

Annex 4: Pacific World Heritage Action Plan 2016 – 2020

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



World Heritage Convention

PACIFIC WORLD HERITAGE ACTION PLAN 2016 – 2020¹

Updated at the Pacific Heritage Workshop

(Koror, 30 August – 1 September 2017)

¹ The Draft Pacific Action Plan 2016 - 2020 was developed and approved by delegates from Pacific States Parties and territories at the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan meeting, Suva, Fiji, 1-4 December, 2015.

Vision for 2020

Pacific Island heritage is protected and enriched for current and future generations

Preamble

We the people of the Pacific offer a unique contribution to the World Heritage community, through our enormous wealth of cultural diversity, as well as the island and marine biodiversity of our region which covers one third of the earth's surface.

For us, indigeneity is inseparable from heritage. Our indigeneity has the following characteristics:

- Heritage in the Pacific defines our cultural identity and remains inseparable from our social, economic and environmental well-being, now and for future generations;
- Our heritage is holistic, embracing all life, both tangible and intangible, and is understood through our cultural traditions;
- There is an inseparable connection between the outstanding seascapes and landscapes in the Pacific Islands region, which are woven together by the rich cultural, historical and genealogical relationships of Pacific Island peoples;
- The region contains a series of spectacular and highly powerful spiritually-valued natural features and cultural places. These places are related to the origins of peoples, the land and sea, and other sacred stories;
- The Pacific is a region of distinct and diverse responses to oceanic environments;
- Protection of our heritage must be based on respect for and understanding and maintenance of the traditional cultural practices, indigenous knowledge and systems of land and sea tenure in the Pacific.

This extraordinary heritage, moreover, is often managed through traditional practices that reinforce the inseparable relationship between communities, cultures and environment that underpin sustainable development.

Noting our achievements since the creation of the first Pacific World Heritage Action Plan 2004 - 2009 and second Pacific World Heritage Action Plan 2010 - 2015, including:

- Two Pacific Island countries have ratified the Convention, bringing the total to twelve countries (out of fourteen) including Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu;
- Eight States Parties have submitted their Tentative Lists, including Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu. With Fiji and Solomon Islands this brings the total to ten States Parties;

- Seven properties from Pacific Small Islands State Parties are now inscribed on the World Heritage List, i.e. Kuk Early Agricultural Site, Papua New Guinea; Chief Roi Mata's Domain, Vanuatu; Bikini Atoll Nuclear Test Site, Marshall Islands; Phoenix Islands Protected Area, Kiribati; Rock Islands Southern Lagoon, Palau and Levuka Historical Port Town, Fiji in addition to East Rennell, Solomon Islands, which was inscribed in 1998;
- Five properties from Pacific territories of non-Pacific State Parties are now inscribed on the World Heritage List, i.e., Lagoon of New Caledonia: Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystem, France; and Papahānaumokuākea, USA, in addition to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, USA; Henderson Island, UK; and Rapa Nui National Park, Chile, which had been inscribed prior to 2004;
- The Pacific Heritage Hub has been established at the University of the South Pacific;
- A shared long-term vision on World Heritage for the region was established and communicated, through the so-called "Pacific Appeal"¹.

Recognizing the Strategic Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda adopted by the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2015, call the international community to "Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage", highlighting that the conservation of natural resources drives sustainable development and that the World Heritage Convention is an important tool to achieve these goals.

Recalling the SAMOA Pathway Outcome Document of the 3rd UN International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) (Samoa, September 2014) recognizes that SIDS possess a wealth of culture, which is a driver and an enabler for sustainable development. In particular, indigenous and traditional knowledge and cultural expression, which underscores the deep connections among people, culture, knowledge and the natural environment, can meaningfully advance sustainable development and social cohesion, strongly supporting the efforts of SIDS to promote cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and international cooperation in the cultural field in line with applicable international conventions, in particular those of UNESCO and to develop and strengthen national and regional cultural activities and infrastructures, including through the network of World Heritage sites, which reinforce local capacities, promote awareness in SIDS, enhance tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including local and indigenous knowledge, and involve local people for the benefit of present and future generations.

¹ The Appeal to the World Heritage Committee from Pacific Island State Parties, also known as the "Pacific Appeal", was developed by Pacific delegates at the February 2007 Pacific World Heritage workshop held at Waitetoko Marae (Tongariro) in New Zealand. It is annexed to Document WHC-07/31.COM/11C, accessible online from: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

Common Challenges to the Pacific region

We recognize that the Pacific region continues to be the most under-represented region on the World Heritage List. In redressing this imbalance in representation and endeavouring to continue to build on the aforementioned achievements, the Pacific Island States face major challenges. These include:

