

# Strategic Partnership Framework, 2024–2026 between the Government of the Republic of Nauru and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

## 1. Background

This Strategic Partnership Framework has been developed between the Government of the Republic of Nauru and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to guide and coordinate SPREP's activities in Nauru. It responds to decisions of the SPREP Governing Council regarding the strengthening of the Secretariat's engagement with Pacific island Members.

At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Board Meeting in 2020, Members endorsed a process for developing Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks (CTSPFs) with the Secretariat. At the 31<sup>st</sup> SPREP Meeting in 2023, Members reconfirmed their commitment to developing CTSPFs as high-level agreements that identify Members' environment and resilience priorities, and that confirm mutual commitments between Members and the Secretariat for addressing these priorities.

## 2. Key objectives

The objectives of the Nauru and SPREP Strategic Partnership Framework are to:

- a) Provide a high-level strategic guide for all interactions between the Secretariat and Nauru.
- b) Strengthen Nauru's engagement, leadership, and ownership in the effective development and implementation of activities by the Secretariat.
- c) Promote greater alignment of strategic regional and national environment and resilience priorities.
- d) Confirm agreed mutual commitments to existing and planned national and regional strategic priorities and actions.
- e) Leverage new opportunities for further collaboration, for example, through project development and donor funding.
- f) Acknowledge other development partners' engagement in country and facilitate coordination to ensure complementarity of efforts.
- g) Facilitate strategic programme and project level dialogues to promote and support sustainability of outcomes and results.
- h) Enhance visibility of outcomes and results achieved by the Secretariat and Nauru.
- i) Support and contribute towards Nauru's efforts in improving its environment and resilience.

## 3. Guiding principles

The Strategic Partnership Framework will be guided by the following principles:

- a) Contribute positively towards national, regional, and relevant global environment goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals.
- b) Implement the Strategic Partnership Framework in line with shared values, mutual respect, and responsibility.

- c) Support meaningful, positive, equitable, and mutual benefits for Nauru and SPREP.
- d) Enhance accountability for the actions of SPREP and Nauru to address Nauru’s environment and resilience priorities.
- e) Promote gender mainstreaming and social inclusion across all areas of work.

#### 4. Priority areas for collaboration

Priority areas for collaboration between SPREP and Nauru are based on the four regional goals in the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026,<sup>1</sup> and aligned commitments in the Republic of Nauru National Integrated Environment Policy. Table 1 shows the alignment between the regional and national plans.

**Table 1: Alignment between the SPREP and Nauru strategic planning documents.**

SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026	Nauru National Integrated Environment Policy
Goal 1: Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change.	Committed to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and reduction in fossil fuel purchase.  Ensure Nauru commitment to Climate Change Adaptation.  Climate information is being collected, analysed and available to users.
Goal 2: Pacific people benefit from healthy and resilient island and ocean ecosystems.	Effective management of inshore marine environment through Locally Managed Marine Area Network.  Effective management of invasive and threatened species.  Identify species and areas of national biodiversity significance and take steps for their conservation.  Establish sustainable financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation.
Goal 3: Pacific people benefit from improved waste management and pollution control.	Proper collection and management solid waste management services.  Proper management of hazardous waste.
Goal 4: Pacific people and their environment benefit from commitment to and best practice of environmental governance.	Strengthen policy and legal framework to address national environmental priorities and MEA obligations.  Strengthen planning and enforcement processes for effective development control.  Establish monitoring and evaluation body to provide advice and oversee implementation of environment laws and policies.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/Corporate\\_Documents/strategic-plan-2017-2026.pdf](https://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/Corporate_Documents/strategic-plan-2017-2026.pdf)

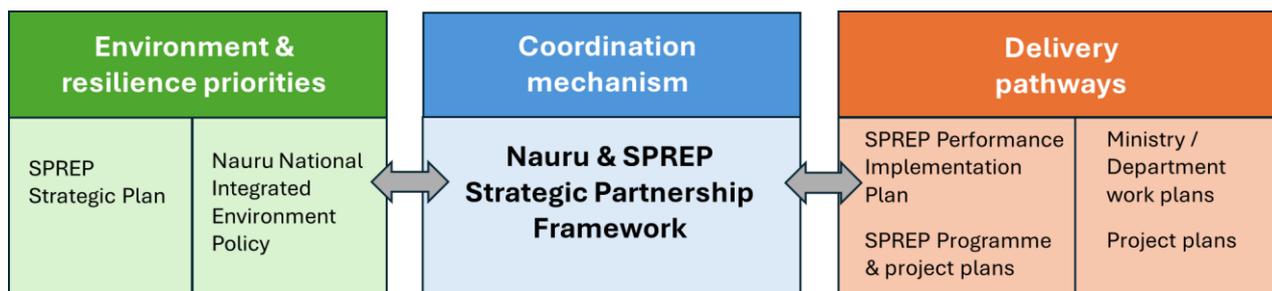
Through consultation with the Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture (DEMA), the Department of Climate Change and National Resilience (DCCNR), and the Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation (NRC), the following high priority areas for collaboration have been identified for the Strategic Partnership Framework:

1. Development of a National Plastic Management Policy and Marine Litter Action Plan.
2. Inform Portal awareness-raising across Government, including establishing a dedicated Inform Portal manager role, and developing a national data policy.
3. GIS refresher training, linked to Inform Portal data use and management.
4. Development of an implementation roadmap for Nauru's National Integrated Environment Policy (NIEP).
5. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) capacity-building across all areas of work, including establishment of a M&E framework for the NIEP and the implementation of the M&E framework under the Nauru Climate Change Policy.
6. MEAs awareness-raising across Government e.g. Noumea Convention.
7. Capacity-building and support for effective COP participation, e.g. UNFCCC, CBD, INC.
8. Preparation of an EIA guideline to support the new EIA Regulations, including an environmental auditing template, and an Environmental and Social Management System.
9. EIA and SEA refresher training, especially for new staff.
10. Provide support for the establishment of a Nauru Waste and Resources Management Industry, including review of implementation options for financing mechanisms, establishment of a framework for the NRC to work with DEMA on waste management and enforcement, development of regulations for restricting the importation of problematic waste streams, training and capacity building for waste data collection and inventories.
11. Increased engagement with SPREP's biodiversity work, including attendance at regional meetings and workshops (e.g. for CBD), invasive species management, and support for Anibare Bay conservation.

Annex 1 details current, ongoing and proposed activities for the Strategic Partnership Framework. These activities are informed by SPREP's Performance Implementation Plan 4 (PIP4), and specific requests for assistance identified by Nauru. The activities are aligned with commitments in the National Integrated Environment Policy. Annex 1 will be updated to reflect new activities as they arise.

Annex 2 lists SPREP projects and programmes currently being implemented in Nauru. The details of specific project activities are reflected in individual project agreements or workplans. Annex 2 will be updated to include new projects as they arise.

Figure 1, below, shows that the Strategic Partnership Framework is a coordination mechanism that is based on, and responds to, regional and national environment and resilience priorities. The Strategic Partnership Framework also influences and reflects delivery pathways for these priorities, expressed in the SPREP Performance Implementation Plan, Ministry and Department work plans, and other Programme and project plans.



**Figure 1. The Strategic Partnership Framework is a coordination mechanism for collaborative activities between Nauru and SPREP.**

## 5. Implementation and management arrangements

Implementation of the Strategic Partnership Framework will be managed and coordinated by the Nauru Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture, working with other relevant Government Departments.

SPREP will coordinate its activities through its Department of Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation and the North Pacific Office, who will work closely with SPREP's technical Programmes.

Successful implementation of the Strategic Partnership Framework and the achievement of its objectives will be supported by the following:

### Commitment

The Parties commit to collaborate fully in the implementation of agreed priorities and activities identified in this Framework.

### Nauru will:

- Lead in-country implementation of activities under the Strategic Partnership Framework.
- Coordinate with key stakeholders and partners in-country to ensure complementarity of efforts.
- Ensure the priority areas for collaboration and activities are aligned with and contribute to national priorities in the Nauru National Integrated Environment Policy, including relevant national thematic strategies and plans on climate change, environment, and waste management.
- Facilitate sharing of information and progress reports through relevant national coordinating mechanisms.
- Raise awareness and visibility of the outcomes and results of the Strategic Partnership Framework at all levels of government and with communities and partners.

### SPREP will:

- Provide responsive high quality technical advice and back-stopping, and capacity building and training initiatives, linked to the priority areas for collaboration and activities under the Strategic Partnership Framework.
- Support communication and advocacy on environment and resilience issues at national and regional levels.

- In collaboration with Nauru, broker partnerships and collaborations to support the delivery of activities under the Strategic Partnership Framework.
- Provide and manage repositories of environmental data and information as requested by Nauru, for example, through the Pacific Environment Portal, Pacific Climate Change Portal, and the Pacific Islands Protected Areas Portal, and build national-level data management and data analysis capacity.
- Facilitate reporting on the Strategic Partnership Framework through the SPREP Performance Implementation Plan process, for reporting to the SPREP Meeting and Executive Board Meeting.

