

Evaluation Report

Evaluation of Development Account Project (Code 415AO)

*Strengthened capacity of small island developing States
in the Asia-Pacific region with regard to the valuation
of environmental capital and the economic cost of
gender inequality*

December 2017

Evaluator: Professor Vijay Naidu (Independent Evaluator)

Commissioned by:
ESCAP / Pacific Sub-regional Office

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This evaluation has been informed by the views from UN agencies, regional organisations, development partners as well as government officials. The evaluator is very grateful for their cooperation in the information gathering and for the time they gave generously to the evaluation process, particularly those individuals who organised key informant interviews, often on short notice.

December 2017

Evaluator: Professor Vijay Naidu (Independent Evaluator)

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	2
CONTENTS.....	3
LIST OF ACRONYMS	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
Introduction	5
Scope.....	5
Methodology.....	5
Findings and conclusions	6
Recommendations	7
1. INTRODUCTION	9
1.1 Background of the evaluation.....	9
1.2 Project purpose, objectives, and scope	9
2. OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE.....	10
3. METHODOLOGY	10
3.2 Limitations.....	11
4. FINDINGS.....	11
4.1 Overview	11
4.2 Performance assessment	12
5. CONCLUSIONS.....	18
6. RECOMMENDATIONS	21
7. SELECTED REFERENCES.....	23
8. ANNEXES.....	24
ANNEX 1: Management Response	24
ANNEX 2: Result-based workplan and activities.....	25
ANNEX 3: Indicators of achievement	26
ANNEX 4: Result-based budget.....	27
ANNEX 5: Evaluation criteria and questions to assess the project results	28
ANNEX 6: Analysis of Annual Report summary tables for 2014 and 2016	29
ANNEX 7: Tables from 2015 annual report.....	31
ANNEX 8: Tables 1 and 2 from 2016 Annual Report.....	34
ANNEX 9: Status of SEEA implementation as of December 2017.....	38
ANNEX 10: List of persons interviewed.....	39

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANU	Australian National University
COP	Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific
DA	Development Account
EA	Expected Accomplishment
EPO	ESCAP Pacific Office
GBB	Gender Based Budgeting
GBR	Gender Responsive Budgeting
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IMF	International Monetary Fund
PFTAC	Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
SAMOA	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEEA	System of Environmental Economics and Accounting
SIAP	Statistical Institute of Asia and the Pacific
SIDS	Small Islands Developing States
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPMD	ESCAP's Strategy and Programme Management Division
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This evaluation report details the findings of the Development Account (DA) Project “*Strengthened capacity of small island developing States in the Asia-Pacific region with regard to the valuation of environmental capital and the economic cost of gender inequality*” (DA Code 1415AO). The project was executed by ESCAP Pacific Office (EPO) between mid-2014 and December 2017. The evaluation was conducted by Professor Vijay Naidu, a Suva, Fiji based independent consultant in the period 6 November to 7 December 2017.

The objective of the DA project was to enhance the capacity of Asia-Pacific small island developing states (SIDS) to integrate economic valuation of natural capital and of gender inequality into sustainable development planning and budgeting. [Capacity building focused on the acquisition and use of environmental capital data (namely System of Environmental Economics and Accounting, SEEA), and gender inequality data, analytical tools and responsive mechanisms (Gender Responsive Budgeting, GRB).] Target entities were national statistical systems, national planning and finance ministries, and line ministries such as environment, health and education. The project was expected to accomplish the follows:

- Strengthened capacity of National Statistical Systems (including environment departments) in Pacific SIDS to provide and utilize integrated, policy-relevant environment indicators (SEEA)
- Strengthened capacity of finance, planning and line ministries of Asia-Pacific SIDS to utilize economic valuation of gender inequality
- Improved integration of economic valuation of the environment and gender inequality for evidence based policy making for integrated sustainable development in Pacific SIDS

Scope

This report analyses and evaluates the project against five key criteria, which included:

- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Sustainability
- Gender and Human Rights mainstreaming

Methodology

The evaluation took place in Apia and Suva between November and December 2017. Apart from travel to the Apia workshop, the evaluation was done primarily in Suva. The evaluation used the following methods of information and data collection and analysis that were triangulated:

1. Desk review which scrutinised project documents and project outcomes.
2. Interviews of stake holders: a set of interview questions were prepared together with questions provided under the five criteria listed above. The interviews were conducted face to face and via telephone and email communication.
3. Beneficiary government websites and the website of ESCAP to confirm project outputs.

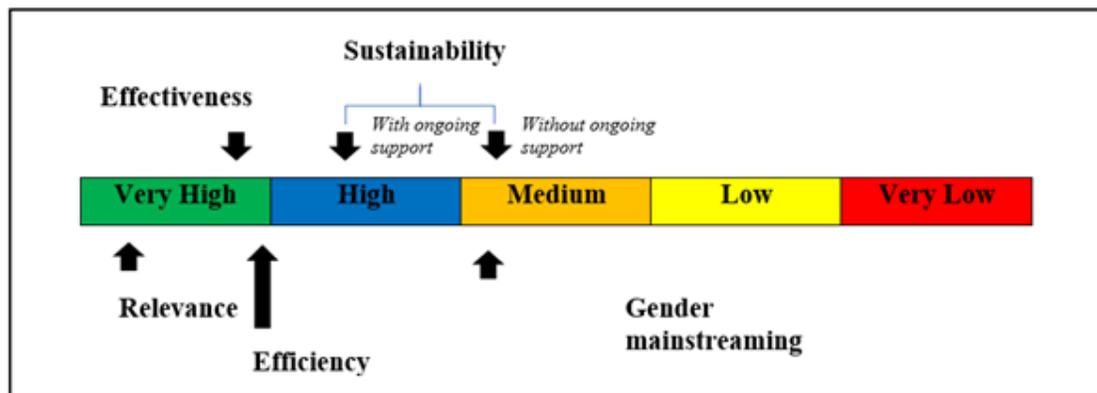
- Quantitative and qualitative data assessments, with the balance of assessment inclined towards the latter for assessing the results of project activities and outputs.

Findings and conclusions

The DA project directly benefited 9 countries and 5 associated beneficiary countries spread in the Asia – Pacific region. The project implemented all its planned activities and achieved its objectives within the time frame and within the budget allocated.

The following figure provides a graphic presentation of the overall assessment against the five key criteria

Figure 1 - Overall assessment of outcomes



The main findings and conclusions regarding the criteria of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, gender and human rights mainstreaming for the project are as follows:

Relevance

DA Project was based on needs analysis of beneficiary countries and therefore demand-based. Focus areas identified through the needs analysis include regional environmental resources such as energy, water, marine, tourism-related and solid waste management. These areas align with priorities identified in national development plans and regional and sub-regional agreements.

The economic costs of gender inequality aspect of the project morphed into GRB which was more attuned to integrating and mainstreaming gender in national policy making and budgeting considerations. This is a priority area for the region given the relatively low proportion of women in the labour force and the feminisation of poverty. GRB is also linked to human rights approach to gender.

Importantly National Development Plans in the Pacific have been aligned to the SDGs, the SAMOA Pathway, the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development and the Framework for Pacific Regionalism as called for under the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development. Clearly, the integration of evidence about the economic, social and environmental pillars of Sustainable Development - are critical for planning, resourcing, implementing and monitoring of progress towards achieving the SDGs at the national and regional levels in the Pacific.

Effectiveness

The project did extremely well in achieving the objective of strengthening capacities of targeted officials in departments of finance and planning through its workshops, TA training missions and project products. This is evidenced by the development and release of environmental-economic accounts in four PICs countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Palau and Samoa) and diagnostic

readiness assessment reports for SEEA in five countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Palau, Samoa and Vanuatu). These reports contained data and indicators for identifying key environmental trends and policy implications and would contribute to improving policy-making, resource use and environmental outcomes in the Pacific region.

However, the GRB side of the project has had more mixed effectiveness with some countries such as Samoa reflecting considerable progress and other countries still in the formative stages of considering GRB approach and tools. The project knowledge tool kit for GRB for Pacific SIDS is being finalised.

Efficiency

Although there were some minor adjustments to scheduled activities in terms of timing, the project delivered all planned outputs in environmental valuation, and within the overall time frame. Progress towards the integration of gender in national planning and budget making is a positive achievement of the project. With the enhancement of knowledge and skills relating to GRB significant progress has been made in this dimension. The achievement regarding GRB is likely to be enhancement with the availability and use of the GRB tool kit.

Sustainability

The objective of strengthening capacity of collecting, analysing and producing environmental evidence for policy making is clearly evident in the recent use of SEEA to generate statistics relating to energy, water, marine resources and waste management. Gender related data is available for some countries and GRB will enhance the use of this information and more recent data towards policy making, planning and budgeting. The availability of the SEEA product together with an extremely useful Guidance Note to improve links between plans and budgets for Sustainable Development in Pacific Island Countries, and the GRB tool kit will contribute to sustainability especially in countries where there are available human resources in National Statistics Offices.

Clearly written strategies and guidelines have been provided by a knowledge product on achieving the SDGs in the region, and SEEA for Pacific SIDS as well as the Guidance Note mentioned above. Periodic iterations of SEEA and GRB workshops and training missions will contribute to sustainability generally but especially in smallest island states. The latter are likely to require both capacity building and capacity supplementation.

Gender and Human Rights

These cross cutting criteria are complex and difficult to measure in the project. The gender aspects of SEEA is not explicitly stated. In a number of ways, the valuation of environmental capital such as energy (with increased access to electricity) and water (safe drinking water) promotes wellbeing of people irrespective of gender, but electricity and water for sanitation significantly contribute to safety and sanitary conditions for women and children. The future valuation of marine resources is likely to contribute to livelihood, food and cultural wellbeing of island people, and again women's access to inshore fisheries is likely to be enhanced. This also applies to a possible valuation of food security in Pacific SIDS.