- Limited awareness of Pacific cultural and natural heritage outside the region;
- Lack of adequate representation of the unique and special heritage of the Pacific on the World Heritage List;
- Large geographic area, isolation and resource limitations that restrict access to information and assistance, and the ability of Pacific people to contribute to global forums;
- The character and scope of the UNESCO and the World Heritage Convention administration for the Pacific region, which masks some of the specific important national and regional heritage issues;
- Some people are represented by States Parties outside the region (UK, France, USA, Chile) which can limit their ability to have sites inscribed on the World Heritage List;
- Limited financial and human resources, skills and capacities within communities, and institutions to adequately manage the region's cultural and natural heritage;
- A need for increased awareness within communities of the great value that the World Heritage Convention contributes to the protection and vitality of cultural and biological diversity;
- Political instability and a lack of good governance, which are significant barriers to heritage conservation in general, and World Heritage implementation in particular;
- Greater external challenges and threats in the Pacific than in most other regions of the world, with less capacity to respond to their impacts. Examples of these external influences include climate change, financial instability, globalization of society and economy, technological development, commercialisation, energy supply and demand, natural disasters and tourism growth;
- Climate change is of particular concern because the Pacific region is especially vulnerable to its impacts and faces many difficulties in adapting to and mitigating its effects;
- The impacts on the environment and resources (both tangible and intangible) are widespread and sometimes difficult to monitor (e.g. spread of pests and diseases), which can limit our ability to protect heritage.

Aims and Goals

The aims of the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan 2016-2020 are:

- To increase community, national, regional and global awareness of the heritage of the Pacific nations and the contribution of Pacific Island and Ocean heritage to sustainable development;
- To strengthen the foundation for sustainable implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention in the Pacific states and territories;

- To build global recognition and support for conservation of the unique heritage of the Pacific through increasing representation of the heritage of the Pacific region on the World Heritage List.

Our pathway to achieving these aims has four key goals:

1. Pacific communities are actively engaged in conserving their heritage.
2. Pacific heritage is valued and effectively protected and managed.
3. The protection and conservation of Pacific heritage is supported by partnerships and cooperation of government agencies, regional and international organizations, non-government organizations and communities.
4. The Pacific nations have the capacity to successfully nominate and effectively manage their World Heritage sites.

Specific activities to achieve these goals at regional and national levels have been identified by Pacific delegates at the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan meeting, Suva, Fiji, 1-4 December, 2015.

Proposed Regional Level Activities

(see ANNEX 1 for a description of each proposed activity)

Activities at a Regional Level	Goal/s	Initiative taken by	Potential Funding Sources/Partnerships	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Secure sustainable funding for the Pacific Heritage Hub (PHH)	1,2,3,4	All	WHITRAP, HIST, SPREP, Japan, UNESCO	Minimum PHH operations have been maintained with USP's in-kind funding.	Target to secure at least US\$ 50,000 per annum for PHH operations.
2. Develop a Regional Cultural Heritage Register and Database or model for Heritage Registers to be adopted by national agencies	2,3,4	PHH	HIST to support IT training ICCROM, SPREP, IUCN	Consultations with heritage experts have been carried out.	Ground work to begin in 2019 and a regional training workshop to be conducted in 2020.
3. Promote Trans-boundary Nominations	4	PHH	France, Tonga	"Taputapuatea" in French Polynesia/France inscribed on the World Heritage List in July 2017. Palau-Yap/FSM trans-boundary nomination development is progressing well. No progress in the initial idea of Tonga/Wallis Futuna-France trans-boundary nomination.	PHH to continue to provide support through its communication/information activities via social media.

Activities at a Regional Level	Goal/s	Initiative taken by	Potential Funding Sources/Partnerships	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
4. Complete a Regional Thematic Study of places associated with Traditional Voyaging and Navigation	2,4	ICOMOS	World Heritage Fund, France	Fund-raising efforts have been made but no concrete result thus far.	Resource mobilisation efforts to be redoubled.
5. Establish a Register of Legal Experts for Cultural Heritage law	2,4	PHH	Fiji Environmental Law Association SPC, USP School of Law, IUCN Oceania Regional Office	Consultations with heritage experts have been carried out.	Ground work to begin in 2019 and a regional training workshop to be conducted in 2020.
6. Organise a regular Roundtable on Heritage at Regional Festivals	1,3	SPC, PHH	South Pacific Arts Council, Melanesian Spearhead Group, member states, UNDP, Equator Initiative, UNESCO, WHC	Forum on Culture and Sustainable Development organised by SPC at the Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (Guam, May 2016) included sessions focusing on tangible, intangible and natural heritage and PHH/USP made presentation at the Forum. PHH and Pacific Youth Council (PYC) identified national festivals for a publication project. National youth representatives are currently reviewing the heritage components of the festivals.	Roundtable on heritage and culture to be planned at regional festivals 2018-2020. PHH- PYC "Celebrating Pacific Heritage through Festivals" to be published in 2018.
7. Regional Capacity Building Programmes for site managers, communities, government officials	1,2,3	UNESCO	ICCROM, ICOMOS, SPREP, IUCN, WHITRAP, HIST USP	Preparatory works for WITRAP regional training on Environmental/Heritage Impact Assessment are underway held in Fiji in Nov/Dec 2017.	Follow up activities to be supported.

