



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

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between

The New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment (NZAIA)

and

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

(together, "the Parties")

The **NZAIA** is a non-government organization based in New Zealand. It is a professional association and network of practitioners. Its purpose is to promote the practice of impact assessment (including social and environmental assessment) in the formulation and implementation of development and policy proposals. **NZAIA** is an affiliate of the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) and collaborates with the Special Interest Section on Impact Assessment of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ).

SPREP is a regional, intergovernmental organisation comprising 26 members consisting of 21 Pacific Island Countries and Territories and five developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific region. The purposes of **SPREP** are to promote co-operation in the Pacific region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations. The **SPREP** Strategic Plan 2011-2015 has as one of its targets (EMG3.1) to establish by 2015 a regional network of environmental assessment and planning professionals.

Whereas **SPREP** and **NZAIA** have mutual interests in relation to the application of best appropriate practice impact assessment processes, tools and knowledge in management of the environment in the Pacific region and provide a significant contribution to the achievement of the goal of sustainable development, we will work together to develop and strengthen systems, institutions, organisations and individuals who undertake various forms of impact assessment.

The Parties have reached the following understandings:

1. Objectives

1. The main objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (M OU) is to provide a framework of co-operation between **SPREP** and **NZAIA**.

2. Within this framework the Parties will consult and identify ways to collaborate on activities that will strengthen capability in impact assessment in the Pacific Region.

2. Collaborative Activities

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

1. Consult each other on policy and planning matters of mutual concern.
2. Exchange information, advice, expertise and resources on developments and current activities in relation to impact assessment practice, including sharing information through their respective web sites.
3. Extend to each other invitations to be represented by observers at appropriate meetings, including the annual NZAIA Meeting, SPREP Meeting and to co-sponsor relevant meetings and events.
4. Collaborate and support awareness-raising efforts in relation to the practice of impact assessment, including environmental impact assessment (EIA), strategic impact assessment (SEA), and integrated environmental assessment (IEA), including climate change responses.
5. Share experiences and capability in the development of networks of impact assessment practitioners, to link island, regional and international practitioners with the view of establishing a pacific islands network to link with IAIA and EIANZ.
6. Collaborate with and support capacity-building initiatives in relation to the practice of impact assessment, including development of guidelines and training material, organising and leading training activities, development of case studies, post graduate courses and any other agreed activity.
7. Keep respective memberships informed of activities undertaken pursuant to this MOU.

3. Operational Provisions

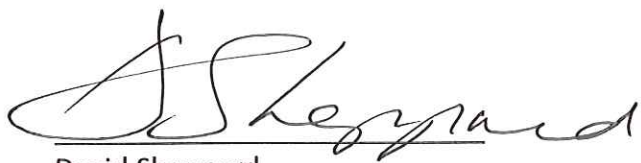
1. This MOU constitutes an expression of a shared intention of the Parties to endeavour to develop the basis for achieving shared objectives relating to developing and strengthening systems, institutions, organisations and individuals concerned with impact assessment in the Pacific region.
2. Each Party's 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 to this MOU.
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. Annexes

1. Specific work plans, once agreed to, may be attached as an Annex to this MOU.
2. Such Annex shall form an integral part of this MOU and, unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to this MOU includes a reference to any such Annex.

5. Duration, entry into force, amendments and termination

1. The duration of this MOU shall be five years, renewable for such further period and 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.



David Sheppard
Director General
SPREP

Prof. Richard Morgan
Convenor
NZAIA

Date:

22/3/12

Date:



Annex 1: Schedule of SPREP-NZAIA 2013 Collaborative Activities

#	MoU Collaborative Activity	Specific Tasks/Events	Timeframe	Funding	Coordinator/ Facilitator
1	[6] Collaborate with and support capacity-building initiatives in relation to the practice of impact assessment, including development of guidelines and training material, organising and leading training activities, development of case studies, post graduate courses and any other agreed activity.	<p>1.1 Workshop to draft an updated and extended version of the existing SPREP EIA guidelines and related training course that include guidelines on mainstreaming climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation and sustainable resources use, waste management and pollution control priorities, SEA and IEA for use by EIA national regulators and general EIA practitioners.</p> <p>1.2 Consultancy services to finalize the guidelines and training course draft.</p> <p>1.3 First regional training on new and updated EIA guidelines for member countries EIA regulators.</p>	March 25-29	ACP MEA Capacity Building Phase I	SPREP EPO NZAIA Chair
2	[5] Share experiences and capability in the development of networks of impact assessment practitioners, to link island, regional and international practitioners with the view of establishing a pacific islands network to link with IAIA and EIANZ.	2.1 Prepare a SPREP 2013 meeting paper for the establishment of a Pacific Impact Assessment Association of Pacific island impact assessment professionals and professional agencies as an affiliate of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), that is service by SPREP and assisted by NZAIA and EIANZ and other metropolitan member countries of SPREP's national EIA agencies (e.g. US's EPA).	June-July	SPREP staff time	SPREP EPO
3	[3] Extend to each other invitations to be represented by observers at appropriate meetings, including the annual NZAIA Meeting, SPREP Meeting and to co-sponsor relevant meetings and events.	3.1 Secure sponsorships and funding assistance to support the participation of potential EIA regulators in small island member states in the IAIA annual conference 2014 and NZAIA's annual meeting 2013.	June-October	SPREP & NZAIA staff time	SPREP EPO NZAIA Chair
4	[2] Exchange information, advice, expertise and resources on developments and current activities in relation to impact assessment practice, including sharing information through their respective web sites.	<p>4.1 Expand the Impact Assessment tab of the SPREP website to include information of countries EIA regulations, guidelines, research reports, updated contact addresses and any other relevant information for public use.</p> <p>4.2 Where possible and appropriate organize technical advice and support from NZAIA (and IAIA) experts to assist with EIA research, policy and guidelines development requests from SPREP member countries.</p>	April-September	SPREP staff time	SPREP EPO
			Throughout the year depending on country requests	SPREP & NZAIA staff time	SPREP EPO NZAIA Chair