Following the strong critique of the GDP related 'economic costs of gender inequality', the apparent change towards GRB is viewed by this evaluator to be more in line with gendered approaches, and with human rights. The anticipated compilation of Pacific GRB tool kit will provide the basis for further strengthening of the very important social and gender dimension of the project.

Recommendations

1. Collaborative partnerships between relevant UN agencies, regional organisations, development partners and governments should be continued to upscale the project and replicate the positive achievements in other PICs. This will have resource implications and it is recommended that

ESCAP remain committed to this area of work, including through resource allocation. Partnership and coordination should begin in the initial concept stage so that potential partners are clear about their possible roles in the project from the outset. New partners such as UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNSIDR) and the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) could be included. The partnership with PFTAC has been especially productive and should be strengthened through effective engagement and sharing of knowledge, technical and other resources.

2. The knowledge products ‘Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Pacific’, ‘Implementation of System of Environmental –Economic Accounting in the Pacific: Achievements and Lessons’, ‘Guidance Note on Improving the links between National (and Sector) Plans and Budgets for Sustainable Development in the Pacific Island Countries’, and the Gender Responsive tool kit, are most useful early building blocks for Sustainable Development capacity building, monitoring and achievement of SDGs at the national and regional levels. These resources must be used in future training workshops and TA missions to strengthen capacity to garner and use evidence in environmental and social areas not covered by the project in particular countries (for example land in Fiji, forestry in Vanuatu, and tourism impacts in other Pacific Island Countries).
3. It is critical that the Gender Responsive Budgeting Took Kit should be made available soon. There is a continuing need to prioritise GRB if the gender gaps are to be addressed to maintain steady progress to achieving SDG 5.
4. Efforts need to be directed in the next stage at policy makers at the highest level (government ministers and senior-most public servants) so that they use the project knowledge products as well as environmental and social evidence that have become available for integrated planning and budgeting. With the Pacific Road Map for Sustainable Development in place this will be increasingly required, and there appears to be a growing political will to do so.
5. While the knowledge products are tailor-made for Pacific SIDs integrated planning and budgeting, the countries are not equally endowed in terms of capacity to use them to compile data relating to environmental valuation and gender inequality, it is therefore recommended that the positive outcomes of the project be maintained and enhanced through further capacity development through workshops, training, peer to peer collaboration (South-South cooperation) and various other supportive activities.
6. Given the coverage of nine focus countries and five further countries (through regional knowledge sharing) spread over thousands of kilometres, the aggregate budget for regional projects such as this risks being too diffuse. Consideration could be given to reducing the number of target countries for future interventions with similar resource availability.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the evaluation

This is a report of the evaluation of the Development Account project “*Strengthened capacity of small island developing States in the Asia-Pacific region with regard to the valuation of environmental capital and the economic cost of gender inequality*” which started in mid-2014 and ended in 2017, although its conceptualisation had begun in 2012.

1.2 Project purpose, objectives, and scope

The project document stated, “The key strategy of this project is to strengthen the availability and use of environmental and gender valuations in order to equip senior officials and policy makers with an evidence base for integrated sustainable development. The project objective is to develop the capacity of governments of Pacific SIDS to integrate economic valuation of the environment (using SEEA) and gender inequality into sustainable development planning and implementation...”

Collaborative work was envisaged on an on-going basis with senior officials and policy makers from these government departments.

The project budget was USD 638,000 over 4 years (see ANNEX 4: Result-based budget).

The nine beneficiary ‘focus’ countries were: Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. Five other countries were invited to participate in regional forums: Maldives, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Timor Leste, and Tuvalu.

Cooperating agencies within the UN system were Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN Women, ESCAP Statistics Division, and ESCAP Statistical Institute of Asia and the Pacific (SIAP).

Partners in the region included Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) of the International Monetary Fund as well as beneficiary country governments.

The project goals were linked to achieving a number of MDGs namely:

- MDG 1 - Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, particularly Target 1B by contributing an evidence base for increasing the proportion of women in the workforce;
- MDG 3 - Promoting gender equality and empowering women;
- MDG 7 - Ensuring environmental sustainability, particularly 7A ‘Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources’; and
- MDG 8 - Develop a global partnership for development, particularly 8C by making a contribution to addressing the needs of small island developing states

It was also seen as a regional response to Rio+20 and internationally Agreed Development Goals with regards to the integration of economic, environment and social factors in decision making generally, and in particular in small island developing states. While the 2013 Nadi Pacific Regional Preparatory Conference for the 3rd International Conference of Small Islands Developing States Outcome document recognised capacity constraints in provisioning and utilising environmental and social information in sustainable policy making, there was an anticipation and acceptance of the Rio+20 Outcome Document, *The Future We Want* recognition ‘of the need for balanced and integrated policy making on a strengthened evidence base.’

2. OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE

The purpose of the evaluation as outlined in the TOR is to:

- 1) Determine the level of achievement of project objective and expected accomplishments by examining the results chain, processes and contextual factors;
- 2) Assess the performance the project against evaluation criteria: effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability and gender and human rights mainstreaming;
- 3) Formulate specific and action-oriented recommendations to inform management decision-making and improve future project design and implementation.

Mr Tim Westbury was the Evaluation Manager for the evaluation of the project. Initial discussions with him provided clear indication of expectations regarding the evaluation. He also made available many of the documents that comprised the desk study.

A Reference Group of EPO senior staff, namely Mr Iosefa Maiava, Head of EPO, Mr Tim Westbury, Ms Anna Naupa and the Head of ESCAP's Evaluation Unit, Strategy and Programme Management Division, Mr Edgar Dante was to oversee the evaluation process.

3. METHODOLOGY

The evaluation exercise used the methodologies of data collection in the TOR and their triangulation ensures robustness. UNESCAP's monitoring and evaluation ethical standards also guided the processes and outcomes of this evaluation.

The evaluation included:

- A desk study of documents pertaining to the project including the project proposal document, annual reports, workshop reports (listed in the reference), and the SEEA product;
- the observation of the Samoa workshop including conversations with participants and an informal discussion with the Samoan Minister of Finance;
- interviews whilst based in the Suva ESCAP Pacific Office (EPO) - face to face and telephone consultations with key stake holders; and
- follow ups via email correspondence with some of the stakeholders as well as those who were not available in Suva.

The process was based on *talanoa* (a Pacific-style open discussion similar to a focus group) where the conversation with respondents was participatory that eschewed power asymmetries. Effort was made to ensure that there was a gender balance among those interviewed.

The interview questions had two parts, the first related to the conceptualisation of the project and its origins, the adequacy of the project budget for the anticipated tasks, involvement in the project over the 4-year period, the main activities and their effectiveness at national and regional levels, and the 'other products' of the project. The second part used the template of questions in the Terms of Reference of the evaluation centred on the criteria of effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability and gender and human rights. See **Annex 4**.

Besides the use of interview of key persons to assess the effectiveness of the project, the websites of target countries and ESCAP were examined to gather information regarding the extent to which integrated planning has become part of official documents, and whether the 14 country governments have taken steps towards sustainable development in their planning and budget documents.

Apart from the references listed under Section 7 of this report, the two project annual reports of 2015 and 2016 were also reviewed. Three 'knowledge products' of the project were made available during

the evaluation period. These are the SEEA implementation and lessons learnt documents, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Pacific.

These different modes of information and data collection provided the basis for triangulation.

3.2 Limitations

The limitations of this evaluation exercise have had to do with its timing and availability of stake holders to interview whilst in Suva and Apia. There was slippage from the early schedule for the evaluation period to start in October and completion by early December. In the event it began towards the end of the first week of November.

Unfortunately, many of the key stakeholders left their respective countries to attend COP 23 in Bonn, Germany. Subsequently, regional meetings also meant that some of them were not available for either face to face interview or even telephone interview.

After a week in Suva, the evaluator himself had to return to Wellington to attend an urgent appointment.

Email and telephone conversations partially helped in ensuring that a representative sample of respondents were interviewed.

4. FINDINGS

This chapter provides the findings of the evaluation in accordance with the evaluation criteria and questions.

4.1 Overview

The project aimed to develop the capacity of Asia-Pacific SIDS to integrate economic valuations of environmental capital and gender inequality into sustainable development planning and implementation, by:

- EA1: Strengthening capacity of environment departments, national statistical systems and national planning entities to provide and utilize economic valuation of natural capital (System of Environmental-Economic Accounts)
- EA2: Strengthening capacity of finance, planning and line ministries to undertake and utilize economic valuation of gender inequality and gender-based violence
- EA3: Improving integration of economic valuation of natural capital, and gender inequality and gender-based violence for evidence-based policymaking for integrated sustainable development.

Countries participated in different project components, based by their existing capacity, their national priorities and commitments. The following criteria were used to identify target countries:

- EA1: A minimal threshold of capacity in national statistical systems including an adequate System of National Accounts
- EA2: A commitment to addressing gender inequality
- EA1 & EA2: Opportunities for twinning arrangements to foster South-South Cooperation between countries with higher capacity with those that have greater needs
- EA3: Demonstrated commitment to building an evidence base for integrated planning for sustainable development as articulated in the National Assessment Reports for the global SIDS conference and Rio+20

The primary activities envisaged in achieving the objectives and expected accomplishments of the project were national and regional workshops and technical assistance (TA) missions centred on engaging with senior policy makers in the ministries/departments of planning and finance as well as environmental and social line ministries (see

ANNEX 2: Result-based workplan and activities).