Activities at a Regional Level	Goal/s	Initiative taken by	Potential Funding Sources/Partnerships	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
8. Regional exchange program for heritage managers	1,2,3	PHH	Australia, NZ, other Pacific Island countries, WH sites in other regions Canada, IUCN, CEESP	PHH provided coordination services for exchange of heritage managers among Pacific SIDS with partners in Asia.	PHH coordination services to be provided.
9. Training on risk management and impact assessment and climate change mitigation for cultural heritage	2,3	UNESCO	ICCROM, WHITRAP, ICOMOS, Blue Shield, SPREP	First regional training on DRR of cultural heritage was held by UNESCO (Port Vila, Vanuatu, November 2015).	Follow up actions to be supported.
10. Support development of USP Graduate Certificate Programme for Heritage Management	3,4	PHH	USP	USP Pacific Studies Programme Advisory met in June 2017 and endorsed the processing of the Professional Certificate in Heritage Management Programme through USP quality assurance checks.	Course development to begin in Feb 2018 and roll out expected in 2018/2019.
11. Mainstreaming World Heritage in National Development Plans (regional and national)	3,4	National stakeholders, Ministers of Planning and Culture		Culture has been incorporated the National Development Plans of all Pacific SIDS.	Efforts to be made to expand the window of opportunity to further influence the planning of other sectors.
12. Study to review the economic benefits/impacts of World Heritage inscription	2,3	PHH	UIS, ICOMOS, IUCN	Fiji and NZ governments have been invited to participate in UIS SDG 11.4.1 Heritage Statistics Pilot Survey launched in July 2017.	The issue also to be addressed through PHH/USP Professional Certificate in Heritage Management Programme.

Activities at a Regional Level	Goal/s	Initiative taken by	Potential Funding Sources/Partnerships	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
13. Promote the value of heritage in context of sustainable tourism	2,3	PHH	SPTO		Roundtable and a panel discussion at USP in 2020 to be proposed.
14. Regional study of vernacular architecture (publication, DVD, surveys and typological studies)	2,4	PHH	UNITWIN partnering with Caribbean (University of West Indies), USP in cooperation with USP, ICOMOS	"Safeguarding Indigenous architecture in Vanuatu" published by UNESCO in 2016 with PHH/USP input.	PHH to continue to its efforts in partnership building and fund raising.
15. 'Lessons from the Pacific': sustainable use of resources and the resilience of Pacific Island communities (Publication and Social Media Campaign)	1,2,3	PHH	UNDP, SPC Pacific Way		Publication and Social Media Campaign planned for 2018-2020.
16. Preparing Conservation Management Plans for Pacific World Heritage sites and sites on Tentative Lists	1,2,3	States Parties	WHITRAP	Projects in this area have been underway in several countries including Fiji, FSM, Tonga.	States parties continue to engage in this area.

Acronyms

CEESP	Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy
HIST	International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage
ICHCAP	International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region
PHH	Pacific Heritage Hub
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SPTO	South Pacific Tourism Organisation
USP	University of South Pacific
WHITRAP	World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region

Summary of National Level Activities Proposed by Member States
(see ANNEX 2 for details of country priorities and proposed activities)

Activities at a National Level	Goal	Initiative proposed by:	Notes
Community awareness raising programme for heritage conservation, management and/or World Heritage	1,3	Kiribati, PNG, FSM, Cook Islands, RMI, Tuvalu, Tonga	
Sharing of information on heritage sites through publication, education and/or signage	2,3	Kiribati, Cook Islands	
Increasing the institutional cooperation of government ministries and agencies to support and enhance the protection of heritage	2,3	PNG, Solomon Islands, RMI, Tonga	
Promoting respect for customary practices and decision making in heritage protection and management	1,2	PNG, Solomon Islands	
Increasing effectiveness and coordination of policy and legislation for protection of heritage	3	PNG, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Tonga	
Capacity building/training in heritage management for communities and officials	2,3	Kiribati, PNG, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Tonga	
Building capacity for heritage protection and management through increased staffing and/or professional training on World Heritage	2,3	Cook Islands, Tonga	
Developing of national inventories/registers and databases for storing and sharing information about heritage places	2,3	Kiribati*, Cook Islands, Tonga	* Technical assistance application to be submitted
Undertake a cultural mapping programme	2,3	Kiribati	
Managing threats to heritage including invasive species, climate change, developments, logging, mining	2,3	Solomon Islands*, Tonga, New Zealand	*East Rennell World Heritage property
Developing a risk management strategy for heritage sites	2,3	Kiribati, Tonga	
Building in risk preparedness through training	2,3	Tonga	
Fostering community-based tourism management plans	2,3	Solomon Islands	
Developing, reviewing and updating Tentative Lists	3,4	PNG, FSM*, Tuvalu, Tonga, New Zealand (further assessment of existing Tentative List)	* Tentative List submission for Chuuk Lagoon -Discuss potential for transboundary nomination with Wallis
Developing successful World Heritage nominations	4	Kiribati (Ten Nnabakana Project) * PNG (Kokoda and Nakanai Ranges, Huon Peninsula, Bobugara) FSM (Stone Money Transboundary) Tonga (Tombs of the Tongan Kings)	* Technical Assistance Application
Ratify the world Heritage Convention	4	Nauru* Tuvalu	* Technical Assistance Application for National Action Plan
Increase intra-regional cooperation for management of World Heritage sites	2,3,4	PNG and Solomon Islands*, Tonga	Sharing information on Action Plan for Kuk
Foster synergies between World Heritage Convention and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements	3,4	New Zealand	

