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OVERVIEW REPORTS FOR 2008
WORK PROGRAMMES – DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

AGENDA ITEM 2.2 - LAND RESOURCES DIVISION

(Paper presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This year marks the final year of the integrated strategic plan for the Land Resources Division (LRD). Activities continued to focus on outputs of the 2005-2008 Plan, aligning interventions to national priorities elaborated in the joint SPC/country strategies. The LRD management structure encourages integration and sharing of resources and continued to add value to outcomes. Participatory approaches enhanced ownership of development achievements by stakeholders.
2. The division stepped up its facilitation role in policy, legislation and development planning. LRD advocated for the Pacific Islands at important international forums such as the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), UNCCD, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and ITPRGFA.
3. Construction of the new facility to house the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) has commenced at the SPC Narere compound in Suva, Fiji. The centre will play an important role in efforts towards climate change adaptation, improving food security and increasing domestic and export trade in agriculture and forestry products.
4. Plant health, biosecurity and trade facilitation continue to be hallmarks of the division's functions. Substantial assistance has been provided to PICTs through pest and disease surveys, biological control (including of invasive species) and IPM, R&D on pest and disease control and quarantine treatments for fresh produce, harmonisation of national legislation to comply with SPS requirements, facilitation of inter-regional trade, and capacity building in a broad range of technical areas including through the IMPEXTEK facility.
5. The Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific (DSAP) project has made an indelible impact on the lives of rural farmers and communities including women and youth in PICTs. Following consultations in individual participating PICTs, a regional workshop was convened to confirm exit strategies and ensure ongoing project activities are completed before the end of the project at year's end.

6. The Centre of Excellence for Atoll Agriculture and Forestry Research and Development, located at the Kiribati Research Station in South Tarawa, was officially opened by the Hon. Minister of Environment, Land, Agriculture and Rural Development (MELARD) in July 2008.
7. The new LRD integrated strategic plan for 2009-2012 was approved by Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry at their second regional conference in September 2008.
8. The present science and technology capacity of LRD will be substantially eroded by the end of 2008 with the completion of some relatively big projects. Thematic area teams that will be most affected are: (i) Plant Health; (ii) Crop Production and Soils Management; and (iii) Information, Communication and Extension. Against this backdrop, PICTs face major global and regional challenges relating to food security, climate change adaptation and land management, which were prioritised in the Pacific Plan by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in their 2008 Niue communiqué. These areas require essential funding support for 2009.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. CRGA is invited to:
 - i. note and endorse the decisions made by Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry at their second regional conference, 8–9 September 2009, Apia, Samoa, including their approval of LRD's strategic plan for 2009 – 2012;
 - ii. welcome the high priority accorded by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in their Niue communiqué to food security, climate change adaptation, and land management and conflict minimisation, which was subsequently endorsed by the Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry at their regional conference in Apia;
 - iii. acknowledge that LRD will require additional resources to implement the decisions made by Forum leaders;
 - iv. endorse the Secretariat's efforts to secure resources to implement effective responses to food security, climate change adaptation, land management and conflict minimisation as a matter of urgency; and
 - v. request development partners to support SPC's efforts to make a difference in the lives of Pacific people by enabling the organisation to implement the decisions taken by Pacific leaders.
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LAND RESOURCES DIVISION

Purpose and Background

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a broad update on LRD's work in 2008, its new initiatives and progress on ongoing ones, the human and financial resources available for undertaking LRD's work, and the outlook for the future. This divisional overview is complemented by: (1) the new LRD integrated strategic plan for 2009–2012 (Annex 1); (2) notable country activities (Annex 2); (3) notable publications (Annex 3); and (4) main sectoral meetings and workshops (Annex 4).

A. ACHIEVEMENT OF LRD'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

2. LRD's current strategic plan has two objectives: (1) Sustainable management of integrated agriculture and forestry systems, and (2) Improved biosecurity and trade facilitation.
3. LRD's integrated mode of operation is founded on seven thematic area teams and three support teams working together to identify and prioritise issues and find and jointly implement solutions. Its various projects, viz. Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific (DSAP), Plant Protection in the Pacific (PPP), Pacific Regional Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Project (PRIPPP), GTZ Pacific German Regional Forestry Programme (PGRFP), AusAID Forests and Trees Programme, South Pacific Regional Initiative on Genetic Resources (SPRIG), and other project interventions are integrated into the LRD framework in terms of both their implementation and reporting to Heads and Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry, donors, and CRGA.
4. LRD stresses an integrated and participatory approach that goes beyond its 'borders' and has established a strong platform for helping PICTs meet the challenges of this century. Challenges such as climate change and the food price crisis are perhaps the most demanding the Pacific has had to address in recent years. There are also demands to provide alternative fuels, which could conflict with the principles and practices of sustainable food production, even to the point of competing for the land on which that production takes place.
5. LRD's vision has always been a long-term one, which must continue, endure and stand us in good stead into the future.

B. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY SYSTEMS

6. Objective 1 is organised into five output areas that highlight the holistic approach of LRD's strategic plan for 2005–2008. The first output focuses on policy to ensure that an enabling environment is in place within which to develop and promote sustainable agriculture and forestry management and production practices, which are the focus of Output 1.2. As many of these practices are based on using local biodiversity and genetic resources, Output 1.3 ensures that sufficient attention is given to the sustainable conservation and use of these important resources, and associated local knowledge. Protecting our land, forests and biodiversity from the impacts of natural disasters of both a biotic and abiotic nature is addressed by Outputs 1.4 and 1.5. The five output areas are as follows:

- Output 1.1 Sustainable forest and agricultural policies, legislation and plans developed
 - Output 1.2 Sustainable forestry and agriculture management and production practices developed and promoted
 - Output 1.3 Biodiversity and genetic resources conserved, developed and promoted
 - Output 1.4 Natural disaster response and support structures in place
 - Output 1.5 National and regional capacity to manage invasive species, pests and diseases strengthened
7. Crucial to the attainment of this objective has been the support of all stakeholders, from farmers and resource owners to policy makers.