- EA1: Activities included country sensitization and needs assessment workshops for NSOs and line ministries, and one/two? regional training course on SEEA for NSOs, and in-country TA to support SEEA implementation.
- EA2: Activities included an expert group meeting (EGM) on economic valuation of gender inequality, a regional workshop for finance and social sector entities to raise awareness and develop technical capacity, and in-country TA to support adaptation of methodology.
- EA3: Activities included workshops on costing methodologies and tools for integrating economic, social, and environmental pillars of sustainable development, a regional policy dialogue to engage ministers and permanent secretaries on integrated national planning for sustainable development, and implementation of knowledge management to capture and disseminate experiences on SEEA and GRB in national planning.

4.2 Performance assessment

4.2.1 Relevance

Relevance refers to the consistency of intended objectives of the intervention with governments' development strategies and priorities and requirements of the target groups. The three guiding questions for evaluating relevance are:

- What evidence exists to demonstrate that the project's products and services were used by the target countries?
- How were the needs and requirements of the target groups assessed or identified?
- What are/will be the key obstacles for the target groups to utilize the project's products and services?

Needs assessment:

For SEEA, a series of country sensitization and needs assessment workshops for National Statistical Systems and line ministries were conducted in 2016 in nine countries. This round of consultation identified the following key areas for technical assistance: regional environmental resources such as energy, water, marine, tourism-related and solid waste management. These areas correspond to the priorities of SDGs-aligned national development plans, and of major regional and sub-regional agreements, including the 'Regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and Pacific', the SAMOA Pathway, the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development, and the Framework for Pacific Regionalism. The close alignment of priorities reflects the high relevance of project activities for participating countries.

Regional commitments to the SDGs have reinforced national level commitments by political leaders identifying and adopting regional SDGs priorities. With the adoption of the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development (2017) and the integration of SIDS specific Samoa Pathway (2014), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015) and the Framework for Pacific Regionalism there is an increasingly coherent regional approach for Pacific SIDS for progressing sustainable. This approach mandates both regional initiatives to support individual country efforts as well as in the gathering of

data to effectively monitor the implementation of integrated national plans and budgets towards achieving SDGs.

The project 'knowledge product', 'Implementation of SEEA in the Pacific: Achievements and Lessons' is an strategic document pertaining to the sustainability of evidence based integrated planning and budgeting that the project has set in motion. The document discusses the significance and relevance of SEEA to Pacific SIDS, the challenges in training and facilitating the implementation of this framework in the region, and of special importance, the lessons learnt. Equally important it provides concrete examples of how SEEA has been used to generate energy, water and solid waste related statistics in Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Palau and Samoa; and of diagnostics SEEA assessments in FSM, Palau, Vanuatu and Fiji. Pertinent to this project evaluation are the number of countries that have now produced SEEA compatible data and the number of countries that have capacity to do so in the near future. **See ANNEX 8.**

This knowledge provides critical guidelines to the sustainable dimensions of the actual application of SEEA framework in the context of varying capacity and resource constraints in Pacific SIDS.

Working with the IMF - Medium-Term Expenditure Planning for Sustainable Development

The ESCAP and IMF - PFTAC Workshop on Medium Term Expenditure Planning for Sustainable Development 6-10 November 2107 in Samoa was attended by around 55 participants from throughout the Pacific region. The participants came from middle to senior ranks of the public service with a clear majority from finance and planning departments, a good number from line ministries of education and health, and a smaller number from central banks. There were 32 females and 23 male participants.

The workshop addressed the questions of measuring development, improving quality of government services delivery, and monitoring outcome. It also sought to identify and inculcate good practice for strengthening medium-term expenditure planning and improving linkages to national budgets. The representative of the Samoan Bureau of Statistics shared how Samoa had integrated SDGs in its national plan, and how data for the various identified indicators were being gathered, analysed and presented.

Having observed 5 sessions over the last 2 of the 5-day workshop, which included practical exercises, and problem-solving interaction among the participants and between them and the presenters, and reading the report and participant evaluative feedback on the workshop, the assessment that can be made is as follows:

- Participants acquired awareness and new knowledge and skills regarding SDGs, framework for medium-term expenditure planning, public expenditure and financial accounting, budgeting and performance management for service delivery, inclusive budgeting with regards to early childhood development, and labour force participation of women;
- Participants were exposed to national planning and budget making processes including negotiations between finance department and line ministry representatives such as education and health;
- Participants gained familiarity with the significance of integrated planning and budgeting process including the need for relevant data- the exercise on GDP costs of unequal labour market participation of women had considerable impact;
- Participants were also compelled to reflect on how performance of service delivery can be measured with regards to expenditure on health and education;
- Participants shared and learnt from each other's country experiences with regards to national planning, budgeting processes and allocations, the links or lack of links between national planning priorities and budgeting, medium term review of expenditure, and the presence or absence of cross-sectoral cooperation between government departments and how this could be enhanced.

The feedback from participants was in the majority very positive regarding the significance of integrated planning and budgeting. There was consensus that the guidelines and principles of the Framework for Medium Term Expenditure Planning was critical for the sustainability of the implementation of national plans with adequate resourcing through integrated budgeting.

4.2.2 Efficiency

Efficiency refers to the extent to which human and financial resources were used in the best possible way to achieve outcomes and in coordination with other stakeholders. The three questions to evaluate efficiency are:

- Were the resources (human and financial) effectively utilised to deliver outputs and achieve results?
- How was the project managed in terms of timeliness?
- Were synergies gained from partnership with other organizations resulted in cost-efficiency and savings?

Utilization of resources and timeliness:

Even though the DA project has a modest budget, it is able to directly benefit 9 countries and 5 associated beneficiary countries spread in the Pacific sub-region. The project was able to implement all its planned activities and achieved its objectives within the time frame and within the budget allocated.

The evaluation began with an analysis and assessment of the two annual progress reports submitted in December 2015 and in 2016. (See **Annex 5, Annex 6 and Annex 7**). The reports on the planned activities including workshops and TA missions were largely on schedule with positive outcomes for 2014 and 2015. This was especially the case with workshops and TA missions relating to environmental valuation and training in the use of SEEA. By December, 2017 all envisaged activities (**See Annex 1**) in terms of regional workshops, national level workshops, and technical assistance missions had been successfully completed. All activities were completed within the expected timeframe of the project, and within the allocated budget. No extension or major budget revisions were requested.

Partnership:

- a. With Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC):

Under the DA project, ESCAP and PFTAC partnered in 3 workshops at the regional and sub regional levels. The partnership with PFTAC has been particularly fruitful with regards to shared expertise and funding. This helped ensure that the project activities in this area were embedded in support for strengthened Public Financial Management (PFM) in the Pacific, which is a major focus of the work of

Example of partnership: PFTAC

While PFTAC primary remit are macro-economics and public financial management including public expenditure management in the social sector, it has evolving interest in integrated planning and budgeting towards SDGs. The workshops have broken down the 'silos' between macro-economic planning and PFM (systems and procedures) and contributed to the shifts towards gender based budgeting, inclusive growth and social inequality, and towards environmental evidence. Even though there were some concerns from PFTAC over the 'crowding out' of their central focus areas by social and environmental concerns, there is scope for further partnerships in the work on financing SDGs. New initiatives and flows of funds such as the World Bank Waves and Climate Change Fund will place new demands.

international financial institutions and bilateral development partners. The resource commitment of the IMF-PFTAC significantly boosted the project's capacity to implement and broaden the reach of activities regarding training workshops.

4.2.3 Effectiveness

Effectiveness refers to the extent to which the expected objectives (of a sub-programme or theme) or outcomes (of a project) have been achieved, and have resulted in changes and effects, positive and negative, planned and unforeseen, with respect to the target groups and other affected stakeholders.

The TOR posed three questions:

- What evidence exists to demonstrate that the project has achieved its objectives and expected accomplishments?
- What were the key factors that contributed to the achievement or non-achievement of project of project objective and expected accomplishments?
- What could have been done better to improve the effectiveness of the project in achieving its results?

Achievement of objectives and expected accomplishments:

The project outputs provide some evidence that the three Expected Accomplishments for the project were achieved. Overall, the project has been successful with respect to strengthening the capacity to produce environmental evidence for national planning and budgeting (see Annex 8 and the ESCAP Pacific Office website for examples¹). EA1 has been largely achieved. EA2, the gender-related evidence dimension of the project is less firmly established. However, economic valuation and cost/benefit analysis aspects of GRB provides a valuable pathway to strengthening gender equality in national planning and budgetary processes, and some capacity development has taken place through project interventions. Further work is needed in this area to consolidate this emerging area of work.

EA 3, the integration of environmental and gender evidence in national planning and budget making has been accepted by national governments that benefited from the project as pivotal to progressing SDGs and knowledge, skills, mechanisms as well as tools have been made available to personnel in planning and finance departments, as well as line ministries such as environment, women, social and community development, health and education. There is evident capacity building by the project activities and outputs, however, much also depends on the political will among policy makers to utilise the environmental and social evidence at hand.

Example: Country feedback

The Fiji Government Statistician said that Fiji published in September, 2017 SEEA generated statistics on energy, solid waste and water. TA support was provided under the DA project and staff of his office received training at workshops and TA pilots linked to the project. He said that his staff also worked with Fiji Electrical Authority (FEA), and the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) to collect the data.

On gender, he said that the Bureau of Statistics had been producing tables regarding labour force participation, sectoral employment, and that there was data requiring analysis for more complex tables. Specialised expertise was needed to do this.