ANNEX 1: Brief Description of Proposed Regional Activities

Proposed Activities	Brief Description
<p>1. Secure sustainable funding for the Pacific Heritage Hub</p>	<p>The Pacific Heritage Hub (PHH) was established at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in 2014. The Australian Government funded the initial two years of the operation of the Hub. USP now hosts the Hub but ongoing support is not guaranteed beyond 2015. A sustainable and ongoing funding mechanism for the operations of the Hub either at USP or elsewhere is needed from 2016 and will be essential to support implementation of the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan 2016-2020.</p> <p>The Steering Committee of the PHH, comprised of representatives from Pacific Island Member States, will recommend to USP to support activities of PHH for next 5 years. Should USP not continue to host PHH, an alternative host organization will be sought and SPREP, SPC and IUCN ORO (Oceania Regional Office) will be approached by the Steering Committee.</p>
<p>2. Develop a Regional Cultural Heritage Register and Database or model for Heritage Registers to be adopted by national agencies</p>	<p>Currently few of the Pacific Island nations have cultural heritage registers or systematic digital data bases to store information about cultural heritage places to underpin the identification, protection and management of cultural heritage and the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.</p> <p>National cultural heritage registers are urgently needed especially for archaeology, traditional buildings and indigenous architecture and built heritage in general. To assist countries to develop national registers for cultural heritage it is proposed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide training* at the regional level in site recording and assessment and data base development • Develop a model data base and recording process for cultural heritage that is appropriate to the needs of the region and can be adopted by national governments. <p>National governments will first need to identify what they need in the database and report back to PHH, who will coordinate development of the project, identification of the consultant to develop the data base in consultation with Pacific nations. PHH and Member countries should investigate and liaise with existing portals such as that of the Pacific Invasives Partnership (https://www.sprep.org/Pacific-Invasives-Partnership/invasive-partnerships) that may be adapted to or provide models for cultural heritage. An initial research phase will also identify software that would be suitable for the region to standardize databases.</p> <p>*Note: ICCROM is a potential training provider.</p>
<p>3. Promote Transboundary World Heritage Nominations</p>	<p>Three transboundary/transnational serial World Heritage nominations are proposed for further discussion and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yapese Stone Money Transboundary World Heritage nomination (Palau and FSM) to be finalized and submitted in January 2017 • Research to identify the potential of a serial nomination for a fortress site in Wallis and Futuna that is historically linked to Tonga and Wallis and Futuna and Rotuma (Fiji) and possibly Samoa where there are similar fortresses. • Promote the development of a serial nomination of whale sanctuaries in Tonga, Niue and elsewhere as appropriate. 2016 is the Pacific Year of the Whale and creates unique opportunities for promoting protection and conservation. SPREP has mandate for marine biodiversity overall. To be discussed with SPREP and in Hawaii at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, September 2016.

Proposed Activities	Brief Description
4. Complete a Regional Thematic Study of places associated with Traditional Voyaging and Navigation	A regional thematic study of places associated with traditional navigation and voyaging is proposed to scope the potential of places under this theme to be World Heritage and form the basis for serial World Heritage nominations. Support and potential funding for an initial scoping study is to be sought from ICOMOS. The initial research could be presented for discussion at the Canoe Summit at the 12 th Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam in May 2016 and followed up at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Hawaii, September 2016.
5. Establish a Register of Legal Experts for Cultural Heritage law	A Register of Experts in Cultural Heritage Law, including local and international lawyers, is to be developed and hosted by the Pacific Heritage Hub to provide information for Member States reviewing, developing or implementing new policy and/or legislation for the protection of cultural heritage. PHH will coordinate the project and seek support from Law Societies, USP and Regional organisations such as the NGO Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights (CELCOR) Inc, based in Papua New Guinea and IUCN ORO.
6. 6. Hold a regular Roundtable on Heritage at Regional Meetings and Festivals	Organise an initial roundtable on heritage at 12 th Festival of Pacific Arts, Guam, May 2016.
7. Regional Capacity Building Programmes for site managers, communities, government officials	Specific national, sub-regional and region programmes for capacity building and training in response to needs identified by Member States to be developed by, and funding sought through, the Pacific Heritage Hub.
8. Regional exchange programme for heritage managers	'Learning lessons from other sites': The PHH investigate possibilities for capacity building and training of site managers through twinning opportunities, placements and visits to World Heritage sites that are well managed/less well managed to learn for example representatives from the Cook Islands to visit World Heritage sites in New Zealand or Australia.
9. Training on risk management and impact assessment and climate change mitigation for cultural heritage	PHH to identify existing opportunities for training workshops and available resources for Risk Management and Impact Assessment especially through SPREP and with UNESCO Apia approach ICCROM to hold a regional disaster and risk management training workshop [to build on Vanuatu workshop held in 2015].
10. Support development of USP Graduate Certificate Programme for Heritage Management	Member States and regional organisations to support the development of a Graduate Certificate in Heritage management at USP through tabling of the programme at the meeting of 3rd Pacific Ministers of Culture Meeting in Guam, May 2016. Through the SPC review of the Regional Culture Strategy: Investing in Pacific Cultures 2010-2020, advocate for the USP programme to be one of the activities of the Strategy. Note: HIST, China has indicated that they will offer a scholarship for Masters/PhD for a Pacific student.
11. Mainstreaming World Heritage in National Development Plans (regional and national)	Collaborate on SAMOA Pathway outcomes [no funding, only process]