Output 1.1 Sustainable forest and agricultural policies, legislation and plans developed

8. Achieved and expected outcomes are that PICTs have in place appropriate national policies and legislation, use a harmonised regional approach and engage with international initiatives that they have signed up to. The following are some of the main initiatives and activities contributing to this output.
- 8.1 Participatory land use zoning in Rarotonga is currently being implemented and will be used as model for zoning work in other PICTs. At the same time, LRD is assisting Cook Islands to develop a national land use policy. Awareness and scoping studies for participatory land use zoning were completed in Kosrae and Pohnpei in FSM, Palau, Guam, Tonga and Niue.
 - 8.2 During the year, LRD produced three policy briefs: Land use planning in the Pacific; Participatory approaches for agriculture and forestry development in the Pacific; and Food price crisis in the Pacific.
 - 8.3 LRD continues to work with Pacific ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States) countries in harmonising biosecurity-related laws. A regionally harmonised biosecurity bill has been developed. Nationally adapted versions have been completed for Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, PNG, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. An information package has been produced that includes, for example, a model Cabinet paper, to provide support for countries in enacting and implementing the bill.
 - 8.4 LRD held discussions with the UN-WHO (World Health Organization) office in Suva, Fiji, and the SPC Public Health Programme on linkages between the Biosecurity Bill and the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005). The IHR requirements were considered in national adaptations of the regionally harmonised bill. The official position of LRD on these linkages and how they are addressed in the biosecurity bill will be communicated to WHO shortly. LRD has also held discussions with an expert from the Secretariat to the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee regarding potential linkages between the biosecurity bill and the obligations of countries under Resolution 1540.

- 8.5 The Pacific Avian and Pandemic Influenza Taskforce was established in 2007 as a consultative forum for all regional, international and national bodies involved in avian and pandemic influenza preparedness in the region. The taskforce will meet again in early November, 2008, to review the progress of the project and be briefed on the results of the mid-term review of the project. Legislation governing the activities associated with emergency response preparedness has been assessed. On-going consultations are being undertaken with PICTs to identify the need for additional tools to help assess the effectiveness of their public health emergency laws, related policies and other legislation to respond to possible outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases, in particular highly pathogenic avian influenza and pandemic influenza.
- 8.6 In collaboration with FAO, LRD is continuing work to develop plans and policies for conservation of animal genetic resources in the region.
- 8.7 LRD participated in ongoing consultations with the Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA), World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) and the International Federation for Animal Welfare (IFAW) to integrate animal welfare considerations into animal production and animal health policies, activities and programmes.
- 8.8 National consultations to include the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) have been carried out in FSM, Fiji, Niue, Palau and Tonga. Palau has since ratified the treaty. Fiji has agreed to ratify the treaty, and the Tongan Cabinet has approved ratification and made a submission to the National Privy Council for final endorsement.
- 8.9 LRD has been seeking approval from SPC members to place the *ex situ* collections held by CePaCT on behalf of countries into the Multilateral System (MLS) of the ITPGRFA. Discussions regarding this are in progress with PICTs and the Treaty Secretariat. Several countries have already given their approval.
- 8.10 In collaboration with Bioversity International, a proposal has been developed for capacity building in plant genetic resources policy and legislation, specifically plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. This proposal has been submitted to donors for funding.
- 8.11 SPC was represented at the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity held from 19 to 30 May, in Bonn, Germany. Technical support and advice were provided to member PICTs in partnership with SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme) on major issues relating to agricultural and forest biodiversity, climate change, biofuels and invasive alien species among other topics.
- 8.12 LRD's involvement in the UNFF process continued. LRD participated in an Australian-Swiss region-led initiative on regional input in support of UNFF (26 January – 2 February, 2008), aiming at strengthening forest-related regional and sub-regional mechanisms to support the implementation of sustainable forestry management (SFM).
- 8.13 In collaboration with FAO-Bangkok, LRD with the support of the SPC/GTZ Pacific-German Regional Forestry Project (PGRFP) facilitated and organised the participation of Pacific member countries, and provided advisory support at the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) meeting in Vietnam (March 2008). An Asia-Pacific Forestry Week, which was organised in parallel with the APFC, provided an excellent opportunity for LRD to showcase some of its work. The meeting was attended by more than 700 delegates from all over the world.

- 8.14 In partnership with PGRFP, LRD supported work on the development of a new forest policy for Fiji which was endorsed by the government in December 2007. The document was published and distributed in 2008. To support the implementation of the new policy, work on drafting new forest legislation to replace the current Forest Decree has started, again supported by LRD and PGRFP.
- 8.15 LRD and PGRFP assisted the Fiji government in the review of the Land Conservation and Improvement Act, to promote SLM adoption and support the implementation of the Fiji Rural Land Use Policy. The revised act is expected to be endorsed at the end of 2008. LRD and PGRFP are also supporting the Fiji Ministry of Agriculture in developing a national land use planning guideline that incorporates a participatory and integrated approach.
- 8.16 LRD participated in SPC's joint country strategy missions to Niue, FSM and Solomon Islands.

Output 1.2 Sustainable forestry and agriculture management and production practices developed and promoted

9. Achieved and expected outcomes are that PICTs adopt a balance between traditional and modern land management ideas, with problems affecting forestry and agriculture production being solved using the best of science. The use of participatory approaches in delivering services and technology ensures that communities own the resulting achievements.
- 9.1 LRD, through the Pacific Islands Extension Network (PIEN), and in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific (USP), conducted a participatory assessment of extension delivery in a number of countries. A project proposal (for possible funding by ACIAR) based on the study results has been developed to address capacity building needs in agricultural extension in the region.
- 9.2 LRD in collaboration with the Australian International Landcare Steering Committee has developed a project proposal to secure funding for regional land care master classes for PICTs.
- 9.3 Capacity building is an essential activity in achieving this output. Postgraduate training is supported through teaching at USP, supervision of Masters and PhD research and provision of two Masters scholarships (to Samoa and Fiji) by NZAID through the PAPGREN project. The PhD student has completed a thesis on taro. This work was carried out in collaboration with USP and Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia, with the first component of research conducted in CePaCT. The CePaCT Curator provided training to both the MAF and USP laboratories (Samoa) in April/May, and taught the tissue culture component of the Crop Production Unit at USP. Management and documentation systems were synchronised for both the USP and SPC laboratories.
- 9.4 Genetic Resources, through PAPGREN funding, is developing a Plant Genetic Resources Distance and Flexible Learning Unit through USP. Three units have been completed and are under review. A two-week Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) course for farmers is also under development.