The CEO of Foreign Affairs of Samoa said that the DA project was a good start in a longer -term process of integrating social and environmental dimensions to planning and budgeting. She said these were 'early days' towards integrated sustainable development planning and budgeting. This was still at the 'development stage'. She opined that, 'a few workshops were not enough to gain in-depth knowledge of environmental valuation and the economic costs of gender inequality, but they have started things off.' This was because historically departments responsible for planning and budgeting were concerned about economic and financial data rather than environmental and social data. Neither environmental resources nor gender inequality were factored in the planning process or in considerations regarding budgeting. While she welcomed the project workshops that introduced SEEA and costing of gender inequality which over time built and strengthened capacity, she felt that more training and capacity building will be required to reinforce the learnings regarding knowledge and processes towards integration of environmental and social data in national planning and budgeting. For both aspects and especially SEEA there is on-going need to build capacity to fully grasp what these tools are.

Both Fiji and Samoa had taken on board both EA 1 and EA 2

Key factors in achievement or non-achievement:

- Relevance: As explained in section 4.2.1, there is high alignment between the project activities and the countries' needs and priorities. The face to face, telephone and email interviews with key persons also indicated strong overall support for the DA project. There was general agreement that integration of planning and budgeting is timely and requires mainstreaming.

¹ <http://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/pacific/resources>

More specifically environmental valuation using SEEA capacity building has progressed well. GRB continues to be a challenge but there is greater awareness regarding social development and the need to address gender inequality in planning and budgeting.

- Cooperation and coordination: Partnerships with both UN and non-UN entities, as detailed in section 4.2.2, helped ensure that a wide range of activities were implemented across all 11 countries. However, reservations were expressed regarding the lack of initial cooperation at the planning stages of the DA project as well as lack of on-coordination with obvious potential partners. The views were expressed by representatives of another UN agency and the PIFS representative regarding work on promoting SGDs and addressing gender inequality respectively. As a way forward for the project and a recommendation from this evaluation collaborative partnerships should be continued as they increase the scope, resource availability, and results of the DA project. Partnership and coordination should begin in the initial concept stage so that potential partners know about their possible roles in the project from the outset. (New partners such as UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNSIDR) and the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) could be included).

4.2.4 Sustainability

Sustainability refers to the likelihood that the positive outcomes of the interventions will continue in the future.

The TOR posed one question:

- To what extent can results of the project be continued without ESCAP's further involvement?

Like Samoa other Pacific SIDS are in the process of incorporating SDGs in their national development plans. The localisation of SDGs is a priority for UNESCAP and UNDP as well as other UN agencies and there is increasing cooperation and coordination between these agencies across Pacific SIDS. However, while this Development Account project has set in motion the strengthening of capacity in environmental valuation (SEER) and gender responsive budgeting (GRB) there is some distance yet to go before the quality of evidence in environmental and social sectors (addressing existing gaps in evidence and integrating planning and budgeting) and the political will to use the evidence are readily manifest.

The knowledge products of the project, 'Implementation of SEEA in the Pacific: Achievements and Lessons', Guidance Note, and 'Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Pacific' will bolster further positive movement towards in this direction.

4.2.5 Gender and human rights mainstreaming

The assessment against the gender and human rights mainstreaming criterion refers to the extent to which gender and human rights considerations have been incorporated in the design, implementation and outcomes of the subject of the evaluation.

The TOR posed one question:

- To what extent were gender and human rights supported through the implementation of the project?

Being mindful of the fundamental importance of the human rights approach in the UN System, it is apparent that there has been a meaningful change in the direction of the DA project which addresses both the human rights dimension as well as the economic costs of gender inequality. This shift has been made with a re-orientation towards gender responsive budgeting (GRB) or gender based budgeting (GBB). This approach and set of tools complement very well the focus of the DA project on integrating environmental and social valuation in planning and budgeting.

For Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), gender responsive budgeting is seen as critical to building inclusive and equitable societies in the region. According the PIFS representative GRB had been mooted in 2008, there was no serious up take by member states. Over two days, 12-13 June, 2017 the Regional Gender Responsive Budget Workshop was held to train participants in the analytical and tracking tools and prioritisation of gender in planning and budgeting processes of countries. PIFS partnered with ESCAP and UN Women in mounting the training sessions in the workshop. The participants came from government and civil society organisations with expertise provided by regional organisations such as PIFS and SPC, and ESCAP and UN Women.

The PIFS gender specialist representative emphasised the continuing need to prioritise GRB if the gender gaps were to be addressed to maintain steady progress to achieving SDG 5. She welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with UNESCAP EPO in the work on embedding GRB at the national level in Pacific SIDS.

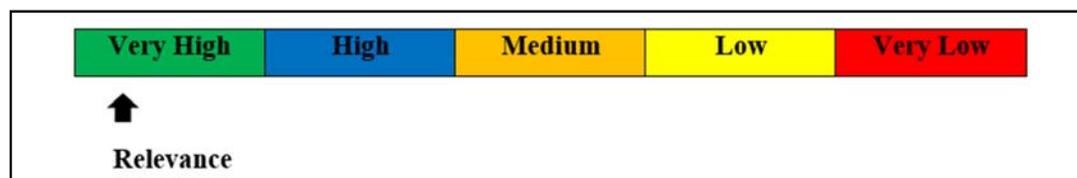
5. CONCLUSIONS

This chapter provides the conclusions of the evaluation, based on the data analysis, including general conclusions and conclusions relating to the specific performance and other criteria. From the aforesaid discussion of the findings these are presented below in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and gender and human rights.

5.1 Relevance

DA Project was based on needs analysis of beneficiary countries and therefore demand-based and relevant. Initial workshops were diagnostic in terms of both needs and capacity to uptake regarding environmental and gender valuation. Regionally cross country environmental resources such as energy, water, marine resources, tourism related environmental resources and solid waste management were focus areas. It is noteworthy that in subsequent national development plans, and the ‘Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and Pacific’ these very same areas have been prioritised.

The economic costs of gender inequality aspect of the project morphed into gender responsive budgeting which was more attuned to integrating and mainstreaming gender in national policy making and budgeting considerations. This is a priority area for the region given the relatively low proportion of women in the labour force and the feminisation of poverty. GRB is also linked to human rights approach to gender.



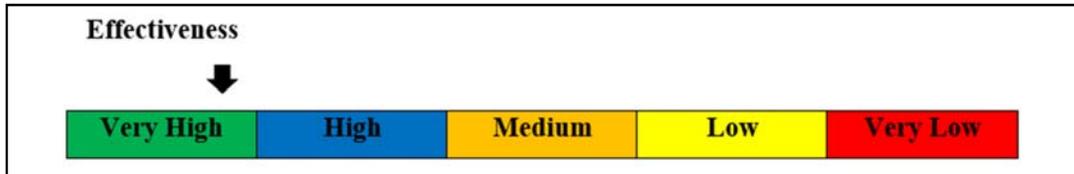
5.2 Effectiveness

The project did extremely well in achieving the objective of strengthening capacities of targeted officials in departments of finance and planning through its workshops, TA training missions and project products. The adoption and adaptation of SEEA in a number of areas such as energy, water,

waste management, land and tourism related natural resources in Fiji, Palau, Micronesia, Samoa, and Vanuatu reflects the impressive results of the project.

However, the GRB side of the project has had more mixed effectiveness with some countries such as Samoa reflecting considerable progress and other countries still grappling with GRB approach and tools. The project is still working on a tool kit for GRB.

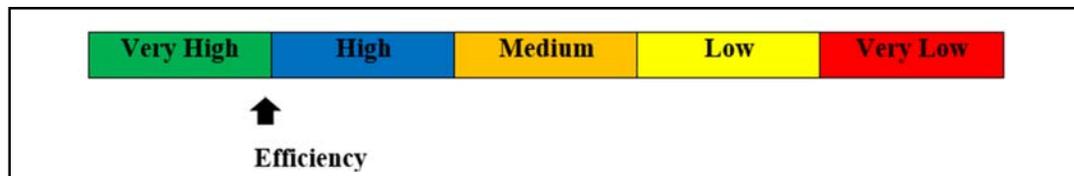
So environmental evaluation dimension has been well achieved but the gender aspect has lagged somewhat.



5.3 Efficiency

Although there were some minor adjustments to scheduled activities in terms of timing, the project delivered all planned outputs in environmental valuation, and within the overall time frame. The strengthened capacity of National Statistics Systems in targeted countries is reflected in the application of SEEA to environmental capital. Evidence for policy making and budgeting regarding energy, water, waste management is now available in 5 countries.

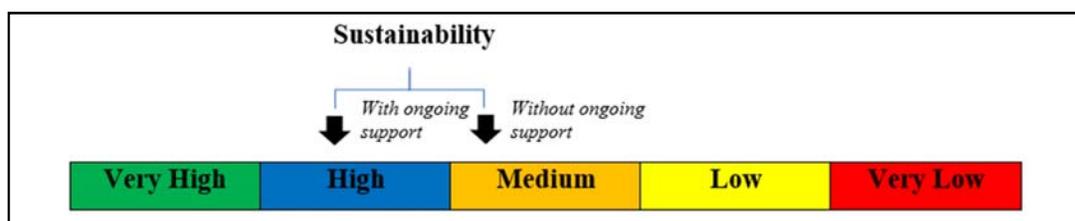
The integration of gender in national planning and budget making is also been accepted as a priority. With the enhancement of knowledge and skills relating to GRB significant progress has been made in this dimension. The achievement regarding GRB is likely to be enhanced with the availability of the GRB tool kit.



5.4 Sustainability

The objective of strengthening capacity of collecting, analysing and producing environmental evidence for policy making is clearly evident in the recent use of SEEA to generate statistics relating to energy, water, marine resources and waste management. Gender related data is available for some countries and GRB will enhance the use of this information and more recent data towards policy making, planning and budgeting. The availability of the SEEA product and GRB tool kit will contribute to sustainability especially in countries where there are human resources in National Statistics Offices.

Periodic iterations of SEEA and GRB workshops and training missions will contribute to sustainability generally but especially in smallest island states.



