



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Between

Institute for Pacific Coral Reefs (IRCP)

and

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
(together, "the Parties")

The **Institute for Pacific Coral Reefs**, [herein after referred to as "IRCP"] is a French institute of The Practical School of High Studies (EPHE), created on January 21st, 2009 by order of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research. The head office is located at CRIOBE, BP1013 Papeoai, 98729 Moorea, French Polynesia. Working in close collaboration with many partners in the Pacific, IRCP addresses international applied issues such as:

1. Promote, over time, on a regional scale of the Pacific, the links between fundamental research, politics of conservation and training of actors implicated in the management of coral reefs;
2. Support multidisciplinary approaches, that take into account the contribution of human and social sciences for sustainable management of coral reefs;
3. Set up a monitoring network of coral reefs; and
4. Work in favor of federative projects aiming at the conservation of coral reefs and so to contribute, in a context of sustainable development, in the long term future of the coral ecosystems and communities depending on it.

IRCP is represented by its Director, Professor Serge PLANES, who has delegated signing authority on behalf of Mr. Hubert BOST, President of EPHE at Paris in France.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is a regional, intergovernmental organization comprising 26 members consisting of twenty-one Pacific Island Countries and Territories and five developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific region. It is based in Apia, Samoa. SPREP has been charged by its member states to promote co-operation in the Pacific region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve the environment of the Pacific and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations. Its Strategic Plan outlines the mandate, vision and programmes for the organisation, and places strong emphasis on effective delivery of services to SPREP Member countries and territories. SPREP is guided by its overall vision for the future: "*The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures*".

Whereas SPREP and IRCP have mutual interests in relation to the protection of the environment and developing and strengthening systems, institutions, organizations and individuals concerned with environmental protection in the Pacific region,

The Parties have reached the following understandings:

1. Objectives

1. The main objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to provide a new framework of co-operation between SPREP and IRCP on coastal and marine research, monitoring and conservation.
2. Within this framework the Parties will consult in an effort to collaborate on the activities they identify as requiring implementation.

2. Collaborative Activities

The Parties agree, to the possible extent, but without limitation, to:

1. Consult each other on policy matters of mutual concern.
2. Exchange information on developments and current activities in relation to the environment and any sustainable development.
3. Extend to each other standing invitations to be represented by observers at appropriate meetings, including the bi-annual SPREP Meeting and the Conseil de Direction of the IRCP, and to co-sponsor relevant meetings or workshops.
4. Collaborate and support awareness-raising efforts in relation to the environment.
5. Collaborate on the implementation of global and regional priorities in relation to the environment.
6. Collaborate and support capacity-building initiatives in relation to the environment.
7. Keep respective memberships informed of co-operative activities undertaken pursuant to this MOU.

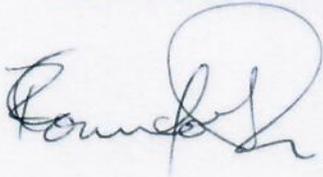
3. Operational Provisions

1. This MOU constitutes an expression of a shared intention of the Parties to endeavor to develop foundations for achieving their shared objectives relating to the protection of the environment and developing and strengthening systems, institutions, organizations and individuals concerned with environmental protection in the Pacific region. Such work may include, without limiting the scope of possible collaboration:
 - Training courses for NGO and Governmental staff involved in coral reef monitoring in the Pacific;
 - Surveys of coral reef health in the South Pacific (eg, monitoring program: Polynesia Mana, GCRMN);
 - Marine (Emblematic and Migratory) Species;
 - Work on knowledge and protection of endangered species such as IUCN red list species or any species listed in relevant MEAs or national or territorial policies;
 - Economic innovation tools, research and experienced implementation in MPA or coastal zone management;
 - Innovations in environmental law and biodiversity protection in Pacific;
 - The rights of Environmentally Displaced Peoples (EDPs);
 - Early warning systems for natural hazards (Cyclone, Earthquake and Tsunami detection);
 - The advanced results and workshop outcomes in climate change;
 - Release of outputs of meetings, events, workshop relevant for the parties.

2. Each Party's actions under this MOU shall be considered to be that Party's sole and separate action for all purposes, including liability, and neither Party shall claim to be acting on behalf of, or as agent for, the other Party.
3. Each Party will name and keep updated focal points to co-ordinate the cooperation called for in this MOU.
4. In executing this MOU, neither Party necessarily commits to any financial obligation in relation to activities to be carried out under this MOU.