- 9.5 An ACIAR-funded project operating in Fiji and Samoa is exploring the added benefits of virus-free planting material by comparing the yield from different taro varieties, both virus-free and virus-infected, in both countries over a number of years. Three varieties from both Fiji and Samoa have been collected and multiplied for planting in the field and screen-house in early 2009. These results could highlight the importance of using clean planting material to increase yields.
- 9.6 LRD is working with MAFFF in Tonga on a project to support the development of the tropical fruit sector. The project focuses on three key areas: genetic diversity, capacity building and market constraints and issues. A planning meeting was held in Tonga in September.
- 9.7 A major biological control programme against the invasive and often troublesome mile-a-minute weed was developed, but delays in the importation and release of the biological control agent, the rust *Puccinia spegazzinii*, have affected implementation of this project. LRD has been responsible for successful weed biological control in Vanuatu, Nauru, FSM, Marshall Islands and Palau.
- 9.8 The Plant Protection in the Pacific project has supported major weed, pest and disease surveys in PICTs. Weed surveys have been carried out in 15 PICTs, and over 15,000 weed records have been entered into the Pest List Database (PLD). Virus disease surveys were undertaken in Nauru. A successful programme of biological control against five different important weeds in Vanuatu was supported, stimulating interest in other weed targets in that country.
- 9.9 The completed project on proper management of animal waste found that expensive, complex methods, and even the use of simple bio-digesters, were rarely successful. However, composting was proven to be a feasible option. Application of the findings of the animal waste management project was extended to Tonga, Tokelau and Fiji, and is being incorporated into SPC's joint country mission strategies for all the PICTs covered so far.
- 9.10 An assessment of the capacity of animal health laboratories in the region was undertaken. The strategy developed as a result focuses on networking with international laboratories, capacity building of technical staff, and appropriate International Aviation Transport Association (IATA) certification training for animal health personnel. In 2008, IATA certification training has been held for both animal health and human health officials. A total of 31 officials from CNMI, PNG, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, American Samoa, Fiji, Niue, Wallis and Futuna, French Polynesia, Tonga, Cook Islands and Samoa successfully completed the certification programme.
- 9.11 In response to a recommendation of the 2006 independent assessment of progress in implementing forest harvesting codes in Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, LRD with the support of PGRFP and the Tasmania Forest Practices Authority organised a study tour for relevant technical staff from Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to look at a working system in Tasmania. This should result in more effective implementation of their forest codes.

- 9.12 The report on a survey of the vegetation and flora of Nauru, identified as priority under the Nauru-SPC joint country strategy, 2008–2010, was provided to the government during the year. This was part of LRD’s contribution towards the rehabilitation of mined areas in Nauru. The survey included an assessment of the current state of the vegetation and flora of Nauru and mapping and description of the vegetation and plants, with particular emphasis on the vegetation in most serious need of protection, rehabilitation and replanting. The report will be published and distributed by the end of the year. A national nursery operation and tree propagation training workshop was organised by LRD in Nauru with the objective of building capacity towards the rehabilitation of mined areas.
- 9.13 In response to the recommendation of the 2006 HOAFS, a national forest inventory of Niue was undertaken with the support of PGRFP. The report on the inventory has been completed and work is already underway to formulate a forest management plan for the island, based on the inventory results.
- 9.14 In response to a 2006 CRGA recommendation, a database on Asian logging companies active in the Pacific, especially in PNG and Solomon Islands, is now being established within LRD to assist PICTs to make informed decisions on foreign logging companies interested in harvesting their forests. The delay in implementing this decision has been due mainly to difficulties in getting information from the countries concerned. The information that is now available is not definitive but is a good starting point. It will need to be supplemented from other sources and be updated regularly to ensure its accuracy.
- 9.15 In collaboration with FAO, LRD is supporting a Pacific study looking at improving the capacities of PICTs in monitoring, assessing and reporting (MAR) on sustainable forest management. The study investigates the needs for a Pacific MAR network and a regional facility to support countries in enhancing and maintaining their MAR systems. A regional workshop is planned for the end of the year to discuss the study findings and endorse the next steps.
- 9.16 With funding support from the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests, LRD is organising a workshop help build PICT capacities in forest restoration and forest rehabilitation. LRD is also providing support to the Maq community in Chuuk, FSM, which is attempting to rehabilitate its degraded watershed.
- 9.17 A sub-regional workshop to promote agroforestry in the northern Pacific was held to evaluate existing activities and to formulate research and development programmes suitable for individual PICTs in the subregion. Training on plant propagation and other nursery practices, including seed treatment and germination, potting and maintenance of seedlings, etc., was conducted.
- 9.18 LRD participated in the evaluation of Fiji’s veterinary services by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) using the OIE tool for evaluating the performance of veterinary services. In collaboration with the Japanese Livestock Technology Association, LRD also conducted a study of Fiji’s livestock production system.
- 9.19 LRD is working with Fiji and Samoa (through USP) to determine the impact of virus infection on taro yields. Three varieties from both Fiji and Samoa are being used in this study. The results could highlight the importance of using clean planting material.

- 9.20 LRD has initiated activities to follow up on the areas of work identified as requiring attention under the joint country strategies for Tokelau and Kiribati, and has invited other partners, such as UNDP, to take part.