Proposed Activities	Brief Description
12. Study to review the economic benefits/impacts of World Heritage inscription	PHH to seek funding for research to that will bring together data from existing studies of the economic benefits and impacts of World Heritage inscription for example in where available for Australian, New Zealand, Palau, Vanuatu and others.
13. Promote the value of heritage in context of sustainable tourism	To identify and promote that value of World Heritage sites for landowners and communities, PHH (or other) undertake research looking at visitation and success of Green Tax in Palau and other case studies providing evidence of the economic and cultural value of tourism at World Heritage sites.
14. Regional study of vernacular architecture (publication, DVD, surveys and typological studies)	Graduate student research to survey religious built heritage in the Pacific, including traditional or customary architecture and churches leading to a publication and development of conservation plans or guidelines (with ICOMOS Pasifika).
15. 'Lessons from the Pacific': sustainable use of resources and the resilience of Pacific communities	Publication and Social Media Campaign to promote the customary practices leading to sustainable uses of resources and the resilience of Pacific communities. The World Conservation Congress, Hawaii September 2016 and Guam Festival of Pacific Arts in May 2016 provide an opportunity to promote the project seek partners and funding.
16. Preparing Conservation Management Plans for Pacific World Heritage sites and sites on Tentative Lists	State Parties in partnership with WHITRAP to develop model conservation management plans that may be adapted for use in World Heritage sites and sites on Tentative Lists. A partnership for capacity building is already being developed between Fiji and WHITRAP in relation to the Levuka World Heritage site.

ANNEX 2: Country Priorities and Proposed Actions

AUSTRALIA

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Implement the Kokoda Declaration with Papua New Guinea: finalise activities under the 2 nd joint understanding and implement the Environment Pillar with Commonwealth Environment Protection Agency.	Up to AUD 25 million has been invested in the Kokoda Initiative.	Continue to implement the Kokoda Initiative.
2. Provide support to Pacific Island countries on the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).	AUD 120,000 has been allocated.	Continue to support activities in this area.
3. Provide core funding, policy support and capacity building for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP).	Assistance to SPREP was provided as planned.	Continue to support SPREP.

COOK ISLANDS

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. National Inventory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Cultural Heritage Database Research Publication of oral histories relating to sites Signage at sites 	Progress has been made on Tentative List development. Marae Moana was approved as one of the world's largest marine park in 2017. National Culture Policy and Strategic Plan 2017-2030 are being finalised, including a heritage component.	Organise a capacity building workshop for government officials and outer island cultural leaders during 2018-2020.
2. Public Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops in the Pa Enea (site identified is a serial site located on 5 islands and linked to the Taputapuatea site in French Polynesia) Publish materials for school Promotion on local media 	National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2020 includes Goal 14, ensuring the preservation of Cook Islands Maori heritage, history and develop Cook Islands culture, language, local knowledge and arts.	Continue to support public awareness activities.
3. Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff training and up-skilling Regional Exchange programmes Heritage managers training Training for communities 	Government officials and heritage managers took part several training opportunities on the topic concerned.	Continue to support training activities.

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (FSM)

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Coordinate the completion and submission of the Yap Stone Money nomination.	Progress has been made in developing a nomination file.	Final dossier to be submitted to UNESCO in 2018.
2. Continue educational awareness programme in Pohnpei and Yap about the benefits of preserving cultural and natural heritage.	Progress has been made in educational awareness programme in Pohnpei and Yap through workshops and information/communication activities.	Coordinate with UNESCO, experts and partners with a view to removing Nan Madol from the World Heritage List in Danger.
3. Assist in drafting and submitting to the FSM Congress a resolution for adoption and ratification of the Underwater Heritage Convention.	Resolution has been developed in 2017.	Ensure follow up on resolution and lobbying.