### Risk management

The following risks will be monitored, and mitigating measures developed during the timeframe of the Strategic Partnership Framework:

Risk type	Mitigating measure
<p><b>Strategic</b></p> <p>Agreed priorities may not be fully achieved</p>	<p>Regular dialogues to review, monitor and track progress, with adjustments to the implementation approach as needed.</p>
<p><b>Political</b></p> <p>Lack of political support and commitment.</p>	<p>SPREP Focal Points to keep SPREP informed of any changes within Government that may affect implementation of the Strategic Partnership Framework.</p>
<p><b>Environmental</b></p> <p>Disasters that may affect the delivery and implementation of Strategic Partnership Framework priorities</p>	<p>Develop contingency plans to mitigate risks due to disasters.</p>

### Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning

The Strategic Partnership Framework will be reviewed by a joint Nauru and SPREP high-level forum on an annual basis, in line with the SPREP Performance Implementation Plan (PIP) monitoring and reporting process. This high-level forum will consist of the SPREP national political focal point, national operational and technical focal points, relevant senior government officials, SPREP Senior Leadership and SPREP DSPPR and Programme representatives.

The review will assess the value and effectiveness of the Strategic Partnership Framework, as well as progress and outcomes achieved against the agreed priorities. The information gathered from the review will provide input to the PIP report to the SPREP and the Executive Board Meetings, and allow for the Strategic Partnership Framework to be adjusted as appropriate, to ensure it remains relevant.

## 6. Visibility and communication

Outcomes and results achieved through the Strategic Partnership Framework will be documented and promoted widely through relevant national and regional mechanisms, networks, and approved

media outlets. Communication products will be developed jointly by the SPREP Secretariat and the relevant national focal points.

#### 7. Timeframe

The Strategic Partnership Framework is aligned with the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026, and its timeframe will be for the years 2024–2026. The Framework will take effect from the date of signature.

#### 8. Amendments and termination

The Strategic Partnership Framework may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by the Parties.

#### 9. Annexes

Annex 1: Collaborative activities for the Strategic Partnership Framework.

Annex 2: List of current SPREP projects and programmes in Nauru.

Signature



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Date: 25/11/24



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Secretariat of the Pacific Regional  
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Date: 6/12/2024

## Annex 1: Strategic Partnership Framework activities

Listed in the table below, are current, ongoing and proposed activities for the Strategic Partnership Framework (column 2). These activities are aligned with the four regional goals of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026 (column 1), and with national commitments from the Nauru National Integrated Environment Policy (column 3). The activities listed under SPREP Performance Implementation Plan 4 (PIP 4) were approved at the 31<sup>st</sup> SPREP Meeting in 2023. ‘Other activities’ reflect specific requests for assistance identified by Nauru, which could be addressed by SPREP or by other partners, if they are outside SPREP’s scope of work.

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Current, ongoing and proposed collaborative activities for 2024–2026, based on SPREP PIP 4 and other activities identified by Nauru	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
Goal 1: Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change	<p><u>PIP 4:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Nauru in the implementation of their NDC requests under the NDC Hub Phase 3, through recruitment of 2 separate consultants. 1 consultant has been engaged to review septic tank design.</li> <li>• Support 14 PSIDS in negotiations in the lead up, during and after UNFCCC COPs and related meetings (DFAT – ICCE).</li> <li>• Support development of the Nauru National Adaptation Plan (NAP).</li> <li>• Support incorporation of Ecosystem-based Adaptation initiatives into NAP for Nauru.</li> <li>• Coordinate with WMO through the PMDP to support Nauru Emergency Services to develop or review legislations, policies and strategies (ClimSA).</li> <li>• Conduct training on collection, storage, and monitoring of weather and climate TK indicators for at least 10 PICs (COSPPac/GCF-UNEP).</li> <li>• Support NMHS for the development and integration of TK into climate forecasts and warning systems (COSPPac).</li> <li>• Installation of weather observation equipment/ ICT infrastructure enhancement in Nauru to improve their climate services (ClimSA).</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance to Nauru to strengthen their national planning processes and systems for enabling access to bilateral and multi-lateral climate change finance.</li> <li>• Monitor the implementation, progress, and effectiveness of the Nauru Readiness project.</li> </ul>	<p>Committed to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and reduction in fossil fuel purchase.</p> <p>Ensure Nauru commitment to Climate Change Adaptation.</p> <p>Climate information is being collected, analysed and available to users.</p>