Output 1.3 Biodiversity and genetic resources conserved, developed and promoted

10. Achieved and expected outcomes are effective national and regional PGR conservation utilising traditional PGR, and where appropriate new 'improved genetic resources developed. Success relies on good understanding of the importance of 'sharing' genetic resources in a region where diversity varies significantly between PICTs.
- 10.1 CePaCT continues to maintain important regional collections of the genetic resources of Pacific staples such as taro, yams, cassava, sweet potato and banana. The taro collection of 835 accessions consists of traditional varieties from the Pacific and Southeast Asia, and improved lines from Hawaii, Papua New Guinea and Samoa.
- 10.2 Building has started on the site for the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees at Narere, Fiji, where the SPC Community Training College is based. This will be a custom-built laboratory housing all the facilities required for the Centre to effectively and efficiently provide services for the region. The completion date given by the building contractors is May 2009.
- 10.3 Long-term funding for supporting CePaCT, namely the taro and yam collections, has been offered to SPC by the Global Crop Diversity Trust. This is the first genebank to be offered funding support outside of the International Agricultural Research Centres (IARCs).
- 10.4 The Global Crop Diversity Trust is supporting a number of conservation and utilisation-related activities in the region. Support is being provided for a researcher to build on the taro cryopreservation protocol developed by LRD, and to extend this to the other aroids. The research is scheduled to start in early 2009. Nine PICTs will be receiving funds to regenerate field collections and to provide plants to CePaCT for safety duplication. The Trust is also supporting the establishment of a Pacific banana collection. To date, this support has enabled training in banana characterisation, which facilitates identification of specific banana types. The training was conducted in collaboration with QDPI in July 2008. Further funds will be provided to support virus testing, which will facilitate the distribution of the regional banana collection. Funding has been received by the Trust to evaluate selected taro accessions from the taro core collection established during TaroGen in PNG. Sites have been chosen that are suitable for selection of drought and salt tolerance/resistance.
- 10.5 About 7,000 plants have been distributed since the last CRGA meeting. Tokelau received its first consignment of tissue culture plants (466 plants - bananas, taro and sweet potatoes) in May 2008. These plants are now being evaluated by our country partners. Special attention is being given to performance in atolls, and resilience to drought and salinity. Adaptable accessions have been identified for some crops and these will feed into the 'climate ready' collection.

- 10.6 LRD is establishing a 'climate ready' collection, consisting of crops and varieties that have traits such as drought and salinity tolerance to assist farmers to better manage climatic extremes. The crops and varieties will be sourced from within the region and outside. For example, salt and drought tolerant sweet potato has been accessed from the International Potato Center (CIP). To date, funding has been received from the French Pacific Fund (F\$66,134) and the US Government (US \$98,250) for this activity.
- 10.7 National PGR consultations have been carried out in Federated States of Micronesia, Niue, Palau and Tonga to promote the conservation, management and utilisation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) at the national level.
- 10.8 Six countries have been provided with funds for priority conservation-related activities. These fall into two categories, rescue collection and emergency conservation activities. The crops covered under these activities include coconut, citrus, banana, yam, breadfruit, Xanthosoma, Alocasia and sweet potato.
- 10.9 Through the Improved Plant Protection in the Solomon Islands (IPPSI) project, sweet potato and banana varieties have been distributed and are being evaluated by farmers. Based on the evaluation work carried out by the farmers, a farmer-evaluation form has been developed for use with planting material distributed by CePaCT.
- 10.10 Research activities in genetic resources continue. The crops currently being studied are breadfruit and sandalwood (the latter is a topic for a Masters degree). An effective tissue culture protocol for breadfruit will enable PICTs to access the breadfruit collection at the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Maui, Hawaii. With both crops, an effective micropropagation protocol will assist in overcoming planting material constraints. The work in breadfruit and sandalwood strengthens knowledge and skills in the Centre on tissue culture of trees. The black pepper research has been completed with seven introduced varieties grown locally in Naduruloulou, Fiji, established in tissue culture
- 10.11 Collaboration with the FAO Food Security project continues with distribution in Nauru of over 1,700 bananas (different varieties) obtained from the DPI, Australia, and the International Banana and Plantain Network (INIBAP). A similar project is in the pipeline for Tuvalu.
- 10.12 CePaCT continues to work closely with the Taro Improvement Programme in Samoa in collaboration with USP, Alafua Campus. Samoa is now evaluating the first-ever crosses of Asian and Pacific taro (cycle 6 lines) and the top lines of this cycle have been sent to CePaCT for virus testing and regional distribution. The Coordinator of the Taro Improvement Programme conducted a taro breeding workshop in Fiji for taro growers and the extension arm of the ministry. A significant output of the workshop was raised awareness about the taro diversity that exists in the region and how important that diversity is in combating pests and diseases.

- 10.13 In collaboration with MAPI, Fiji, taro field genebanks have been established in a number of locations to repatriate traditional taro varieties lost as a result of the predominant planting of export varieties. This activity will protect agro-biodiversity and ensure continued availability of local cultivars for food security purposes. Monthly meetings have been organized with the Agronomy, Pathology and Extension departments of Koronivia Research Station to discuss issues relating to our outreach activities, and to develop a programme for expanding outreach activities to the Lau Islands group, including evaluation on atoll islands. CePaCT will continue to monitor these field genebank activities in collaboration with agriculture extension officers.
- 10.14 Genetic Resources, in collaboration with FAO-SAPA, carried out a consultancy to determine SPC members' needs for the proposed Pacific Regional Crop Improvement Programme (PARCIP). The report has been produced and will be used as the framework for a project proposal.
- 10.15 The Genetic Resources Unit has supported some of the activities of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) in promoting local food crops for health and nutrition, in particular carotenoid-rich local bananas.
- 10.16 A paper, 'Underutilized species in the Pacific: An untapped source of nutritional and economic wealth' was presented at the International Symposium on 'Underutilized plant species for food, nutrition, income and sustainable development' in Tanzania, March 2008. Discussions were initiated on developing a project focusing on underutilised plant species – 'Crops for the Future'. Further discussions have involved Bioversity International and APAARI.
- 10.17 Genetic Resources supported a mission to the Solomon Islands to carry out characterisation of a banana collection located in a remote site in Malaita. The diversity of the collection was characterised and the level of threat to the collection was assessed. Samples of specific unique accessions were collected for establishment in tissue culture for safety. Some samples were also taken to examine their nutritional value. At the same time, awareness raising workshops were carried out with local communities on the nutritional benefits of traditional food crops and the diversity found within traditional food crops.
- 10.18 LRD is supporting the exchange of livestock genetic resources. Assistance is being provided to Cook Islands to obtain breeding goats from Fiji and for Tuvalu to obtain breeding pigs from Fiji. Tuvalu is receiving assistance to develop a pig artificial insemination (AI) lab and to train AI technicians. LRD is also assisting in the development of a regional proposal to promote small ruminant development and the exchange of genetic material based on the Fiji sheep breed.
- 10.19 The Pacific Regional Action Plan on FGR conservation, management and utilisation formulated by a 2007 regional workshop was recently endorsed by the Third Regional Meeting of HOAFS, Apia, Samoa, 3–5 September 2008. This has paved the way for the document to be published and disseminated. The Action Plan sets priorities for implementation over the next 12 years and will guide PICTs in developing and implementing their own policies, thus contributing to the security and development of their FGR for current and future generations.