REPUBLIC OF FIJI

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promulgation, implementation and enforcement of the Fiji Heritage Bill Management Plan implementation (Levuka World Heritage site) 	Public consultation was completed by Standing Committee on Social Affairs on Draft Heritage Decree with key stakeholders and public in Levuka and Suva. Decree to be presented to Fiji Parliament in December 2017. Allocation of budgetary provision to Levuka by Department of Heritage for 2016 onwards for implementation of key projects was approved.	Conduct awareness on the Fiji Heritage Bill. Upgrade 80 historical buildings in Levuka affected by Cyclone Winston. Conduct awareness session on other UNESCO Conventions on heritage.
2. Capacity Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training local community to engage in management Professional heritage conservation training 	Levuka Tour Guide Training Workshops and Levuka Town Planning Scheme Workshop were held in 2016. WHITRAP workshop on heritage/environment impact assessment is planned for Nov/Dec 2017 in cooperation with PHH/USP.	Continue to support activities in this area.
3. Sustainable tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site facilities and services for education and awareness Visitor management 	Four main entry signs were installed within the World Heritage boundary. Two new brochure were launched. Levuka Tour Guide Training was conducted, and visitor arrival survey was carried out in 2016.	Continue to support activities in this area.

GUAM

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Coordinate with other entities to develop a National Development Plan, linking the various Cultural Heritage Plans.		Resources include State Historic Preservation office, Guam Legislature, Guam Visitors Bureau, Guam Preservation Trust, Guam Museum, Department of Chamorro Affairs, Hagatna Foundation, Historic Village District Foundation, etc.

KIRIBATI

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
<p>1. Ten Nnabakana (stone warrior) Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be launched to the Island Council and the community of Tabiteuea Meang Technical Assistant needed to conduct scientific research purpose (Carbon dating of Te Nnabakana) National consultation & Awareness training on procedures & processes to include Te Nnabakana (stone warrior) in the World Heritage site 	<p>Launching of the project was completed towards end of 2016. The Government delegation team led by the Minister of Internal Affairs together with Senior Cultural officer and other government officials visited the island and did celebrated the launching of the project to the Island Council, the communities and people of Tabiteuea Meang island.</p> <p>Technical assistant – we have requested SPC to assist in providing TA and financial assistance. Still awaiting for assistance.</p> <p>National consultation and awareness training has not yet been conducted.</p> <p>No funding available. Need TA to assist in the training.</p> <p>Dissemination information on Te Nnabakana has also been carried out using brochures, published report book and posters as well as in other trainings offered by the Culture and Museum division in islands been visited.</p> <p>The Island Council is seeking legal advice for inclusion of Te Nnabakana protection under the Island Council BYE LAW.</p>	<p>By 2018-2019 Scientific work on Carbon dating to be carried out and completed.</p> <p>By 2018-2019, sought funding and National Consultation will be carried.</p> <p>By 2018-2019 restoration work on broken stones need to be completed</p> <p>Protection and safeguarding of Te Nnabakana site will be included under the Island Council BYE LAW in 2018-2019.</p> <p>By 2019-2020, Te Nnabakana will be included under the world heritage site listing.</p>
<p>2. Capacity Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training on appropriate knowledge and skills for Culture & Museum staff (propose staff exchange on Cultural mapping in Fiji) Training awareness to the community on safeguarding and protection of Cultural Heritage sites and Intangible Cultural Heritages in Kiribati Training awareness on Cultural World Heritage Conventions and procedures and processes for World Heritage nomination and listing TA on Professional Cultural heritage conservation training Community outreach training- climate change & Human nature to destroy cultural heritage sites Risk preparedness training- climate change and human action towards their heritage and culture Inter-agency, inter-organization, inter-community and inter-country dialogue 	<p>Still awaits the availability of staff and confirmation from Fiji for staff attachment.</p> <p>In the meantime, we have short staff and recruitment is still in progress, however the Assistant Cultural officer propose for staff exchange was just back after attending a 3-month short term training on culture and arts in Indonesia, while the Senior Cultural officer looked after the overall operation of the division.</p> <p>Training is still in progress. Islands been visited were Makin, Butaritari, Tabiteuea Meang, Abemama, Tabiteuea Maiaki, Beru and Maiana.</p> <p>Need a TA to assist in the trainings in the identified areas.</p>	<p>By 2017-2018 staff exchange completed.</p> <p>By 2018-2019 a TA will be able available to carry out the identified trainings as required.</p>