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Current, ongoing and proposed collaborative activities for 2024–2026, based on SPREP PIP 4 and other activities identified by Nauru	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
	<p><u>Other activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change impacts are being observed in Nauru but are not well understood. Department of Climate Change and National Resilience needs exposure to awareness programmes so they can deliver communications / awareness activities in Nauru.</li> <li>• Capturing and recognising TK across all areas is important. Could establish a Nauru TK portal for Nauru.</li> <li>• Increased support for addressing loss and damage, including identification of needs and operationalisation of funds.</li> </ul>	
Goal 2: Pacific people benefit from healthy and resilient island and ocean ecosystems	<p><u>PIP 4:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support countries to use available evidence to promote the sustainable use and conservation of coastal and marine resources.</li> <li>• Commence implementation of the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan by working with partners and countries.</li> <li>• Conduct virtual basic-level training on the use of tools and features, and navigation of the Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP) and protected area related GIS training.</li> <li>• Convene PIRT annual meeting and associated meetings of PIRT working groups to support coordinated and effective regional progress to new regional and global biodiversity frameworks.</li> <li>• Convene a Pre- and Post-COPs meetings for the Pacific Islands region relating to the CBD, including implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.</li> <li>• ABS technical support available during regional pre and post-COP meetings utilising regional expertise.</li> <li>• Participation in the 6th and 7th Pacific Invasive Learning Network (PILN) (2024 and 2026) and the New Zealand PRISMSS Study Tour in 2024.</li> </ul>	<p>Effective management of inshore marine environment through Locally Managed Marine Area Network.</p> <p>Effective management of invasive and threatened species.</p> <p>Identify species and areas of national biodiversity significance and take steps for their conservation.</p> <p>Establish sustainable financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation.</p>

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Current, ongoing and proposed collaborative activities for 2024–2026, based on SPREP PIP 4 and other activities identified by Nauru	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing training and support for engagement with the regional invasive species mechanisms (Pacific Invasive Species Indicators, PRISMSS, Navigator System, PILN, regional initiatives).</li> <li>• PRISMSS Protect Our Islands Programme Clean Boats, Clean Ports Regional Framework Analysis.</li> </ul> <p><u>Other activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore opportunities for information sharing through the Micronesia component of the Pacific Bioscapes Programme.</li> <li>• Data collection to inform development of Regulations for management of noddy birds hunting.</li> <li>• Support Nauru in the implementation of its NBSAP</li> </ul>	
Goal 3: Pacific people benefit from improved waste management and pollution control	<p><u>PIP 4:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of hazardous legacy wastes (e-wastes, used oil, asbestos, liquid chemicals) in Nauru under PacWastePlus and GEF ISLANDS projects.</li> <li>• Provide mobile plant, equipment and training to support composting activities in the Nauru composting facility under the GEF ISLANDS project.</li> <li>• Assist Nauru with equipment for dismantling and baling waste materials for shipment, including training for dismantling and processing bulky waste under the GEF ISLANDS project</li> <li>• Assist Nauru to remediate or appropriately manage contaminated sites for Asbestos removal under PacWastePlus project.</li> <li>• 14 PICs represented at INC 5 under the AU INC project.</li> <li>• Assist PICs develop global agreement to end plastic pollution including in the marine environment under the AU INC Project.</li> <li>• Assist 16 PICTs to develop and implement resource recovery programmes under the PacWastePlus and ISLANDS Projects.</li> <li>• Assist 16 PICTs to develop and implement waste prevention programmes under the PacWastePlus, ISLANDS, SWAP, POLP projects.</li> </ul>	<p>Proper collection and management solid waste management services.</p> <p>Proper management of hazardous waste.</p>

