



Secretariat of the Pacific Community

GUAM PROGRAMME



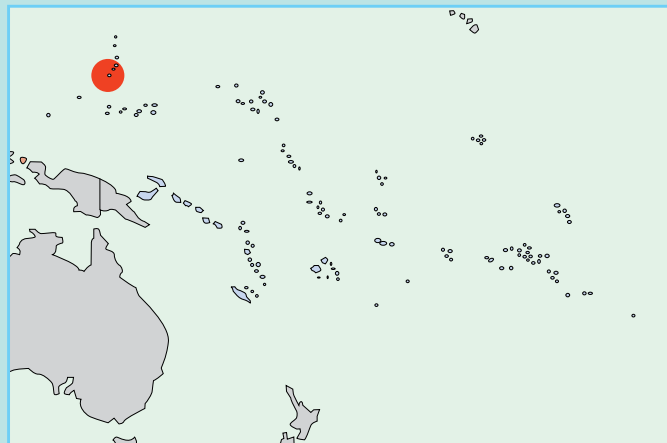
GUAM



2014 REPORT



Guam



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2014 Report



Secretariat of the Pacific Community
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Foreword



I am pleased to present SPC's annual report on its programme with Guam. The report provides a snapshot of the development results Guam is achieving with SPC's support. It includes a feature article illustrating the effectiveness of our joint effort and how the collaboration between Guam and SPC works in practice. A more comprehensive list of SPC's work, including training, is provided at the end of the report.

As this is the first report I have presented as Director-General, I would like to acknowledge the people and Government of Guam as members of SPC and partners in development of the Pacific region. SPC is proud to work with Guam, and you have my commitment that SPC will strive for continuous improvement in the work we undertake with Guam to achieve your development objectives.

This year we have examined how SPC can further improve its role as a resource for its 22 island members. We believe SPC is uniquely positioned to support members such as Guam to address their critical development challenges, including issues we are all familiar with in the Pacific, such as reducing non-communicable diseases (NCDs); building resilience to climate and disaster risks; accelerating economic opportunities; or enabling young Pacific people to realise their full potential. None of these issues can be adequately tackled through single-sector approaches. They can only be addressed through long-term, multi-sector approaches that use the best expertise and knowledge available.

As such, in 2015 we plan to hold discussions with members to explore how SPC can better formulate and integrate its work and expertise to focus on members' development priorities. We expect this will include a range of different ways of working with Guam to shape future national programmes.

I encourage you to look at SPC's Programme Results Report 2013–2014 to see the full range of work SPC is pursuing in the region on behalf of all members. I thank Guam for its contribution to this work. I also take this opportunity to thank our development partners, who have invested financially and intellectually in this most important work.

Dr Colin Tukuitonga
Director-General, SPC



SPC cooperation with Guam

This report provides an overview of SPC's work with Guam in 2014. It is intended to show how SPC's national-level activities, initiated by Guam, complement our regional work to benefit the people of Guam and the region. The report provides an overview of how SPC aligns its work with Guam to achieve the development priorities detailed in the Guam Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2011.

As a development organisation, SPC provides knowledge, scientific and technical cooperation to support members to achieve three key development goals:

- The Pacific region and its people benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth
- Pacific communities are empowered and resilient
- Pacific Island people reach their potential and lead long and healthy lives

This year, we have summarised activities and results achieved in Guam under these three development themes so it is easier to understand the effectiveness of SPC's work as a whole. The work SPC supports builds on the specialist sector expertise for which SPC is most recognised. These sector areas include transport and energy, statistics, fisheries and aquaculture, mineral resources and geoscience (including geographic mapping and modelling), agriculture, forestry and land, health, water and sanitation, education, gender, youth and human rights.

SPC supports the development efforts of Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) with scientific and technical knowledge and good practice that are context-appropriate. In recognition of the interrelated nature of development and our commitment to maximise the effectiveness of our contribution, SPC wants to enhance the current process of programme development at country level. Accordingly, country programming will be based on proactive, ongoing and broadly based consultation with each country or territory, with a view to delivering technical quality aligned with members' cross-cutting development priorities. The objective is to shape a technical cooperation programme that is as developmentally effective and sustainable as possible in meeting the needs of the countries and territories SPC serves.

Regionalism in practice

From SPC's beginning, there has been awareness of the value of a regional approach to meet common needs. Although PICTs are diverse in many respects, they share similar challenges in areas such as fisheries, transport, health, food security and emerging areas such as climate change. SPC recognises and draws on skills and capacities from around the region, including encouraging experts from one member to share experiences and skills with counterparts in other PICTs. SPC also facilitates regional public goods that benefit all PICTs, such as the CePaCT genebank, (Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees), which assists countries to conserve staple crops and introduce new plant varieties to increase crop diversity.