<p>3. Cultural Mapping Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper & quality equipment for Cultural mapping • Transcribe, Editing & Publishing Cultural mapping report • Completion of Cultural Mapping to Tarawa (Teinainano Urban Council) & Phoenix islands • Launching of the report to be used as a National Cultural Mapping report for Kiribati Culture • Technical Assistance to assist in Database & Cultural Heritage Inventory 	<p>Quality equipment is included under the divisional budget.</p> <p>Transcribing, editing and publishing of cultural mapping work is still on-going. Due to the shortage of staff, 4 islands are targeted to be completed every year.</p> <p>Staffing -The division have two new posts approved for 2017, the Museum Curator and the Multimedia Officer. The increase of staff will improve the completion of work of transcribing and mapping report.</p> <p>Mapping on South Tarawa was started in 2016 and to be continue in 2017 for completion of the work.</p> <p>As for Kanton island we need to seek funding to do the mapping work in 2018.</p> <p>Cultural mapping report is still progressing. Transcribing the report from digital recordings on islands been visited is one of the major tasks that needs staff and time to complete the work.</p> <p>Soon after completion of transcribing work, the mapping report will then be reviewed again by the villagers before finalizing as a national report for the all islands.</p> <p>Proposal to seek Technical Assistance on cultural inventory will be sought to funding agencies with the assistance of SPC and UNESCO.</p>	<p>By 2018- 2019 the division will be fully equipped with equipment required.</p> <p>By 2019-2020 target to complete the cultural mapping report for the 23 islands in Kiribati and launched as a national cultural mapping report for Kiribati.</p> <p>By 2017-2018 South Tarawa mapping will be completed.</p> <p>By 2017- 2018, funding for Kanton will be sought under the PIPA project. Mapping work will be implemented soon as funds available.</p> <p>By 2018-2020 cultural mapping work completed.</p> <p>By 2018-2020, target to complete national inventory database</p>
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MARSHALL ISLANDS (RMI)

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Continue building awareness of the RMI residents and raise the level of understanding on the importance of preserving their heritage and coordinate with government agencies, NGO's, and private sector involved in heritage based projects.	Progress has been made in awareness raising activities by the Alele Museum, Historic Preservation Office (HPO) and the College of the Marshall Islands under its new programme on Marshallese studies.	Support awareness raising activities for youth on climate change impact on heritage protection.
2. Improve the political will of leaders on the importance of streamlining issues and agencies to prevent duplication.	The Ministry of Cultural and Internal Affairs (MCIA) has been established to replace the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Twenty-two Cultural Resource Office have been selected in the Local Government Communities.	National consultation with stakeholders to be held to discuss strategic plan and policy for national and local governments.
3. Implement World Heritage Action Plan into the Historic Preservation Plan (5 year Plan) that is being drafted by the Historic Preservation Office.	RMI's Historic Preservation Plan will soon be completed.	Ensure the finalisation of the Historic Preservation Plan and its implementation within the framework of the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan.

NAURU

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. National debate to be initiated to generate discussion on the future of Nauru.		
2. A nation-wide awareness campaign for addressing issues of protection and conservation of Nauruan Heritage.		
3. Nauru to ratify the World Heritage Convention		
4. Establish a Heritage Task Force responsible for heritage conservation.		

NEW ZEALAND

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Effective & innovative management of existing World Heritage sites, including Mouse eradication on Antipodes – NZ Sub-Antarctic	Antipodes Island Mouse Eradication operations successfully delivered.	Outcome monitoring for Antipodes Island Mouse Eradication occurring February/March 2018 (2 full breeding summers after eradication operations).
2. Further Assessment of sites on tentative list to determine whether nomination should be pursued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Volcanic Fields (with iwi and other stakeholders) • At least one other tentative site 	Department of Conservation continued to engage with key stakeholders on Auckland nomination but timing is not yet suitable.	Engage with key stakeholders with a view to making progress once timing suits all parties.
3. Foster synergies between the World Heritage Convention and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements in implementation (Internationally as well as in domestic implementation)		

NIUE

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Update Inventory of Niue heritage assets (natural, cultural and historical significance).		
2. Engage World Heritage specialist to review Niue obligations and status in connection to the World Heritage Convention ratified in 2001.		
3. Promotion and awareness of world and Niue heritage matters through school programmes/excursions and community workshops.		

PALAU

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Climate Change and Natural Disaster: Pacific World Heritage Action Plan can include in its objective to address assessment and technical assistance toward restoring historical, cultural, natural sites threatened by natural disaster.	Palau HPO is a member of National Disaster Management mechanism to ensure heritage protection from natural disasters and climate change impact.	Continue to support activities in this area.
2. Intangible Cultural Heritage: Establish a regional dialogue to enhance links between the World Heritage Convention and the Convention for the Protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (by establishing a project on traditional navigation and seafaring, canoe building and management of associated heritage places) Include: traditional architecture, agriculture, and associated practices with Pacific World Heritage sites.	Palau hosted ICHCAP information and networking meeting in Koror in 2017 focusing on youth and ICH safeguarding.	Continue to support activities in this area.
3. Educational Sustainable Development Develop World Heritage educational material for communities and schools including the expansion of World Heritage in Young Hands Programme throughout the region and linking it to the Pacific Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Programme/ NB include: Web 2.0 - interaction and exchange and endorsed Cultural and Education Regional Strategy for the Pacific.	Progress has been made on the development of educational programme by using the experience in managing the Rock Islands Southern Lagoon in cooperation with key partners including NGOs, Palau Community College and the Belau National Museum.	Continue to support activities in this area.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG)