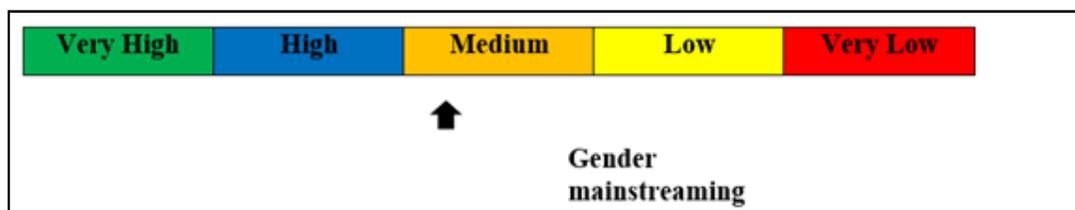
With the ‘Regional Roadmap for Implementing the 2020 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific’, and the availability of ‘Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’ as the second DA project knowledge product, there is considerable scope for continuing the important work of integrating evidence of the 3 Pillars of Sustainable Development as Pacific SIDS make progress on SDGs.

5.5 Gender and Human Rights mainstreaming

These cross cutting criteria are complex and difficult to measure in the project. The gender aspects of SEEA is not explicitly stated. In a number of ways, the valuation of environmental capital such as energy (with increased access to electricity) and water (safe drinking water) promotes wellbeing of people irrespective of gender, but electricity and water for sanitation contributes to safety and sanitary conditions for women and children. The valuation of marine resources is likely to contribute to livelihood, food and cultural wellbeing of island people, and again women’s access to fish and shell fish in inshore areas is likely to be enhanced.

Following the strong critique of the GDP related ‘economic costs of gender inequality’, the apparent change towards GRB is seen as more in sync with gendered approaches, and with human rights. With the completion of the GRB tool kit, the gender dimension of the DA project will be further strengthened.

EA 3, the integration of environmental and gender evidence in national planning and budget making has been accepted as pivotal to progressing SDGs and knowledge, skills, mechanisms as well as tools have been made available to personnel in planning and finance departments, as well as line ministries such as environment, women, social and community development, health and education. There is evident capacity building by the project activities and outputs, however, much also depends on the political will among policy makers to utilise the environmental and social evidence at hand.



The DA project as noted in the introduction was conceptualised in 2012 and begun its implementation phase in mid-2014. At that time the use of pertinent evidence in national planning regarding environmental capital and gender inequality were both largely absent, as was the notion of integrated planning and budgeting in Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Maldives. With the advent of the post 2015 agenda, the need for both environmental and social data for planning and budgeting is now more widely recognised. In this regard the DA project anticipated the dire need of

integrated planning and budgeting as Pacific SIDS moved into the era of sustainable development. In this regard, according to a senior EPO staff, the project objectives and activities have been ‘both facilitated and overridden by the SDGs’. As can be seen from this evaluation of the project, it both anticipated and complemented the 2030 Agenda.

Overall therefore the DA project has been highly successful with respect to strengthening the capacity to produce environmental evidence for national planning and budgeting. EA1 has been largely achieved. EA2, the gender-related evidence dimension of the project is less firmly established but with GRB it is anticipated that the right pathway to strengthening gender valuation has been arrived at, and some capacity development has taken place.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Collaborative partnerships between relevant UN agencies, regional organisations, development partners and governments should be continued to upscale the project and replicate the positive achievements in other PICs. This will have resource implications and it is recommended that ESCAP remain committed to this area of work, including through resource allocation. Partnership and coordination should begin in the initial concept stage so that potential partners are clear about their possible roles in the project from the outset. New partners such as UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNSIDR) and the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) could be included. The partnership with PFTAC has been especially productive and should be strengthened through effective engagement and sharing of knowledge, technical and other resources.
2. The knowledge products ‘Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Pacific’, ‘Implementation of System of Environmental –Economic Accounting in the Pacific: Achievements and Lessons’, ‘Guidance Note on Improving the links between National (and Sector) Plans and Budgets for Sustainable Development in the Pacific Island Countries’, and the Gender Responsive tool kit, are most useful early building blocks for Sustainable Development capacity building, monitoring and achievement of SDGs at the national and regional levels. These resources must be used in future training workshops and TA missions to strengthen capacity to garner and use evidence in environmental and social areas not covered by the project in particular countries (for example land in Fiji, forestry in Vanuatu, and tourism impacts in other Pacific Island Countries).
3. It is critical that the Gender Responsive Budgeting Took Kit should be made available soon. There is a continuing need to prioritise GRB if the gender gaps are to be addressed to maintain steady progress to achieving SDG 5.
4. Efforts need to be directed in the next stage at policy makers at the highest level (government ministers and senior-most public servants) so that they use the project knowledge products as well as environmental and social evidence that have become available for integrated planning and budgeting. With the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development in place this will be increasingly required, and there appears to be a growing political will to do so.
5. While the knowledge products are tailor-made for Pacific SIDs integrated planning and budgeting, the countries are not equally endowed in terms of capacity to use them to compile data relating to environmental valuation and gender inequality, it is therefore recommended that the positive outcomes of the project be maintained and enhanced through further capacity development through workshops, training, peer to peer collaboration (South-South cooperation) and various other supportive activities.

6. Given the coverage of nine focus countries and five further countries (through regional knowledge sharing) spread over thousands of kilometres, the aggregate budget for regional projects such as this risks being too diffuse. Consideration could be given to reducing the number of target countries for future interventions with similar resource availability.

7. SELECTED REFERENCES

Barbera, M.G and Waring, M, 2015, “Assessing the Economic Costs of Gender Inequality in the Pacific”, ESCAP Pacific Office

Brien, D and Simi, P.N, 2017, “Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Pacific”, ESCAP Pacific Office also the second DA project knowledge project

Fiji's Energy, Waste and Water Statistics Using SEEA, 7 September, 2017
<http://www.unescap.org/resources/fijis-energy-waste-and-water-statistics-using-seea>

FBoS Release No: 39, 2017 16th August 2017 Fiji’s Experimental Environmental Account for Solid Waste 2013 to 2016 http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/2013-16_Fijis-Experimental-Environmental-Account-for-Solid-Waste.pdf

ESCAP Pacific Office (EPO), 2017a, “Project Document: 9th Tranche of the Development Account”, EPO, Suva

ESCAP Pacific Office (EPO), 2017b, “Workshop on Medium – Term Expenditure Planning for National Sustainable Development 6-10 November, 2017, Apia, Samoa Summary of Discussions

ESCAP Pacific Office (EPO) and PFTAC, 2017c, “Guidance Note Improving the Links between National (and Sector) Plans and Budgets for Sustainable Development in Pacific Island Countries, Suva

Larkin, C, 2016 “Independent Evaluation Report for Development Account Project: Building capacity and facilitating private sector involvement for infrastructure development for less developed countries in the Asia – Pacific Region”, UNESCAP/Transport Division, Bangkok

Naidu, S, 2017 “Implementation of SEEA in the Pacific: Achievements and Lessons”, EPO, Suva

UNESCAP ESCAP Monitoring and Evaluation Policy and Guidelines 2017
<http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/ESCAP-Monitoring-and-Evaluation--Policy-and-Guidelines-2017-ver-2.pdf>

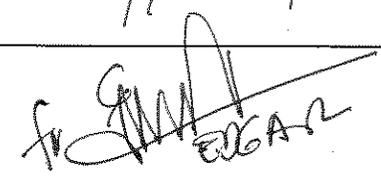
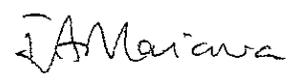
UN Women National Economies and Commitments to Benefit from Gender Responsive Budgeting, 14 June, 2017 <http://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2017/06/national-economies-and-commitments-to-benefit-from-gender-responsive-budgeting>

Winderl, T, 2014 “Evaluative Review of the Development Account Project: Strengthening South-South Cooperation to Increase the Affordability of Sustainable Energy Options in Asia and the Pacific”, UNESCAP/Environment and Development Division (EDD), Bangkok

8. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: Management Response

Management Response and follow-up Action Plan

Development Account Project on "Strengthened capacity of small island developing States in the Asia-Pacific region with regard to the valuation of environmental capital and the economic cost of gender inequality"		
	Signature	Date
Mr. Hongjoo Hahn Officer-in-Charge ESCAP		
Mr. Adnan Aliani Director Strategy and Programme Management Division		17/07/2018
Mr. Josefa Maiava Head ESCAP Pacific Office		10/07/2018
General Remarks by Management		
<p>The evaluation has made valuable observations about the work undertaken by the project, and the recommendations validate the importance of continuing the work on linking plans to budgets, evaluating budgetary impacts (e.g. on gender equality) and 'measuring what matters' in building the evidence base for sustainable development planning. The evaluation has also identified the importance of partnerships to deepen impact, including by working with IMF/PFTAC to incorporate planning/budget links in public financial management support for Pacific island countries. The evaluation has also identified some lessons for programme planning and knowledge management approaches which will need to be considered on an ongoing basis.</p>		

Report Recommendation	Management Response	Follow-up Action	Lead Unit/Collaborating Units	Expected completion date	Indicator of completion of follow-up action ¹
1. Collaborative partnerships between relevant UN agencies, regional organisations, development partners and governments should be continued to upscale the project and replicate the positive achievements in other PICs. This will have resource implications and it is recommended that ESCAP remain committed to this area of work, including through resource allocation. Partnership and coordination should begin in the initial concept stage so that potential partners are clear about their possible roles in the project from the outset. New partners such as UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) could be included.	Fully agree. ESCAP will seek further resources to continue work in this area. Engaging partners at an early stage in project formulation is a standard practice, but ESCAP is also conscious that potential partners emerge throughout the implementation of projects. This could include UNISDR or SPREP, though it is not clear what roles are being proposed in the context of the current project.	A new proposal to continue this area of work - strengthened through alignment with the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development and Asia-Pacific Roadmap - has been developed and submitted for consideration under the UN Peace and Development Fund. Should this not be successful other funding channels will need to be identified.	EPO/SPMD	31 Dec 2018	Successful funding of a new proposal to continue this area of work
2. The partnership with PFTAC has been especially productive and should be strengthened through effective engagement	Fully agree. A continuation of the productive partnership with PFTAC will be pursued in	Further work is planned with PFTAC. The partnership is however, very much dependent on	EPO/SPMD	31 Dec 2018	Successful funding of a new proposal to continue this area of work