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Current, ongoing and proposed collaborative activities for 2024–2026, based on SPREP PIP 4 and other activities identified by Nauru	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Nauru with developing capability for implementation of national plans and strategies under PACPOL and PACPLAN Resilience Project.</li> </ul> <p><u>Other activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (under Climate Change) – requires establishment of a waste inventory system, to collect data to be shared with other countries in the region and globally.</li> <li>• Development of improved management systems for e-waste, metal, tyres.</li> <li>• Follow up needed from 2013 oil spill workshop (MARPOL), including establishment of a committee and enforcement officers, plus follow up training.</li> <li>• Assistance with the implementation of a Waste Monitoring System, including establishment of an improved segregation system to support data collection to monitor different waste streams, and training on waste data collection and analysis. The Regional Data Collection, Monitoring and Reporting Framework developed by PacWastePlus will support this.</li> <li>• A weighbridge is required at the landfill to weigh tonnage of waste (currently rely on estimations).</li> <li>• Disposal options for asbestos materials remaining on island (PacWastePlus has removed some asbestos).</li> <li>• Support for development of Regulations for a ban on all single-use plastics.</li> <li>• Long-term proposal – establishment of a Nauru Waste and Resources Management Industry, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development of regulations for restricting the importation of problematic waste streams.</li> <li>○ Segregation and sorting of waste streams, recycling where possible (transport waste streams off island), incinerating the remainder, and stopping / minimising use of the landfill.</li> <li>○ Review of implementation options for financing mechanisms (N.B. ADB is planning to do a waste tax proposal feasibility study).</li> <li>○ Establishment of a framework for the NRC to work with DEMA on waste management and enforcement.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Current, ongoing and proposed collaborative activities for 2024–2026, based on SPREP PIP 4 and other activities identified by Nauru	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Training and capacity building for waste data collection and inventories.</li> </ul>	
<p>Goal 4: Pacific people and their environment benefit from commitment to and best practice of environmental governance</p>	<p><u>PIP 4:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conduct in-country training for Nauru focusing on linkages of MEAs to the State of Environment report.</li> <li>● Support Pacific countries in their domestic process to ratify the High Seas Treaty (BBNJ Agreement).</li> </ul> <p><u>Other activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inform Portal awareness-raising across Government, including establishing a dedicated Inform Portal manager role, and developing a national data policy.</li> <li>● Preparation of an EIA guideline to support the new EIA Regulations, including an environmental auditing template, and an Environmental and Social Management System.</li> <li>● EIA and SEA refresher training, especially for new staff.</li> <li>● GIS refresher training, linked to Inform Portal data use and management.</li> <li>● Development of an implementation roadmap for Nauru’s National Integrated Environment Policy (NIEP).</li> <li>● Monitoring and evaluation (M&amp;E) capacity-building across all areas of work, including establishment of a NIEP M&amp;E framework and implementation of the M&amp;E framework under the Nauru Climate Change Policy.</li> <li>● MEAs awareness-raising across Government e.g. Noumea Convention.</li> <li>● Capacity development for implementation of a water quality monitoring system across Government agencies (including equipment maintenance, identifying an authority for verifying test results, results being made available online for sharing between relevant agencies etc).</li> <li>● Development of Nauru’s State of Environment Report as per the Environmental Management &amp; Climate Change Act</li> </ul>	<p>Strengthen policy and legal framework to address national environmental priorities and MEA obligations.</p> <p>Strengthen planning and enforcement processes for effective development control.</p> <p>Establish monitoring and evaluation body to provide advice and oversee implementation of environment laws and policies.</p>

## Annex 2: List of current SPREP projects and programmes in Nauru

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Project / programme name	Timeframe	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
Goal 1: Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change	Nauru Readiness II project, Strengthening Nauru National Designated Authority and Direct Access Entity access	2023-2025	Committed to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and reduction in fossil fuel purchase.  Ensure Nauru commitment to Climate Change Adaptation.  Climate information is being collected, analysed and available to users.
	Nauru National Adaptation Planning – Phase I	2023-2025	
	COSPPac and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific Phase 3 (COSPPac 3)	2023-2027	
Goal 2: Pacific people benefit from healthy and resilient island and ocean ecosystems	Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service (PRISMSS)	2019-ongoing	Effective management of inshore marine environment through Locally Managed Marine Area Network.  Effective management of invasive and threatened species.  Identify species and areas of national biodiversity significance and take steps for their conservation.  Establish sustainable financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation.
	PRISMSS-Restoring Island Resilience Project	2023-2026	
	Pacific Invasive Learning Network (PILN)	2007-ongoing	
	CBD regional support to countries including NBSAP revision including submitting alignment of targets to GBF, pre-COP, and CBD COP coordination support	Ongoing	
Goal 3: Pacific people benefit from improved waste management and pollution control	Pacific – European Union Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus)	2019-2025	Proper collection and management solid waste management services.  Proper management of hazardous waste.
	Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States, GEF ISLANDS project	2021-2026	

SPREP SP 2017–2026, Regional Goals	Project / programme name	Timeframe	National Integrated Environment Policy Commitments
	Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP)	2019-2027	
	PACPLAN Maritime Spill Preparedness Improved Self-Reliance Programme (PACPLAN Resilience Project)	2022-2025	
Goal 4: Pacific people and their environment benefit from commitment to and best practice of environmental governance	Capacity Building Related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements in African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP MEAs 3)	2020-2024	<p>Strengthen policy and legal framework to address national environmental priorities and MEA obligations.</p> <p>Strengthen planning and enforcement processes for effective development control.</p> <p>Establish monitoring and evaluation body to provide advice and oversee implementation of environment laws and policies.</p>