Introduction

1. At its 34th Session, held in April 2018 in Fiji, the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific welcomed the joint communiqué of the First Joint FAO and SPC Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting, and recognized the efforts made to accelerate the implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States (GAP) in the Pacific region through the development of a Joint Action Framework for Food Security and Nutrition in the Pacific Islands. The Regional Conference encouraged FAO to continue to work closely with regional and international actors, and



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

operationalize a robust and inclusive coordination mechanism in order to realize the goals of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework. The Regional Conference further recommended that FAO deliver coordinated multi-sectoral actions through a sustainable food systems approach for healthy diets.

Joint Action Framework for Food Security and Nutrition in the Pacific Islands

2. Based on the three overarching objectives outlined in the GAP (enabling environments for food security and nutrition; sustainable, resilient, and nutrition-sensitive food systems; and empowered people and communities), the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework outlines a set of collectively-agreed strategic priorities for the Pacific Islands, aiming to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture in support of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
3. The Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework recognizes progress made under the Framework for Action on Food Security in the Pacific: Towards a Food Secure Pacific (2011-2015), which aligns with relevant regional strategies and action plans including, *inter alia*, the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacificⁱ and A New Song for Coastal Fisheries.ⁱⁱ The Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework document outlines joint actions for implementation by development partners in the region over an initial period of five years (2018–2022), and is intended to be a living document responding to changing needs and priorities beyond the initial implementation period and towards 2030.
4. To support a food systems approach and encourage coordinated multi-sectoral actions in the implementation of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework, a high-level Symposium on Nutrition and Food Systems is planned in the region in 2020. In addition, priority actions to strengthen the resilience of small-scale fisheries for food security and nutrition in the Pacific Islands will be discussed at the 35th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 2020 in Bhutan. At the operational level, a working group comprising representatives of development and country partners will oversee the implementation of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework and monitor its progress. A monitoring and evaluation framework is being developed to track the progress made in implementing the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework and ensure that it achieves its SDG 2 targets.

Partnerships for nutrition-sensitive food systems in the Pacific Islands

5. The Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework aims to accelerate progress towards food security and nutrition goals by strengthening the coherence and coordination of development partner support. Therefore, the initial multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder activities, identified in the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework implementation strategy for the period 2018–2022, reflect the current work plans of development partners in the region.



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

6. The potential role of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework in promoting the mobilization of financial resources through mechanisms focused on adaptation to climate change and economic shocks, improvement of agricultural production and market development, and improvement of food security and nutrition was recognized by the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 2018. Beyond the initial implementation strategy, FAO aims to strengthen the role of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework as the reference partnership framework and coordination mechanism to develop nutrition-sensitive food systems in the Pacific Islands.
7. FAO will explore the possibility to integrate the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework into the United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018–2022, and to increasingly use the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework to guide FAO's engagement with development partners across relevant sectors.
8. At the First Joint FAO and SPC Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting, closer collaboration between FAO and SPC was encouraged, including the possibility of joint programming. A five-year Memorandum of Understanding concerning cooperation between FAO and SPC was signed in 2018, with a Strategic Partnership Plan to be developed for strategic collaboration. FAO and SPC priority action areas and activities, identified in the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework (2018–2022) implementation strategy, provide a foundation to further develop the FAO-SPC Strategic Partnership Plan. It is proposed that a relevant subset of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework become the FAO-SPC joint programming framework. A similar approach may be adopted with other partners.

FAO Multi-Country Programming Framework for the Pacific Islands

9. FAO's Multi-Country Programming Framework for the Pacific Islands (2018–2022) (CPF) was endorsed as a living document at the First Joint FAO and SPC Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting. With the aim to foster a sustainable increase in the production, trade and marketing of domestic agricultural products, and the healthy consumption of diverse, safe and nutritious food, FAO set out to play a catalytic role in linking agriculture and health, strengthening inter-agency linkages and developing partnerships. The CPF outputs echo the three objectives of the GAP and represent FAO's specific input into the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework.
10. The CPF serves as the planning, delivery and accountability framework for FAO's partnership with Pacific Island member countries. Meetings are held every six months with relevant government partners at the country level to review progress and discuss emerging priorities. In



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

the second year of implementation, key achievements in delivering CPF results include, at the regional and multi-country levels, the following:

- Under Output 1 on evidence-based recommendations for safe and healthy foods, the initiation of a partners' dialogue and preliminary work to update the Pacific Island Food Composition Tables and the production of scoping studies to support the development of school food and nutrition education programmes in the Pacific Islands.
- Under Output 2 on sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, fisheries and forestry practices, the development with SPC of a Green Climate Fund proposal on climate change and biosecurity, and the analysis with SPC of the potential for small-scale oceanic fish supply chains to increase the resilience of coastal fishing communities.
- Under Output 3 on food control and business practices for efficient agri-food value chains, the promotion of contract farming and improved post-harvest loss management, value addition and marketing techniques.
- Under cross-sectoral SDG monitoring and statistics strengthening, the launch of the Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics, a joint outcome of long-term efforts made by FAO and SPC technical support to national agriculture censuses; the provision of tools, methodologies and training for the estimation of the prevalence of undernourishment and moderate or severe food insecurity (SDG 2.1.1 and SDG 2.1.2); and awareness raising on SDG 14 indicators under FAO's custodianship.