4. Duration, entry into force, amendments and termination

1. The duration of this MOU shall be 5 years, renewable for such further period as may be agreed between the Parties.
2. This MOU shall enter into force on the date the last Party signs.
3. This MOU may be amended by agreement in writing between the Parties.
4. Either Party may terminate this MOU by giving three months' written notice to the other.



Acting
Mr. Kosi Latu
Director General
**Secretariat for the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme (SPREP)**

Date: 14/11/2017



Mr. Serge Planes
Director
Institute for Pacific Coral Reefs (IRCP)

Date: 31/01/2018

Annex of Agreed Activities WORK PLAN 2018-2022

under the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IRCP - SPREP

This Annex of Agreed Activities (The Workplan) may be reviewed annually by the Parties to respond to any emerging issues and amended, as appropriate, pursuant to paragraph V.2

#	Topic/Issue	Scope of Activities	Related Initiatives	Action Milestones/ Timeline	Officers responsible (IRCP/SPREP)
1	Pacific coral reefs status and trends update.	Collaborate to complete a book dedicated to a Pacific coral reefs status and trends update, for completion by December 2017. Update, store and manage a regional coral reefs database for use in national and regional environment health reporting.	Developing the GCRMN Network and its extended network of experts and in-country agencies. Mobilising Pacific coral reef data for use in research and conservation.	IRCP: Coordinate fund raising; data-base development and data management, writing. SPREP: assist data collation, data base management, co-host researcher/data managers needed.	IRCP: Serge Planes; Charlotte Moritz; David Lecchini SPREP: Warren Lee Long (CMA); Paul Anderson (EMA)
2	Pacific GCRMN network	Update and re-invigorate the Pacific GCRMN network for use towards i) the Pacific coral reefs update and ii) future monitoring.	Pacific coral reefs status and trends update; Coral Reef Monitoring Workshops; ICRI activities.	SPREP & IRCP: re-convene the network online, and engage it into current activities. UNEP: provide additional links and institutional support	IRCP: Serge Planes; Charlotte Moritz SPREP: Warren Lee Long (CMA); Paul Anderson (EMA)
3	Coral Reef Monitoring Workshops (training and exchange)	Conducting Coral Reef Monitoring Workshops as opportunities arise.	Pacific coral reefs status and trends update; Pacific GCRMN	IRCP: convene and implement workshop. SPREP: institutional support; additional regional networks	IRCP: David Lecchini; Gilles Siu; Serge Planes; Charlotte Moritz SPREP: Warren Lee Long(CMA); Paul

#	Topic/Issue	Scope of Activities	Related Initiatives	Action Milestones/ Timeline	Officers responsible (IRCP/SPREP)
4	Coral Reef monitoring programmes	Identify and respond to opportunities for enhancing coral reef monitoring, analysis and reporting for SPREP members.	GCRMN 2016 Coral Reef Monitoring workshop	Joint actions: IRCP: mobilising resources via donor networks SPREP: mobilising resources via donor networks	Anderson. IRCP: David Lecchini; Gilles Siu; Serge Planes; Charlotte Moritz SPREP: Warren Lee Long (CMA); Paul Anderson (EMA)
5	Crown-of-thorns starfish treatments, research and monitoring	Identify and respond to opportunities for advancing research, monitoring and treatment of COTS for SPREP members.	Pacific GCRMN 2016 Coral Reef Monitoring workshop Coral bleaching response actions	SPREP: Donor Opportunities, develop the regional network list. IRCP: Research and funding opportunities	IRCP: David Lecchini SPREP: Warren Lee Long (CMA); Paul Anderson (EMA)
6	Capacity in responding to coral bleaching events	Assisting PICTs in building knowledge and capacity in responses to coral bleaching events.	Crown of thorns responses.	IRCP: coordinate a regional review of capacity and options. SPREP: institutional support; additional regional networks and input.	IRCP: David Lecchini SPREP: Warren Lee Long (CMA); Paul Anderson (EMA)

This list of activities is without prejudice to other activities that may be carried out under the MOU, including routine consultations and collaboration on areas of mutual interest such as work on streamlined national reporting.
*The work plan shall be reviewed once a year and revised if necessary. **Note:** The dates of the activities may change by mutual understanding.*