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. Protection and Gazettal of Kuk AGS Under Conservation Areas Act (1978)	The submission for the protection of the site has been prepared and submitted to local level and provincial governments, waiting for endorsement by national government. Once endorsed, it will get gazetted.	Protection and gazettal.
2. Review threats and recommendations for sites on PNG's Tentative List	Review process done for all sites on PNG's tentative List.	Report to be completed.
3. Prepare a nomination dossier for Kokoda and Owen Stanley Ranges and Nakanai Ranges	Different sites were recommended by experts for nomination development.	Nomination to be developed for Huon Terrace (Peninsula) and Kikiori River Basin before proceeding to nominating Koroda and Nakanai Ranges.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
<p>1. Development of sustainable income generating mechanisms that derive benefits from the conservation of the East Rennell World Heritage property for the local communities (for example ecotourism, small businesses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization of a roundtable in Honiara to collect commitments from the Lake Tegano World Heritage Site Association (LTWHSA), relevant line ministries, NGOs and (international) partners and to agree on an action plan to remove the East Rennell World Heritage site from the list of World Heritage in Danger 	<p>Lake Tegano World Heritage Site Round Table Meeting was held in Honiara from 16 to 18 August 2017 to discuss the matter.</p>	<p>Ensure the implementation of the outcome and action plan of the Round Table Meeting. Potential partners include IUCN, CEPF, UNDP Small Grants Programme, SPREP, Universities, Live and Learn.</p>
<p>2. Reinforcement of the LTWHSA so that the customary owners have the necessary, long-term technical and financial resources to protect the property to World Heritage standards and in accordance with traditional management practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LTWHSA has reflected on its structure to ensure maximum ownership of all local communities and its constituencies; and has made internal arrangements to restore trust with Governments and international partners National government has allocated a fixed, annual amount of money for the LTWHSA. Extra resources and training from international partners will be attracted for particular projects 	<p>Lake Tegano World Heritage Site Round Table Meeting was held in Honiara from 16 to 18 August 2017 to discuss the matter. An increase in the budget allocation for the World Heritage site is expected in 2017.</p>	<p>Ensure the implementation of the outcome and action plan of the Round Table Meeting.</p>
<p>3. All areas within the World Heritage property and the surrounding areas that support the ecological functioning of the World Heritage property are excluded from commercial logging operations and mining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of legal framework Monitoring of existing / approved operations 	<p>The Solomon Islands cabinet noted the In Danger Status of the East Rennelle World Heritage site and the underlying factors of the status in 2016. A core team for the World Heritage site was established, and Desired State of Conservation report was submitted to UNESCO in July 2017. Follow up missions of the team were conducted.</p>	<p>Ensure the implementation of the outcome and action plan of the Round Table Meeting.</p>

TONGA

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
<p>1. Protection of heritage places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Register and Database Legislation for Safeguarding of heritage sites Legislation to identify/declare and protect the so-called 'traditional building'. 	Works have been underway to establish national committee and set up local committees for cultural and natural heritage safeguarding with clear ToR, to build education and awareness programmes for the promotion of national cultural and natural heritage, conduct inventorying activities and develop database in collaboration with stakeholders, and to develop legal frameworks to support the protection, promotion and development of heritage.	Works to continue.
<p>2. Heritage Site Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop management plan Climate Change Impacts and mitigation Risk reduction and risk preparedness Assessment of Post Disaster Impacts of Hazards Public Adaptation Awareness Programmes 	Culture Division participated in several capacity building workshop on the topics concerned and to apply the knowledge and skills to the implementation of activities in Tonga.	Continue to implement activities.
<p>3. National Awareness and Capacity Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-agency, inter-organisation, inter-community and inter-country dialogue Heritage conservation training Training local community to engage in the management of heritage sites Awareness amongst local communities, politicians, government officials, decision makers and the general public School curriculum and programmes Risk preparedness training 	Culture Division has actively engaged in national awareness raising and capacity building by promoting inter-agency dialogue and providing assistance to local communities and other stakeholders.	Continue to implement activities.
4. Developing and updating Tentative Lists	Preparatory works are underway to include Ha'amonga (Heketa Compound) Trilithon in Tonga's Tentative List.	Draft a submission to UNESCO in 2019.
5. Developing successful World Heritage nominations	Draft nomination file on Ancient Capital of Tonga was submitted to UNESCO in September 2016 for completeness check and feedback was received. Challenges include the determination of buffer zone.	Submit a final nomination file in 2018.

TUVALU

Priorities and Actions at the National Level	Progress during 2016-2017	Workplan for 2018-2020
1. World Heritage Convention consultation to outer island	No progress due to lack of funding.	Redouble resource mobilisation efforts.
2. Review Cultural Policy and Structure	Draft Tuvalu National Culture Policy: Strategic Plan 2018-2024 has been developed in 2017. This Policy identifies the strategic initiatives in tangible heritage preservation, and foresees Tuvalu ratification of the World Heritage Convention as priority.	Implement the Policy across the country.
3. Prepare a nomination for the Tentative List		Request for Technical Assistance to work with the Department to build capacity in the World Heritage Convention.