¹ * This information provides evidence of completion of action. Examples include issuance of an official memo, completion of a study or report, launching of a website, etc.

and sharing of knowledge, technical and other resources	recognition of the importance of the IMF in the Pacific, and to ensure alignment with PFM support.	further resource mobilisation on ESCAP's side to match the IMF commitment to the partnership. See (1) above.			
3. The knowledge products 'Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Pacific, 'Implementation of System of Environmental - Economic Accounting in the Pacific: Achievements and Lessons, 'Guidance Note on Improving the links between National (and Sector) Plans and Budgets for Sustainable Development in the Pacific Island Countries, and the Gender Responsive tool kit, are most useful early building blocks for Sustainable Development capacity building, monitoring and achievement of SDGs at the national and regional levels. These resources must be used in future training workshops and TA missions to strengthen capacity to garner and use evidence in environmental and social areas not covered by the project in particular countries (for example land in Fiji, forestry in Vanuatu, and tourism impacts in other Pacific Island Countries).	Fully agree. These knowledge products from the project will be used as tools to extend the project impact over time.	The knowledge products will be used in further work planned linking plans to budgets (a 'Policy Brief' has also been developed and disseminated based on the Guidance Note), further consolidation of work on SEEA (including the development of the 'Oceans Account'). These are also available on the EPO website and will continue to be utilised as part of the rollout of EPO's Knowledge Management Strategy.	EPO	30 June 2019	Knowledge products available on website (and monitoring of usage using analytics).

<p>4. It is critical that the Gender Responsive Budgeting Took Kit should be made available soon. There is a continuing need to prioritise GRB if the gender gaps are to be addressed to maintain steady progress to achieving SDG 5</p>	<p>Fully agree. The GRB toolkit will be used by ESCAP, PIFS and UN Women to engage countries and identify areas for potential further support to GRB in the Pacific.</p>	<p>Toolkit finalised and agreed by PIFS for usage in national assessments. Vanuatu has requested national support for GRB implementation. EPO will discuss follow-up and consolidation of GRB work with UN Women and PIFS, and will align this work with SDD GRB initiatives.</p>	<p>EPO/SDD</p>	<p>31 Dec 2018</p>	<p>Report on the support for GRB implementation in Vanuatu</p>
<p>5. Efforts need to be directed in the next stage at policy makers at the highest level (government ministers and senior-most public servants) so that they use the project knowledge products as well as environmental and social evidence that have become available for integrated planning and budgeting. With the Pacific Road Map for Sustainable Development in place this will be increasingly required, and there appears to be a growing political will to do so.</p>	<p>Fully agree. ESCAP will continue to seek opportunities to align the work undertaken under the project with the PRSD as an important channel for consolidating sustainable development policy planning and implementation.</p>	<p>Work with relevant development partners, including CROP and IMF-PFTAC, and through the UN Pacific Strategy to promote and mainstream planning/budget linkages as a key dimension of public financial management and national sustainable development planning programmes.</p>	<p>EPO/MPFD</p>	<p>30 June 2019</p>	<p>Evidence of a joint work between EPO and relevant development partners to promote and mainstream planning/budget linkages.</p> <p>New funding will allow for joint work and leverage partnerships.</p>
<p>6. While the knowledge products are tailor-made for Pacific SIDs integrated planning and budgeting, the countries are not equally endowed in terms of capacity to use them to compile data relating to environmental valuation and gender inequality,</p>	<p>Fully agree. As noted under recommendation 1, further resources will be sought to continue work in these areas, while the knowledge products produced under the project will be used on an</p>	<p>As noted in (1) and (2) above, efforts are underway to mobilize resources for the continuation of this work. ESCAP does however, need to better incorporate the different needs of</p>	<p>EPO/SPMD</p>	<p>December 2018</p>	<p>Successful funding of a new proposal to continue this area of work</p>

<p>it is therefore recommended that the positive outcomes of the project be maintained and enhanced through further capacity development through workshops, training, peer to peer collaboration (South-South cooperation) and various other supportive activities.</p>	<p>ongoing basis (as long as they remain relevant).</p>	<p>Pacific island countries, and particularly the small island states (e.g populations less than 100,000) which have very unique needs within SIDS. This could be built into programming practices.</p>			
<p>7. Given the coverage of nine focus countries and five further countries (through regional knowledge sharing) spread over thousands of kilometers, the aggregate budget for regional projects such as this risks being too diffuse. Consideration could be given to reducing the number of target countries for future interventions with similar resource availability.</p>	<p>Agree. ESCAP continues to need to balance its regional role, with ensuring adequate impact at the national level. Partnerships are an important way to increase impact, as highlighted in the evaluation findings.</p>	<p>Maintain focus on quality planning and implementation, including through adequate needs assessment and ensuring resource allocation is sufficient to generate impact.</p>	<p>EPO/SPMD</p>	<p>30 June 2019</p>	<p>Evidence of a needs assessment integrated in the design and implementation of follow-up work or project.</p>

ANNEX 2: Result-based workplan and activities

For EA1:

- A1.1** Country sensitization and needs assessment workshops (6) for National Statistical Systems and line ministries in the Pacific SIDS. To be held in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga (Vanuatu and Republic of the Marshall Islands will be invited to participate in national workshops in the Solomon Islands and Kiribati respectively).
- A1.2** One regional training course on SEEA for Asia-Pacific SIDS for national statistical entities to be held in Fiji.
- A1.3** In-country Technical Assistance missions (6) to support SEEA implementation. Countries include Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and Republic of the Marshall Islands.

For EA2:

- A2.1** One EGM and publication which includes a methodology on economic valuation of gender inequality in SIDS. The outcome will be a SIDS-specific publication and methodology for economic valuation of gender inequality.
- A2.2** One regional workshop (finance and social sector entities) to raise awareness and develop technical capacity on the gender valuation methodology
- A2.3** In-country technical assistance (8) to support adaptation of appropriate methodologies for costing of gender inequality. Countries include Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands.

For EA3:

- A3.1** Workshops (2) on costing methodologies and policy and decision-support tools for on integrating economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development (1 for Asia-Pacific region to be held in Apia, Samoa, 1 for the Pacific sub-region to be held in Nadi, Fiji)
- A3.2** Pilot projects (2) to utilise the project methodology in national planning cycles in two countries to be selected from Kiribati, Samoa and Solomon Islands.
- A3.3** Asia-Pacific SIDS Policy Dialogue to engage ministers (finance and planning) and permanent secretaries on integrated national planning for sustainable development using the examples of SEEA and costs of gender inequality.
- A3.4** Implementation of knowledge management approach to capture and disseminate experiences on economic integration of the environment (SEEA) and gender inequality in national planning.

ANNEX 3: Indicators of achievement

- IA1.1** At least 6 out of 9 targeted national statistical system officials (NSOs and relevant line ministries) are technically competent to effectively utilize the SEEA.
- IA1.2** At least 4 out of 9 of target countries have implemented a program of environmental-economic accounting covering at least 1 major natural resource category or SEEA component (e.g. water accounts, energy, aquatic resources, etc.).
- IA2.1** Estimates of the costs of gender inequality are available in at least 4 of 5 targeted countries.
- IA2.2** At least 2 of 5 target countries have used the cost of gender inequality in national planning.
- IA3.1** National planning documents in 4 of 12 target countries reflect better integration of economic valuation of the environment and gender inequality.
- IA3.2** At least 8 of 12 targeted countries have an improved understanding of the use of the SEEA and gender costing analysis for policy making and planning.

ANNEX 4: Result-based budget

Expected accomplishment	Main activities / group of activities	Object class and object code (split of activities/outputs by budget categories)	Amount (USD)
EA1:	A1.1 Workshops (Needs assessment and sensitization)	604 (0140) Consultants (Fees)	20,880
		604 (2601) Consultants (Travel)	12,000
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	17,000
		621 (7202) Travel of participants	8,200
	A1.2 Regional Training (NSO and MoE)	608 (2302) Travel of Staff	8,400
		621 (7202) Travel of participants	61,500
A1.3 In-country technical assistance	604 (0140) Consultants (Fees)	20,880	
	604 (2601) Consultants (Travel)	14,400	
EA2:	A 2.1 EGMs and publication	604 (0140) Consultants (Fees)	15,660
		604 (2601) Consultants (Travel)	2,400
		604 (2602) Travel of Expert Groups	50,000
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	8,400
	A 2.2 Regional Training	608 (2302) Travel of Staff	3,400
		621 (7202) Travel of participants	82,000
A 2.3 Advisory Services	608 (2302) Travel of Staff	13,600	
EA3	A 3.1 Workshops on tools for integration	604 (2602) Travel of Expert Groups	100,000
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	16,800
	A 3.2 Pilot projects (2)	604 (0140) Consultants (Fees)	10,440
		604 (2601) Consultants (Travel)	4,800
		608 (2302) Travel of Staff	10,200
	A 3.3 Regional Policy Dialogue	604 (0140) Consultants	10,440
604 (2601) Consultants (Travel)		2,400	
608 (2302) Travel of Staff		2,500	
621 (7202) Travel of participants		102,500	
	A 3.4 KM Approach	612 (3908) Contractual Services	30,000
EA-3	Operating expenses	616 Operating expenses	1,580
M&E	External evaluation	604 (0140) Consultants (Fees)	5,220
		604 (2601) Consultants (Travel)	2,400