- 10.20 LRD continued to provide support to the Matuaileoo Environment Trust Inc. (METI), Samoa, to maintain a one-acre bamboo plantation established under the government's Bamboo Crop Development Project. The government is looking at bamboo as a potential substitute for timber in view of Samoa's dwindling forest resources, as demonstrated by a tripling of annual timber imports over the period 1995–2005. LRD has been providing support on this issue since 2005.
- 10.21 LRD is supporting the efforts of the Yela communities in Kosrae, FSM, to conserve one of the last remaining pure Terminalia forests in the world. The forest is located on their land. Funding is being provided to assist in conducting awareness and training to support the protection of the forest.

Output 1.4 Natural disaster response and support structures in place

11. Natural disasters are a fact of life in the Pacific. Achieved and expected outcomes include PICTs having in place structures that minimise the impact of disasters and support and accelerate recovery. Output 1.5 activities also make a significant contribution to this output.
- 11.1 The Pacific Regional Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Project (PRIPPP) has continued to assist PICTs to establish appropriate ERPs (emergency response plans) and structures for any possible introductions of exotic livestock pests and diseases into their jurisdictions. Generic templates of standard operating procedures (SOPs) have been developed, specific examples written up and PICT representatives trained to adapt these for use in their countries. Simulation exercises and scenario testing drills have been undertaken to ensure the effectiveness of PICTs' preparedness plans, with funding set aside to assist in addressing any gaps. These exercises and drills have been conducted in Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tuvalu and Niue. An independent review team undertook a mid-term review of PRIPPP in June, 2008.
- 11.2 LRD has continued to support the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Network in preparing the region for non-geological calamities through a number of activities, such as the implementation of PRIPPP and training of biosecurity staff.

Output 1.5 National and regional capacity to manage invasive species, pests and diseases strengthened

12. With the expansion of the trade and tourism sectors, the intensification of agriculture, and the continuous logging of even some of the most inaccessible forests, the Pacific becomes more vulnerable to invasive species, pests and diseases, including zoonoses. Achieved and expected outcomes are that national and regional capacities exist to ensure PICTs effectively manage such events. This will be of increasing importance in dealing with the predicted impacts of climate change.
- 12.1 The PARAVET project has built capacity in the management of diseases at the community level by training paravets who, although not qualified veterinarians, are sufficiently knowledgeable to provide animal health care and production advice to their communities. To date, 181 paravets from over 11 PICTs have been trained. Training institutions in Fiji, Tonga and PNG have shown interest in incorporating the introductory paravet module into their curriculum.

- 12.2 A capacity building project to enable countries to undertake forest health surveillance has been completed in Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu. Similar efforts are being developed in the animal health sector, under PRIPPP, to strengthen animal health surveillance structures and systems in the region.
- 12.3 SPC through LRD has been nominated as a Regional Support Organisation (RSO) with the animal health and production team being recognised as the regional support unit (RSU) in the FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF TADs) initiative. This initiative will develop short, medium and long-term programmes to assist PICTs to strengthen their ability to address the spread of animal diseases.
- 12.4 LRD has also been involved in continuing consultations with USP, overseas universities, foreign government ministries, the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, the New Zealand, Australian and British Veterinary Associations, and animal welfare groups (IFAW and WSPA) to find possible solutions to the chronic shortage of qualified veterinarians in the region.
- 12.5 Quarantine facilities for introducing and maintaining biological control agents for use in the management of invasive pests and weeds have been either upgraded or built in Vanuatu, PNG and Fiji. National agencies venturing into pest management can use these facilities.
- 12.6 LRD provided technical and financial support to several countries to assist them with emergency responses to a number of pest incursions; for example, giant African snail (GAS) and glassy winged sharpshooter in Cook Islands, GAS in Fiji and Solomon Islands, cocoa pod borer in PNG and *Wasmannia* sp. (little fire ant) in Wewak (East Sepik Province of PNG) and the Port Vila and Lugainville areas in Vanuatu. SPC also assisted PNG to develop pest-specific ERPs for coffee berry borer and sugarcane smut in PNG.
- 12.7 Together with national counterparts, LRD staff were involved in investigating a new unknown betel nut disease in PNG, and in various surveys for plant viruses and leptospirosis in several PICTs. This work is supported by the virus-indexing capability now established in collaboration with USP. LRD collaborated with the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to train 35 entomologists/plant protection workers and students in invasive ant diagnostic skills.
- 12.8 LRD is continuing to strengthen its collaboration with OIE in animal disease reporting. An MOU was signed between SPC and OIE in August 2008 to further strengthen the link between LRD's PAHIS (Pacific Animal Health Information System) with the OIE's WAHIS (World Animal Health Information System).
- 12.9 The taro genebank (54 varieties) established in Taveuni, Fiji, in February 2006 as a component of an integrated management strategy for taro beetle, has performed well. There are now approximately 30 suckers per variety available for distribution later this year. The distribution will take place on an agriculture field day where at least 50 farmers will be invited to conserve all varieties, while other farmers will be given the chance to take the varieties they prefer.

A. 2. IMPROVED BIOSECURITY AND TRADE FACILITATION

13. The achieved and expected outcomes are that agricultural and forestry productivity is improved, the sectors are protected from introduced pests and diseases, and products are traded competitively in the marketplace to ensure a fair return on investments made. The four outputs of this objective are as follows:

Output 2.1 National capacity to comply with international and regional standards related to trade strengthened;

Output 2.2 Strengthened national capacity to undertake economic and financial analyses of opportunities for increased domestic and export trade;

Output 2.3 Sustainable and efficient post-harvest technologies developed and promoted;

Output 2.4 Improved information on plant and animal health status in PICTs.

Output 2.1 National capacity to comply with international and regional standards related to trade strengthened

14. The achieved and expected outcomes are that PICTs are able to participate in the international standard-setting processes, better able to comply with international standards, and become more active in export trade in the international market. The main achievements under Output 1 are outlined below.

