

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP
(GWP)**

AND

**THE PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE
ON SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT**

THROUGH

**THE SOUTH PACIFIC APPLIED GEOSCIENCE
COMMISSION
(SOPAC)**

**GWP Secretariat – Stockholm, Sweden
30th Day of June 2005**

GWP believes that SOPAC already provides an effective mechanism through which stakeholders of the Small Island States of the Pacific can come together to pursue the sustainable management of their water resources. The formation of a GWP region in the Pacific is therefore considered unnecessary.

The Global Water Partnership, hereinafter referred to as 'GWP' and, as coordinator of the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management, the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission, hereinafter referred to as 'SOPAC'

Recognise that management of freshwater resources is closely linked with the sustainable development of Pacific island countries in a very significant way.

Further recognise that it is essential to adopt a holistic approach in water resources management.

Note that the GWP focuses on the promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) to assist countries in the sustainable development of freshwater.

Further note that SOPAC is recognised by its Member States as the regional organisation with responsibility for activities related to water resources and has been tasked by the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) to coordinate the Pacific Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management with the objective to implement the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, inclusive of its sister strategies, the Pacific Wastewater Policy Statement and the Pacific Wastewater Framework for Action, as effectively as possible.

GWP believes that SOPAC provides the appropriate mechanism for stakeholders of the Pacific Islands region to consolidate efforts to promote the sustainable management of their water resources, rather than for GWP to establish a separate regional network.

Acknowledge that many aspects of integrated water resources management afford an excellent opportunity for international cooperation towards addressing global concerns.

Therefore HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Co-operation and consultation

1. The parties agree to co-operate on matters concerning the freshwater environment, capacity-building, data and information management and, on issues of mutual interest and benefit.
2. The parties agree to co-operate in the continued implementation of the recommendations, as detailed in the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, agreed upon in Sigatoka, Fiji Islands by 18 Pacific Island Countries and endorsed by 16 Pacific Heads of State.

Co-operation between the parties will also occur through the Global Water Partnership Toolbox; the Handbook for Developing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and water efficiency strategies; and, IWRM capacity building initiatives such as that developed by GWP/CapNET and the UNU/INWEH/USP. Cooperation could also occur on a region-to-region basis, especially on matters relating to and relevant to small islands.

Such cooperation will encourage participation in international symposia and workshops, and enhance the exchange of information on water resources management between the Pacific region and GWP regional nodes (most notably South East Asia, Australia and the Caribbean).

3. The modalities of co-operation between the parties include the promotion of South-South partnerships through the joint development of new intra-regional initiatives with Southeast Asia and/or the Caribbean and/or Australia regions, including the preparation of proposals for improved water resources management and capacity-building in IWRM.
4. SOPAC accepts the role of being the Pacific entity of reference for the GWP network. In this capacity SOPAC will endeavour to encourage Pacific stakeholders to become Partners of GWP.

ARTICLE II

Representation

1. In agreeing that the development of national capabilities is a priority, the parties agree to undertake to participate at

appropriate workshops and activities within the framework of the above terms of co-operation.

2. Representatives of either party shall be invited to appropriate meetings of the other.

ARTICLE III

Exchange of information and documents

1. The parties agree to the exchange of relevant publications of the two organisations, including the provision (where appropriate) of additional free copies of GWP publications for distribution by SOPAC within the Pacific region.
2. Each party shall keep the other informed of developments in the work and activities of mutual interest.

ARTICLE IV

Implementation

1. The Executive Secretary of GWP and the Director of SOPAC may make specific, other arrangements for the satisfactory implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. The parties agree that all joint activities will be conducted as full partners co-ordinated by the respective Secretariats, with the full recognition of the respective organisations, and any financial obligation by either party is solely within its purview and is strictly voluntary.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding shall not impinge on or interfere with the sovereign rights of any individual member of either organisation.

ARTICLE V

Amendments

The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties. The amendments



shall enter into force after the approval of their appropriate bodies.

ARTICLE VI

Termination of the Memorandum of Understanding

Either party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding subject to six months written notice. Should one of the parties decide to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding consideration of obligations of the parties for projects under implementation will need to be addressed.

ARTICLE VII

Entry into force

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force immediately upon signature by the Executive Secretary of GWP and the Director of SOPAC.

Signed, in duplicate, on the 30th Day of June 2005, at the GWP Secretariat, Stockholm Sweden.

For the
Global Water Partnership (GWP)

Emilio Gabbrielli
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

For the
South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)

Cristelle Pratt
DIRECTOR

Date: 14th October 2005