ANNEX 5: Evaluation criteria and questions to assess the project results

Evaluation criteria	Evaluation questions
<p>Effectiveness</p> <p><i>The extent to which the project objective and expected accomplishments have been achieved. A project is considered effective when its activities produce the desired results.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What evidence exists to demonstrate that the project has achieved its objective and expected accomplishments? • What were the key factors that contributed to the achievement or non-achievement of project objective and expected accomplishments? • What could have been done better to improve the effectiveness of the project in achieving its results?
<p>Relevance</p> <p><i>The extent to which the project results are in line with the priorities and policies of the target groups. Relevance assesses the usefulness of activities and outputs delivered to the target group.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What evidence exists to demonstrate that the project's products and services were used by the target countries? • How were the needs and requirements of the target groups assessed or identified? • What are/will be the key obstacles for the target groups to utilize the project's products and services?
<p>Efficiency</p> <p><i>The extent to which human and financial resources were used in the best possible way to implement activities, deliver outputs and achieve objectives/ outcomes.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were the resources (human and financial) effectively utilized to deliver outputs and achieve results? • How was the project managed in terms of timeliness? • Were synergies gained from partnership with other organizations resulted in cost-efficiency and savings?
<p>Sustainability</p> <p><i>The likelihood that the benefits of the project will continue in the future.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent can results of the project be continued without ESCAP's further involvement?
<p>Gender and human rights mainstreaming</p> <p><i>This criterion assesses the extent to which gender considerations have been incorporated in the project design and implementation.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent were gender and human rights supported through the implementation of the project?

ANNEX 6: Analysis of Annual Report summary tables for 2014 and 2016

This part of this evaluation report is based on the summary tables provided in the report for the years 2014 to 2016 (**ANNEXES 6 and 7**). It is divided into expected outcomes, activities and their objectives, indicator of achievement, and the actual outcomes, followed by commentaries on performance assessment.

At the end of the first year of the project, according to Table 1, 'Review of Performance Indicators and Activities', 6 out of 9 focus country officials having participated in national workshops would have competency relating to EA 1. The 'Expected Accomplishment' related to EA 1 were that the focus countries' statistical offices and environmental departments will be able to 'utilize' environmental statistics, specifically 'System of Environmental Economics and Accounting' (SEEA). 4 out of 9 country statistics office would have the capacity to generated environmental data regarding I major natural resource within SEEA framework. Possible natural resources were water, energy, aquatic resources, forestry, waste management. It was expected that by mid-2016, a regional workshop led by SIAP will train officials in compilation of SEEA data and use.

With respect to EA2, it was anticipated that the departments of planning and finance together with line ministries will be able to evaluate economic costs of gender inequality. The interim measure of the accomplishment of this expectation were that 4 out 5 countries had estimates of costs of gender inequality data, and that 2 out 5 countries would be using such data.

On EA3, the intended outcome was enhanced integration of environment and gender evaluation evidence in the planning and budgetary processes. 4 out of 12 countries would have evidence of more integration of environmental and gender evidence in their planning documents, and that 8 of the 12 countries would have increased understanding of environmental (SEEA) and gender costing.

For EA1 and EA 2 the target completion date was December, 2016, and for EA 3 the target date was end of 2017. As can be seen from the 'Comments' section of Table 1 in **ANNEX 6** from the 2015 annual report, Fiji, Micronesia, Palau, and 'possibly Vanuatu would have progressed towards a programme of SEEA by the end of 2016.

Table 2 in **ANNEX 6**, 'Review of Completed Activities' from the December, 2015 annual project report in the cell under activities does not say anything about the year to -date activities, instead it is about 6 country sensitizations and needs assessment workshops for statistical offices and line ministries that would be held in focus countries with invitation to Vanuatu and RMI to participate in national workshops in the Solomon Islands and Kiribati respectively. The regional workshop on SEEA was to be held in Fiji. For EA 2, an EGM and a publication are stated. The latter was expected to address the methodology of costing of gender inequality that was SIDS specific.

With respect to EA3, 2 workshops on costing methodologies and tools for integrating the 3 pillars of sustainable development at the policy and planning levels in the region were to be held in Apia, Samoa, and in Nadi, Fiji. The 'Comment' column of Table 2 provides the extent to which envisaged expectations were met. Four countries engaged with SEEA with Samoa having developed experimental water SEEA, and Fiji, Micronesia and Palau had identified SEEA focal areas. Fiji was finalising SEEA for tourism industry by its Tourism Satellite Account. An agricultural census in RMI was to inform its SEEA on agriculture. Palau was gathering data related to Oceans/ecosystems to inform its SEEA in this sector. 5 officials from Pacific SIDS national statistical departments received introductory training in SEEA from the Statistical Institute of Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Australian National University (ANU). This training was not part of the DA project but EPO was able to link it to its own SEEA related activities including technical missions to Fiji, Micronesia, Palau and Samoa.

Mention is made of the publication on evaluating gender inequality as a collaborative activity with UN Women. The publication is expected to provide Gender Responsive Budgeting profiles of 7 Pacific SIDS. The Pacific Gender Working Group is mentioned as is the anticipated workshop on transformative financing for gender equality pertaining to Gender Responsive Budgeting for Ministries of Finance in November, 2015.

On integrated planning and budgeting processes and tools for sustainable development, the first of 3 workshops in partnership with Pacific Finance Technical Assistance Centre on the framework for medium term finance expenditure relating to integrated public policy financing attendant to the 3 pillars of sustainable development was held for officers of finance and treasury departments from 7 countries. The workshop discussed current situation as well as processes, tools and strategies for integrated medium-term expenditure planning.

In the second annual report written in late 2016 two table are again provided to summarise activities, indicators and outcomes. **ANNEX 7** Table 1, 'Review of Performance Indicators' lists the 3 expected accomplishments followed in the second and third columns by indicator of achievement at start of project and indicator of achievement at the project at the time of review of the project, and then the comments column. The indicator of achievement at the start of the project reiterates expectations mentioned in the same column for the previous year. The third column maintains that all the indicators of achievement are on track to be achieved by the end of 2017. Under comments, it is stated that EA 1 has been 'considered achieved' with 4 countries, Fiji, Micronesia, Palau and Vanuatu on track to apply SEEA. For EA2, GRB analysis for a number of countries appear to be underway. And for EA3, integrated planning and development is progressively being realised.

ANNEX 7 Table 2, 'Review of Activities and Status', has three columns, 'activities', 'activity status', and 'comment'. As can be seen below, under activities, 6 country sensitizations and needs assessment workshops for national statistics and line ministry officers in Pacific SIDs had been envisaged. These were completed in 2016, and technical assistance was designed. One regional SEEA workshops were completed in November of 2015. For EA 2, while EGM and publication regarding methodology of costing gender inequality is mentioned under activities, in the comments column mention is made of a regional workshop on GRB in partnership with UN Women and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat scheduled for 27-29 March, 2017. This workshop had the objective of building regional expertise in GRB, dialogue with policy makers and planners, and also envisaged further cooperation with PIFS in analysing national plan using gender lenses. ESCAP EPO is a founding member of a Working Group on Community of Practice on GRB in dialogue with policy makers.

Regional workshops on integrated medium expenditure for sustainable development and gender evaluation, dialoguing with policy makers, integrating environmental and social pillars are mentioned. Pilot technical assistance missions in integration planning are envisaged, and a mission to Fiji is mentioned.

ANNEX 7: Tables from 2015 annual report

1. REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ACTIVITIES

Table 1 – Review of Performance Indicators

Expected Accomplishment	Indicator of achievement at the start of the project (T0)	Indicator of achievement at the time period when the project is being reviewed (T1)	Comments
EA1 Strengthened capacity of National Statistical Systems (including environment departments) in Pacific SIDS to provide and utilize integrated, policy-relevant environment indicators (System of Environmental Economics and Accounting)	<p>1.1 At least 6 out of 9 targeted national statistical system officials (NSOs and relevant line ministries) are technically competent to effectively utilize the SEEA.</p> <p>1.2 At least 4 out of 9 of target countries have implemented a program of environmental-economic accounting covering at least 1 major natural resource category or SEEA component (e.g. water accounts, energy, aquatic resources, etc.).</p>	<p>1.1 On track (Target Q2 2016)</p> <p>1.3 On track (Target end 2016)</p>	<p>1.1 will be fully achieved by second quarter of 2016. A regional workshop is planned with SIAP to train officials on SEEA compilation and use.</p> <p>1.2 Fiji, Micronesia, Palau and possibly Vanuatu would have significantly progressed towards a program of SEEA by end of 2016.</p>
EA2 Strengthened capacity of finance, planning and line ministries of Asia-Pacific SIDS to utilize economic valuation of gender inequality	<p>2.1 Estimates of the costs of gender inequality are available in at least 4 of 5 targeted countries.</p> <p>2.2 At least 2 of 5 target countries have used the cost of gender inequality in national planning.</p>	<p>On track (Target end-2017)</p> <p>On track (Target end-2017)</p>	Focus for both 2.1 and 2.2 is on GRB analyses policies from a gender perspective and identifies ways in which these are likely to reduce or increase existing gender inequalities.
EA3 Improved integration of economic valuation of the environment and gender inequality for evidence based policy making for integrated sustainable development in Pacific SIDS	<p>3.1 National planning documents in 4 of 12 target countries reflect better integration of economic valuation of the environment and gender inequality.</p> <p>3.2 At least 8 of 12 targeted countries have an improved understanding of the use of the SEEA and gender costing analysis for policy making and planning.</p>	<p>On track (Target end-2017)</p> <p>On track (Target end-2017)</p>	This work is progressively being realised through national planning and budgetary processes as a key aspect of effective public financial management. While not necessarily envisaged at the time of project planning this has proved to be an ideal opportunity mainstream this work.