These achievements are reinforced, at the national level, by country-specific achievements.

11. The CPF document indicates a total estimated resource requirement of USD 56.2 million for implementation, with USD 28.5 million available from FAO and partners; FAO's resources anticipated to provide approximately USD 13.2 million for small- and medium-size projects; and a resource mobilization target of USD 14.5 million identified for extra budgetary resources. A further USD 10 million is earmarked for emergency preparedness and response. Since 2018, USD 19.2 million from FAO and partners has been mobilized to implement the CPF, with the current mobilization target amounting to USD 18.5 million. Partner funds have been secured in particular to strengthen the resilience of communities for food security and nutrition (i.e. European Union, Global Environment Facility); support the development of nearshore Fish Aggregating Devices fisheries (i.e. Government of Japan); and support the achievement of nationally determined contributions (i.e. Government of Germany).
12. Efforts will be further strengthened to mobilize resources in support of the implementation of the CPF, using the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework to highlight partnerships and impact areas. In addition, FAO will continue to provide support through its Technical Cooperation Programme and other core budget resources. A tentative Technical Cooperation Programme pipeline for the period October 2019–December 2020 is proposed for endorsement (Annex 1).



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

Conclusion and recommendations

13. With the aim to deliver coordinated multi-sectoral actions through a sustainable food systems approach for healthy diets, FAO is supporting the implementation of the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework and its development as a coordination mechanism to support partnerships for nutrition-sensitive food systems. FAO recommends that the Pacific Food and Nutrition Framework be further used as the reference partnership framework and coordination mechanism to develop nutrition-sensitive food systems in the Pacific Islands, and that a relevant subset of priority areas and activities become the foundation of a Strategic Partnership Plan for collaboration between FAO and SPC.



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

Annex 1. Technical Cooperation Programme Indicative Pipeline (October 2019–December 2020)

Countries	Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu			
CPF implementation cycle	Start: January 2018		End: December 2022	
Time frame for the indicative TCP pipeline	Start: October 2019		End: December 2020	
Countries of implementation	Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) Title (TCP and TCP facility)	TCP Scope (TCP/ TCP facility)	Indicative biennium for resource allocation	Indicative resource requirements (USD)
Output 1 : Evidence-based recommendations developed and promoted to incentivize the production and consumption of healthy food				
Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Nutrition and food systems in the Pacific Islands	TCP	2018–2019	500 000
Marshall Islands, Nauru, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu	Integration of food and nutrition security across the policy landscape	TCP	2018–2019	250 000
Output 2: Sustainable and climate-smart practices promoted to help build resilient agriculture, fisheries and forestry production systems				
Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Mapping and characterization of Fishers and Fish Workers Organizations in selected Pacific Islands	TCP	2018–2019	200 000
Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa, Tonga	Improving community monitoring for co-management in fisheries	TCP	2020–2021	300 000
Cook Islands	Land Assessment for Agricultural Development in the Pa Enua	TCP facility	2020–2021	100 000
Federated States of Micronesia	Technical assistance for agriculture module in Population Census 2020	TCP facility	2018–2019	100 000
Kiribati	Fisheries in the Line Islands	TCP	2020–2021	250 000



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Tonga	Livestock Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition	TCP facility	2020–2021	100 000
Output 3: Food control and business practices identified and promoted to facilitate efficient agri-food value chains which provide safe, nutritious and affordable food				
Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Seafood risk assessments and awareness raising on practices to minimize risk of seafood poisoning	TCP	2020–2021	300 000
Cross cutting initiatives				
Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Support to the implementation of the Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics	TCP	2020–2021	500 000

ⁱ SPC, SPREP, PIFS, UNDP, UNISDR and USP (Pacific Community, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and University of the South Pacific), 2016. *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Address Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management [FRDP] 2017–2030*. Suva, SPC, SPREP, PIFS, UNDP, UNISDR and USP. (also available at http://tep-a.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/FRDP_2016_finalResilient_Dev_pacific.pdf).

ⁱⁱ SPC. 2015. *A New Song for Coastal Fisheries – pathways to change: The Noumea Strategy*. Noumea, SPC. (also available at https://spccfpstore1.blob.core.windows.net/digitallibrary-docs/files/fe/fedc2bcffdee2b46bbb2ef08caad7e54.pdf?sv=2015-12-11&sr=b&sig=cFl2HWzEMW%2FeWYzDXiy1bQcexpZk7eNNZCzSVMf4i8%3D&se=2020-02-26T05%3A30%3A01Z&sp=r&rsc=public%2C%20max-age%3D864000%2C%20max-stale%3D86400&rsct=application%2Fpdf&rscd=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22Anon_2015_New_song_for_coastal_fisheries.pdf%22).