Our regional work complements national-level initiatives in Guam. The tangible and practical benefits of regionalism are demonstrated by SPC's work on behalf of its members to facilitate cooperation and leverage value across a range of regional initiatives. These are outlined further in SPC's Programme Results Report 2013–2014.

SPC's regional services to members include:

- Strengthening regional partnerships to facilitate information sharing among PICTs and to connect PICTs to regional and international policy development.
- Improving management of the region's oceanic fisheries through stock assessments, scientific analysis and supporting countries to define and protect their maritime boundaries.
- Supporting evidence-based decision making by governments through SPC's regional statistics database, sector-based information portals, GIS and mapping services, economic analysis, and other advisory services.
- Increasing access to safe and affordable shipping services through technical cooperation, regional shipping agreements, and training.
- Improving energy security and supply through petroleum advisory services.
- Enhancing food security through conservation and distribution of the region's crop diversity, improving the resilience of food crop varieties to climate conditions and researching more effective farming techniques.
- Tackling transboundary diseases threatening livestock and public health through improved animal health services.
- Detecting and controlling diseases of regional concern through the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network.
- Confronting domestic violence by supporting legislative change across the region.
- Promoting well-being through gender awareness and mainstreaming.
- Supporting science, policy and legislation to increase the potential for PICTs to benefit from environmentally and economically sustainable mining of deep sea minerals.
- Supporting PICT resilience to the impacts of natural disasters and climate change by facilitating the regional Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development and by providing training and strengthening regional partnerships.



Examples of SPC work in Guam

➔ Developing Guam's aquaculture industry

Right: Checking weight and health status of coral grouper brooders

Development of export markets is providing coastal communities with emerging opportunities to earn a livelihood from aquaculture.



Aquaculture activities have taken place in Guam for over 40 years, harvesting a wide range of species such as milkfish, tilapia, catfish, white shrimp, groupers, rabbitfish and giant clams. Traditionally, such seafood has been harvested at subsistence level. Even today, demand is still driven by the local market, although the tourism sector, with over one million visitors a year, has created additional demand. This demand is soon expected to rise with the planned relocation of thousands of United States marines to Guam.

Development of export markets is providing coastal communities with emerging opportunities to earn a livelihood from aquaculture. With its pristine waters, long experience, technical capacity and proximity to many Asian and Micronesian markets, it would seem that Guam has significant potential to expand its aquaculture industry and seize emerging economic opportunities beyond the local market.

The College of Natural Resources and Applied Science of the University of Guam is currently in charge of the most important aquaculture hatchery facility, the Guam Aquaculture Development and Training Centre. Understanding the challenges of competing with cheap processed canned seafood from the Asian markets, it examines the potential to develop its production of good quality, high value species such as groupers, snappers and mangrove crabs, to cater for the higher end local markets, including the tourism sector. In particular, it is interested in restoring a coral grouper breeding population and establishing a marine finfish hatchery that will focus on the squareretail coral grouper species. The coral grouper is highly prized, particularly in Asia, and a recent assessment by the International Union for Conservation of Nature indicates that the species is in danger of extinction. In Guam, it has almost disappeared from the near shore catch and is seldom seen in the wild.

In 2012, the University of Guam requested SPC's technical assistance establishing the grouper hatchery. SPC organised and conducted practical training on farming strategies and aquatic animal disease diagnosis for the Guam Aquaculture Development and Training Centre staff. The training took place over three weeks and included field trips to other government hatcheries, private grouper nurseries, grow-out

operations that provide a controlled environment for young fish to mature, and shipping facilities. In the same year, SPC obtained funding for Professor Dr John Brown, who was in charge of overseeing the hatchery in Guam, to attend the Network of Aquaculture Centres for the Asia-Pacific region's training on grouper hatchery production. On his return, he shared the knowledge he gained with the local hatchery staff. Speaking of the training he received, Professor John Brown said, 'The marine finfish training (...) has been of great use to the hatchery – at all levels and for all staff involved – in order to set up all the necessary working protocols and operations to develop a marine finfish production area.'

Since then, the Guam hatchery has imported some specimens of squaretail coral groupers from both Palau and Chuuk. They are currently being reared until they reach maturation. Close monitoring of the fish ensures that spawning and larvae rearing activities start as soon as the fish are mature. This work will revitalise the population of squaretail coral groupers and increase the diversity of aquaculture in Guam, attracting new interest and investment in developing aquaculture as a growing economic sector.

This initiative is an important part of SPC's work with Guam to address its national development objectives and open its economy to global markets for goods and foreign investment. It reflects SPC's and Guam's joint priorities in developing the country's marine resources sector. This work was made possible with funding assistance from the Australian Government.