14.1 Training in animal health surveillance systems (specifically for avian influenza) is being provided in PICTs. This includes the assessment and development of appropriate laboratory capacity and training of technicians, and strengthening of links and networking between animal health laboratories within the Pacific Islands region and recognised international reference laboratories. Introductory training for 2008 has been conducted in Tonga, Fiji, Solomon Islands, PNG and Vanuatu, and is planned for Niue and Cook Islands later in the year.

14.2 With the assistance of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), LRD led the development of the Pacific region's own organic standards. This project built on the Pacific's 'uniqueness, greenness and cleanness' to market its products. The Pacific Organic Standard was approved by a high-level group of Pacific Island leaders led by the Hon. Prime Minister of Samoa during the 2008 Forum Leaders' meeting in Niue. A complementary project to develop a strategy for developing organic production is also underway. This project involves SPC, NGOs and the private sector in partnership with the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM).

14.3 The IMPEXTEK training centre has to date trained 15 officers from 13 countries on import risk analysis and technical market access submissions. Officers from all independent island countries, except Palau, were trained. During a 3-month attachment, the trainees were also given hands-on training on developing fresh produce commodity pathways to maintain product quality and meet importing country requirements.

- 14.4 New Zealand granted market access approval for fresh ginger from PNG. A market access request by Tuvalu for coconut was put on hold by New Zealand pending a review of records on ants on coconuts pathways. A pest risk analysis is expected to be completed by the end of 2008 and a decision made.
- 14.5 Current market access requests are being processed by New Zealand for Tahitian lime from Cook Islands, Samoa and Tonga, and coconuts from Tuvalu, while Australia is processing requests for fresh ginger from Fiji, papaya from Vanuatu and breadfruit from Samoa. LRD also investigated the market for sato imo and matsutake mushrooms in Japan.
- 14.6 LRD is assisting Fiji and Tuvalu to establish trade between the Fiji island of Rotuma and Tuvalu. Trading is expected to begin before the end of 2008.
- 14.7 The operational manual component of the Biosecurity Information Facility (BIF) has been completed in a content management system (CMS). The BIF is temporarily hosted online by the University of Queensland, which developed the CMS templates under contract. The work on the database component of the BIF is also well advanced and LRD acknowledges the use of the Samoa Quarantine Information Database (SQUID) as the basic template. The BIF is now being rolled out in Cook Islands, Fiji, PNG, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
- 14.8 LRD continued to provide support to Fiji for the formulation of its national standards on forest certification. The standards are now in the final stages of endorsement after successful field testing. In response to a recommendation of the 2006 HOAFS meeting, a study is currently underway to determine the need for Pacific regional forest certification standards and also the need to build regional capacities in forest certification auditing. Certification is vital in ensuring that our wood products, especially high-value plantation species, can gain access to the best possible export markets, while at the same time achieving the ultimate goal of sustainable forest management.
- 14.9 Virus indexing of taro and yam continues as well as the screening of other crops imported from overseas institutes, where considered necessary.

Output 2.2 Strengthened national capacity to undertake economic and financial analyses of opportunities for increased domestic and export trade

15. The region is constrained by the small scale of its economies, high production and transport costs, and inadequate support services. Achieved and expected outcomes are that PICTs' national capacity to engage in export trade, particularly in niche and high-value products, is supported, and where feasible, domestic trade is developed as a basis for growing export trade.
- 15.1 LRD coordinated a feasibility study, 'Developing the ornamental industry in the Pacific: an opportunity for income generation'. The study was conducted in Fiji and Papua New Guinea, but consultations were also held with the floriculture industry in North Queensland and Hawaii. The report provided insight into the potential of both the domestic and export markets, and recommended several areas for research and development. (The full report is available from LRD on request).

- 15.2 The Resource Economist employed for the last 2 years under a co-financing arrangement with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) has enabled LRD to provide more economic content in its training sessions. This has included sessions on economic tools such as cost-benefit analyses and economic valuation techniques at a regional forest policy workshop and an overview of carbon markets at a CDM (clean development mechanism) workshop. Economic analysis on the costs of unsustainable land use practices has supported the development of a land use policy and zoning map in the Cook Islands.
- 15.3 Analysis of global increases in food prices and their impact on PICTs has fed into the development of briefings for various meetings, and ultimately recognition at the recent Forum Leaders' meeting of the importance of tackling food security as a priority in the Pacific Plan. The LRD economist has also contributed to the development of LRD's strategic plan, funding proposals, and briefings in support of country representatives attending regional and international meetings in addition to writing newsletter articles and papers on topical issues.
- 15.4 Twenty quarantine, research and extension officers from the Fiji Ministry of Agriculture were trained as trainers on the use of the nine-module training manual on commodity pathway systems for pest risk management of commodities exported to New Zealand. These officers will be responsible for extending the use of the manual and training farmers. More than 120 farmers, extension and quarantine officers have been trained in Fiji using the manual. All IMPEXTEK trainees were also trained using the manual. The manual has now been revised and a tenth module on internal audits of the system has been added. It will be published before the end of 2008.

Output 2.3 Sustainable and efficient post-harvest technologies developed and promoted

16. Achieved and expected outcomes are that post-harvest technologies including biosecurity treatments are developed, particularly those that facilitate export trade in terms of meeting import requirements and enabling development of new niche products. Major activities under this output are as follows.
 - 16.1 In response to the 2006 HOAFS recommendation, a proposal to fund a pilot project on Facilitating Agricultural Commodity Trade (FACT) was submitted to the EU. This was approved under EDF 9 in 2007 with a total funding of EUR 4.0 million for five years. Implementation, although delayed, is now progressing well with a number of important milestones already achieved. The Project Team Leader, other technical staff and the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) have been appointed. The team now focuses on selection of enterprises/commodities to be supported, initiation of analyses of supply chains, identification of areas needing improvement, and determination of appropriate interventions.