Summary of SPC development cooperation

The feature article in the previous section provides an example of how SPC is working with the Government and people of Guam to support achievement of their national development goals.

In addition to the work featured, SPC provided a wide range of support to Guam in 2014 aligned to the Guam Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2011. Technical cooperation and support were provided by many divisions and programmes across SPC on both multi-sector issues such as disaster risk reduction and climate change, and specific-sector issues in agriculture, forestry, coastal and oceanic fisheries, public health, water and sanitation, energy, transport, human rights and development statistics. Guamanians took part in approximately 74 days of SPC training during the period July 2013 to June 2014 in these different areas. Details of the technical cooperation and training provided are listed in Annexes 1 and 2.

In general, members recognise SPC's value lies in the high quality of the technical support provided across national sector areas and in its portfolio of regional work, rather than in SPC's occasional role as a conduit of donor funds. SPC promotes sustainability through working with countries

to develop national capacity to design results-focused programming and where possible to leverage additional funding. SPC's direct financial inputs are only a small part of the picture. However, SPC recognises individual members are interested in the financial value of SPC's work as it relates to them. For Guam, in 2014, this is estimated at USD 534,181 (480,763 CFP units). This amount includes both the direct costs of SPC's work with Guam (including technical staff time and travel) and an allocation of the costs of SPC's regional work and indirect costs of managing and operating SPC programmes.

As highlighted in the feature article and in the following table of outputs, the collaboration between SPC and the Government of Guam has involved considerable activity. While significant progress has been made, SPC is committed to understanding better what has worked and what has not, in order to inform and improve the value of its work in Guam in 2015 and beyond. We want to understand whether measurable and sustainable development results are being generated by SPC's activities and, if not, try to work out why and adjust our approach accordingly.

Annex 1: SPC training provided in Guam: July 2013–June 2014

Capacity building is an important aspect of SPC's overall technical assistance. It includes formal training programmes, targeted classroom training in response to members' needs, attachments and on-the-job training. The following table gives a detailed breakdown of the type of training..

	F	M	Total trained	Total person days
Aquaponics for the Pacific Island Region	1	1	2	10
Enhancing cultural life and making cultural policy count workshop	1		1	1
Market access: International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) and surveillance/survey	1	9	10	3
Public health data for decision making course	8	2	10	50
Statistics: consumer price index training	2		2	10
Total	13	12	25	74

Note:

- The above table covers training workshops, attachments and on-the-job training. It does not include meetings, conferences, seminars and consultations.
- Some individuals received training in more than one area. For this reason, the total number of individuals reached may be smaller.

SPC expected contribution to national development goals

Expected long term result (impact)	Expected medium term result (outcome)	Outputs completed or expected to be completed in 2014	
Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems			
Improved management of oceanic fisheries	National tuna oceanic fisheries policy and decision-making are informed by the best science-based stock assessments and advice	Completed	Updated country website for all PICTs with detailed characterization of bycatch from tuna longline fisheries
Increased contribution of fisheries to food security and livelihoods	Competent authorities with strengthened capability using science-based approaches to manage aquatic biosecurity risks and to facilitate trade	Completed	Technical support provided to strengthen Guam's grouper hatchery; training provided on farming strategies and aquatic animal disease diagnosis; ongoing breeding of coral groupers as a result of improved national staff capacity
Land Resources			
Increased contribution from agriculture and forestry sectors to inclusive broad-based economic growth	Increased capacity of PICTs to meet standards, guidelines and conditions for exports and domestic trade	Completed	The Regional Biosecurity Plan (RBP) for Micronesia and Hawaii Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) workshop co-ordinated by SPC; 73 people from Micronesian countries and the US Department of Defense attended the workshop
		Completed	Capacity building support rendered to the Northern Pacific countries on the establishment of the Micronesia biosecurity plans and training; 20 quarantine officers trained, including participants from Guam
		On track	Pest incursion response support provided and plans developed for all requesting countries
Statistics for Development			
Pacific national and regional statistics are accessible and are being utilised	PICTS are producing the agreed core set of statistics across key sectors	On track	National Minimum Development Indicators (NMDI) populated with figures from Guam; field-work completed, final draft for review by SPC sectorial specialists previewed in late May

SPC is a membership organisation that works in close partnership with its Members: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna. We thank them for their support.

We would also like to thank our principal donor partners for their generous support of Pacific development outcomes: Asian Development Bank, Australia, Commonwealth Secretariat, European Union, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, France, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Global Environment Facility, International Maritime Organization, Korea, New Zealand, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN WOMEN, United States of America, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), World Bank.