- 16.2 LRD continues to support the implementation of an ACIAR-funded project in Fiji and Samoa on improving the value and marketability of coconut wood. All the field samplings have been completed and the laboratory assessments are now being done. A training workshop on coconut wood drying is being organised. The project tries to address key questions underlying the broad acceptance of coconut wood in the high-value hardwood flooring market, in particular the development of processing systems, profiles for high quality flooring, and the definition of appropriate grading standards, product specifications and quality control systems. Successful completion of this project will provide a valuable contribution in the project countries as well as in other PICTs' coconut revitalisation programmes.
- 16.3 LRD, in collaboration with the Fiji and Indonesian governments, is continuing to support a small bamboo enterprise in Fiji to utilise local bamboo for the production of furniture and other woven products for the local tourist market. Part of this support included the provision of experts and training attachment opportunities in Indonesia and China. Two youths from the enterprise are presently close to finishing a 10-month training attachment in Indonesia.
- 16.4 Continuing support was provided through SPC/GTZ PGRFP to the model community-based forestry enterprises already established in Fiji and Vanuatu. Through the initiative, land owners of the project areas are actively involved in the management of their own natural forests, and operate these as businesses enterprises. The enterprises manage the forests on a sustainable basis, including the harvesting, processing and marketing of timber.
- 16.5 In the Drawa model area, the community enterprise has progressed from harvesting and selling logs to processing. A portable sawmill was procured and is being operated by trained and skilled land owners. This additional value-adding has increased income generation opportunities for the community with its enterprise currently selling both sawn timber and round logs in the local market.
- 16.6 In Vanuatu, the Sanma Small Saw-millers Central Indigenous Timber Yard (TripleS-CITY) was established in Luganville for capacity building and value-adding through processing, treatment, storage and marketing of timber products of the Sanma Small Saw-millers Association and the Butmas Landowners Association of the model area. A small-scale community-run rural-based joinery operation continues to be supported. Based on good results achieved so far, additional support was provided in 2008 to assist the operation in ensuring the timely supply of the timber required to meet its needs. Because the operation is located near a school it also serves as a training facility for some of the students.
- 16.7 LRD supported food processing training in Kiribati, promoting local foods and also targeting import substitution. This was part of the Kiribati capacity building programme relating to its recently established food processing facility. With the assistance of the Fiji Coconut Industry Development Authority (CIDA), LRD conducted a training workshop for a women's group on production of virgin coconut oil and other products.
- 16.8 With the support of LRD, a consultation workshop was held in Kosrae, FSM, to discuss how the state could follow the Pohnpei initiative, the 'Island Food Community', to promote the use of local foods. A feasibility study on the potential of floriculture in Fiji and Papua New Guinea has been completed and the comprehensive study report is available. As a follow-up, a study visit will be implemented in September 2008, which will bring flower producers from six countries to Fiji to share experiences and to learn from the South Seas Orchids Outgrowers' network.

Output 2.4 Improved information on plant and animal health status in PICTs

17. Achieved and expected outcomes are that PICTs have up-to-date information on their animal and plant health status from LRD-generated and regionally maintained information gathered from pest surveys.
 - 17.1 LRD has undertaken ongoing monitoring of the following outbreaks: equine influenza in Australia, cattle tick in New Caledonia, and varroa bee mite in PNG.
 - 17.2 In collaboration with OIE and FAO, LRD:
 - continued consultations on avian influenza updates;
 - continued circulating relevant technical materials; and
 - participated at the OIE Annual General Sessions in May, 2008, in Paris, France, as well as, the Regional Commission meetings for Asia, the Far East and Oceania; relevant SPC Animal Health activities were presented at both meetings.
 - 17.3 Weed surveys were conducted in Solomon Islands (Western, Malaita, Guadalcanal, San Cristobal and Temotu provinces), Nauru, Palau, Pitcairn Islands, and PNG (West New Britain and Madang provinces). Over 2000 records from these surveys were added to the national and regional pest list databases (PLD). SPC's Regional Office in Pohnpei provided assistance to the four states of FSM, Palau and RMI to set up Invasive Species Taskforce Committees and to draft strategic action plans for the control/eradication of selected species. Some of the selected species are almost eradicated, e.g. false kava, ivy guard and chain of love in Pohnpei, African tulip in Chuuk and Palau, *Imperata* in Yap and Palau, and *Chromolaena* in RMI.
 - 17.4 LRD technical staff audited the pest occurrence data on arthropod, nematode, virus and weed records that are stored in the regional PLD for each PICT. Over 1000 survey records from nematode and virus surveys in PICTs were entered in the PLD. LRD in collaboration with the Global Plant Clinic, CABI, is updating photographs of nematode damage.

B. PROGRESS ON NEW AND EXISTING INITIATIVES

Land management and conflict minimisation (LMCM)

18. At their annual meeting in Niue in 2008, Pacific Islands Forum Leaders adopted the LMCM principles and guiding framework where appropriate, and endorsed the development of a regional initiative under the Pacific Plan to support members in progressing land management and conflict minimisation efforts.

19. PIFS and SPC are in the initial stages of developing a regional project proposal to respond to this decision. The plan is to implement the project within the framework of the integrated structure of the LRD, as part of the core work of its Land Management and Resources Support Team (LMR). This is expected to build on and complement the current focus of LRD's LMR support team on assisting PICTs with participatory land use policy development, including land zoning and land use planning. LRD has well-established outreach mechanisms in PICTs. Together with its integrated approach to in-country collaboration and its proactive participation in the development and implementation of joint SPC-country strategies, this makes LRD well placed to provide the needed support.
20. It is envisioned that the project will be a long-term one, with initial outputs confined to a few aspects of land administration and management including capacity building in communication/consultation processes, and improved information generation, storage and access. The support can later be broadened to provide greater coverage of LMCM for countries that desire reforms in these areas.

Climate change adaptation

21. The new Euro 3 million Pacific-German regional climate change project starts before the end of the year and aims at building/strengthening the capacities of Pacific members and regional organisations to adapt to and mitigate climate change as a fundamental element of the sustainable management of land-based resources. The project will focus activities in three countries, namely, Fiji, Vanuatu and Tonga. At the regional level, the project aligns with the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006–2015 (PIFACC). Generally, the project will support Vanuatu in implementing its National Adaptation Programme for Action (NAPA). In Fiji, it will mainly help with the implementation of the sustainable forestry management policy, and in linking Fiji forestry development work to the carbon markets. In Tonga it will contribute to the fulfilment of national communications in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), mainstreaming of sustainable land use policy development and land use planning, and implementation of those policies and plans. Development of national activities for the focus countries is being undertaken at the present time.

Management of African Tulip in the Pacific Islands

22. In response to a recommendation by the 2006 2nd HOAFS Meeting, investigations are ongoing on the possibility of biological control for the management of the invasive forest tree African tulip (*Spathodea campanulata*). The Plant Health team began DNA-matching studies in collaboration with Rhodes University and the Agricultural Research Council, South Africa, to identify the centre of origin of the African tulip tree. Once the centre of origin in Africa is established, LRD will be seeking funding from donors, with PICT support, for exploratory research for potential biological control agents in Africa. This programme may take up to 6 years to complete.

Centres of Excellence for Atoll Agriculture Research and Development (R&D)

23. A recommendation for the establishment of two centres was approved by the CRGA 36. The centre in Kiribati, located at the Government Research Station in South Tarawa, was launched by the Hon. Minister for Environment, Land, Agriculture and Rural Development (MELARD) in July 2008. Financial assistance has been received from IFAD and France for this initiative. An MOU has been signed by the parties, Kiribati Government, IFAD and SPC. An R&D programme has been developed jointly by LRD and partners. Potentially, the centres will provide a framework for channelling assistance to atoll agriculture and forestry R&D and have the potential to attract international scientists to work from time to time. The centre to be established at the Land Grant Institute in RMI awaits availability of funding.

Trade statistics

24. In collaboration with FAO, LRD has continued establishing the trade statistics project to assist in improving the comparability and accuracy of trade data across the region. FAO is funding a dedicated technician position for this initiative, a responsibility that LRD expects to take on towards the end of this year. Some PICTs have signed the MOUs and good quality data sets have been sent by some. The data gathered as part of this project will support evaluation of trade opportunities and upcoming trade negotiations. LRD are in discussions with UNCTAD and ITC on the development of a market information system, with LRD acting as a regional hub for the collation and analysis of agricultural and forestry market information useful for policy makers and farmers alike.

Economics

25. The contract of the LRD economist, part-funded under the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) Fellowship scheme ends at the end of this month. ODI has kindly provided a replacement economist who commenced work with LRD in September. The economist supports the work of LRD thematic area teams by providing economic analyses and also capacity building in PICTs.

C. HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

26. As at end of June 2008, the total number of staff positions in LRD was 105 of which 12 were vacant. Thirty-nine staff members were recruited internationally with specialised technical skills; four of these are field based. There are 24 semi-specialised technical staff and 11 provide administrative support across the LRD thematic areas. In addition, 26 semi-specialised staff members are field based.
27. The present science and technology capacity will be substantially eroded by the end of 2008 with the completion of some relatively big projects. The thematic area teams that will be most affected include Plant Health; Crop Production and Soils Management; and Information, Communication and Extension. Against this backdrop, PICTs face major issues in relation to climate change adaptation, food security and land management and conflict minimisation, as highlighted in the Forum Leaders' communiqué after their 2008 Niue meeting.
28. Recent important developments underline the growing strength of the relationships between SPC LRD and its strategic partners:
 - i. An MOU has been signed with IFAD for the placement of its Pacific Coordinator with SPC LRD in Suva, Fiji. This will occur before the end of this year.
 - ii. Agreement has been reached for ACIAR to locate a senior manager for its R&D projects in the region (including in PNG) and an assistant with SPC LRD in Suva, Fiji. This is expected to occur before the end of this year.
 - iii. SPC is to be a Regional Support Organisation (RSO) with LRD forming the regional support unit (RSU) in the FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF TADs) initiative. This initiative should be operational by 2009.

- iv. Discussions are ongoing with AusAID relating to the possibility of locating its new regional unit for strengthening land policy reform in the Pacific, together with SPC LRD.
29. The total funding for LRD was FJD 14,688,500 (8,519,330 CFP) in 2006, FJD 16,072,600 (CFP 8,839,930) in 2007, and FJD 19,131,400 (10,713,584 CFP) in 2008. While the proportion of project funds decreased from 66% to 61%, programme funds increased from 28% to 34%, from 2006 to 2008, and core funds remained steady at 5–6%.

LRD funding in 2008 compared to 2009 in CFP units by sources of funds

	Budget 2008	Revised Budget 2008	Budget 2009
INCOME			
CoreBudget	272,800	262,900	321,300
ProgrammeFunding			
AusAID	1,066,800	1,112,700	974,600
France	215,000	215,000	215,000
NZAID	395,000	395,000	395,000
Other			
ProjectFunding			
ACIAR	68,300	135,800	146,600
AusAID	1,743,400	839,300	861,700
NZAID	187,200	180,500	180,500
EU	4,874,100	4,540,900	1,840,100
GTZ	935,300	901,900	939,600
FAO	213,300	99,800	38,800
Taiwan/ROC			
FrenchPacific	16,800	75,100	17,200
IFAD	144,900	158,800	158,800
Multi	113,800	43,700	378,800
IPGRI	130,000	125,400	125,400
Total Income	10,246,700	9,086,800	6,593,400

D. LRD INTEGRATED STRATEGIC PLAN, 2009–2012

30. The current LRD integrated strategic plan ends in December 2008. The Second Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry, 8–9 September 2008, approved the LRD integrated strategic plan for 2009 – 2012. The new strategic plan is attached as Annex 1.
31. The new strategic plan has three objectives:
- Improved food and nutritional security;
 - Integrated and sustainable agricultural and forestry resource management and development; and,
 - Improved biosecurity and increased trade in agriculture and forestry products.

32. Underpinning these three main objectives are cross cutting high-level objectives:
- Food security;
 - Climate change adaptation;
 - Land management and conflict minimisation; and,
 - Private sector development.
33. In their Niue communiqué, Forum Leaders placed the first three of these cross-cutting objectives among the high priorities for the Pacific Plan in the foreseeable future. The fourth objective has been of high priority since the Pacific Plan became operational.
34. To achieve the outputs of the LRD strategic plan and at the same time effectively respond to the decisions of the Forum Leaders, SPC LRD needs new resources. It is therefore essential that SPC members and SPC's donor partners consider increasing the level of their contributions.

12 September 2008