Table 2 – Review of Completed Activities

Activities	Comment
<p>A1.1 Country sensitization and needs assessment workshops (6) for National Statistical Systems and line ministries in the Pacific SIDS. To be held in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga (Vanuatu and Republic of the Marshall Islands will be invited to participate in national workshops in the Solomon Islands and Kiribati respectively).</p> <p>A1.2 One regional training course on SEEA for Asia-Pacific SIDS for national statistical entities to be held in Fiji.</p>	<p>1.1 Samoa has developed experimental water SEEA. Palau, Micronesia and Fiji have identified SEEA focal areas and have commenced preparation of pre-requisites, e.g. Fiji is finalising a Tourism Satellite Account which will inform SEEA on tourism. Micronesia is undertaking an Agricultural census which will inform a SEEA on agriculture. Palau is reviewing various source data needed to pull together a SEEA on Oceans/ ecosystems following an assessment by EPO last year on readiness for compiling SEEA.</p> <p>1.2 Through the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) and Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Australian National University (ANU) training, 5 officials from Pacific NSO's have received introductory training on SEEA. While these are not directly from the DA project, EPO facilitated connections with Pacific stakeholders in anticipation of SEEA work through this DA Project. In project related missions to Palau, Samoa, Micronesia and Fiji, officials have been introduced to SEEA.</p>
<p>A2.1 One EGM and publication which includes a methodology on economic valuation of gender inequality in SIDS. The outcome will be a SIDS-specific publication and methodology for economic valuation of gender inequality.</p>	<p>The methodology on economic valuation of gender inequality is being developed as part of an overall analytical approach for gender responsive budgeting (GRB) in the Pacific, and in the context of planning for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. ESCAP (EPO) has worked through the Pacific UN Gender Working Group ESCAP will build on work being undertaken by UN Women on GRB as planned at the November 2015 meeting 'Shaping a new agenda for transformative financing on gender equality: A Dialogue with Ministries of Finance' which ESCAP participated in and helped coordinate, and which included Pacific island member States. GRB recognizes the economic inefficiency of gender inequality in addition to the opportunity to use the budget and fiscal planning to address women's rights and improve transparency and accountability on gender issues in government policy.</p> <p>As part of this activity ESCAP (EPO) is a founding member of a Working Group to establish a Community of Practice (CoP) on GRB in Asia-Pacific to engage policy makers and practitioners, particularly in planning and finance entities, in dialogue on GRB and linking gender equality to planning and budgetary outcomes.</p> <p>The planned publication (Q2 2016) will build on the 7 GRB Pacific country profiles being developed with UN Women.</p>

<p>A3.1 Workshops (2) on costing methodologies and policy and decision-support tools for on integrating economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development (1 for Asia-Pacific region to be held in Apia, Samoa, 1 for the Pacific sub-region to be held in Nadi, Fiji)</p> <p>A3.4 Implementation of knowledge management approach to capture and disseminate experiences on economic integration of the environment (SEEA) and gender inequality in national planning.</p>	<p>3.1 EPO, together with International Monetary Fund (IMF), Pacific Finance Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC), convened a workshop on Medium-term expenditure planning for national sustainable development. In the Pacific SIDS context, public expenditure remains an important tool that governments have to deliver an integrated path towards national sustainable development. The workshop brought together analysts from the ministries of finance/ treasuries and national planning from seven countries (Palau, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Cook Islands, Niue, Micronesia, and Samoa) to develop processes, tools and strategies for improving medium-term expenditure planning to achieve national sustainable development. Participants shared country experiences, and contributed to group discussions and exercises, which will inform the development of good practice guidelines to help better link national development plans to budgets to help with more integrated and sustainable development.</p> <p>EPO is working with Kiribati to prepare a new national development plan, which will integrate development priorities and the SDGs.</p>

ANNEX 8: Tables 1 and 2 from 2016 Annual Report

2. REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ACTIVITIES

Table 3 – Review of Performance Indicators

Expected Accomplishment	Indicator of achievement at the start of the project (T0)	Indicator of achievement at the time period when the project is being reviewed (T1) ²	Comments
EA1 Strengthened capacity of National Statistical Systems (including environment departments) in Pacific SIDS to provide and utilize integrated, policy-relevant environment indicators (System of Environmental Economics and Accounting)	<p>1.4 At least 6 out of 9 targeted national statistical system officials (NSOs and relevant line ministries) are technically competent to effectively utilize the SEEA.</p> <p>1.5 At least 4 out of 9 of target countries have implemented a program of environmental-economic accounting covering at least 1 major natural resource category or SEEA component (e.g. water accounts, energy, aquatic resources, etc.).</p>	<p>1.1 On track (Target Q1 2017)</p> <p>1.6 On track (Target Q2 2017)</p>	<p>1.1 Considered achieved.</p> <p>1.2 Fiji, Micronesia, Palau and Vanuatu by Q2 2017.</p>
EA2 Strengthened capacity of finance, planning and line ministries of Asia-Pacific SIDS to utilize economic valuation of gender inequality	<p>2.1 Estimates of the costs of gender inequality are available in at least 4 of 5 targeted countries.</p> <p>2.2 At least 2 of 5 target countries have used the cost of gender inequality in national planning.</p>	<p>On track (Target Sept-2017)</p> <p>On track (Target Sept-2017)</p>	Focus for both 2.1 and 2.2 is on GRB analyses policies from a gender perspective and identifies ways in which these are likely to reduce or increase existing gender inequalities.
EA3 Improved integration of economic valuation of the environment and gender inequality for evidence based policy making for integrated sustainable	3.1 National planning documents in 4 of 12 target countries reflect better integration of economic valuation of the environment and gender inequality.	<p>On track (Target end-2017)</p> <p>On track (Target end-2017)</p>	This work is progressively being realised through national planning and budgetary processes as a key aspect of effective public financial management. While not necessarily envisaged at the time of project planning this has proved to be an ideal

² Projects in their first year of implementation are exempt from providing information in this column if it is difficult to provide estimates due to the projects short implementation period.

development in Pacific SIDS	3.2 At least 8 of 12 targeted countries have an improved understanding of the use of the SEEA and gender costing analysis for policy making and planning.		opportunity mainstream this work.
-----------------------------	---	--	-----------------------------------

Table 4 – Review of Activities and status

Activities	Activity status	Comment
A1.1 Country sensitization and needs assessment workshops (6) for National Statistical Systems and line ministries in the Pacific SIDS.	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> --- <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <i>X In progress</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	Needs assessments completed in 2016, and TA designed.
A1.2 Regional training course on SEEA for Asia-Pacific SIDS for national statistical entities to be held in Fiji	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> --- <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <i>X Completed</i>	Two workshops were held in September 2016 for Pacific island countries in Nadi, Fiji.
A2.1: EGM and publication which includes a methodology on economic valuation of gender inequality in SIDS. The outcome will be a SIDS-specific publication and methodology for economic valuation of gender inequality	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> --- <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <i>X In progress</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) implemented with UN Women) and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) with a regional workshop scheduled for March 2017 and TOT planned to build a body of technical experts in the sub-region. Gender reviews of national plans also planned with PIFS

<p>A2.2: Regional workshop (finance and social sector entities) to raise awareness and develop technical capacity on the gender valuation methodology</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p> <p>---</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i></p> <p><i>X In progress</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i></p>	<p>Scheduled for 27-29 March 2017 in Suva, Fiji. ESCAP (EPO) is a founding member of a Working Group to establish a Community of Practice (CoP) on GRB in Asia-Pacific to engage policy makers and practitioners, particularly in planning and finance entities, in dialogue on GRB and linking gender equality to planning and budgetary outcomes.</p>
<p>A2.3: Technical assistance to support GRB (to be undertaken by UN staff)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p> <p>---</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i></p> <p><i>X In progress</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i></p>	<p>Scheduled for April-July 2017</p>
<p>A3.1: Workshops on policy and decision-support tools for integrating economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p> <p>---</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i></p> <p><i>X In progress</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i></p>	<p>Scheduled for 15-17 March 2017 in Suva, Fiji</p>
<p>A3.2: Pilot projects to utilise the project methodology in national planning cycles.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p> <p>---</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i></p> <p><i>X In progress</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i></p>	<p>Pilot initiated for Fiji.</p>
<p>A3.3: Asia-Pacific SIDS Policy Dialogue to engage ministers (finance and planning) and permanent secretaries on integrated national planning for sustainable development using the</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p> <p>---</p>	<p>Scheduled for 22-24 March 2017 in Nadi, Fiji</p>

<p>examples of SEEA and costs of gender inequality.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i></p>	
<p>A3.4: Implementation of knowledge management approach to capture and disseminate experiences on economic valuation of the environment (SEEA) and gender inequality in national planning.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p> <p>---</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

ANNEX 9: Status of SEEA implementation as of December 2017

Country	Accounts produced	Accounts planned or possible over short to medium-term
Federated States of Micronesia	Energy PSUT, MSUT	Water Further iteration of energy account
Fiji	Energy PSUT Water PSUT Solid waste PSUT	Land cover (in-progress) Further update and iteration of accounts produced
Palau	Energy PSUT, MSUT Water PSUT, MSUT	Waste Further update and iteration of accounts produced
Samoa	Water PSUT, MSUT	Energy Further iteration of water account
Vanuatu	Currently collating data for compiling land cover accounts	Water

ANNEX 10: List of persons interviewed.

The following persons assisted in the evaluation process as expert advisers and key person interviewees:

- Mr Iosefa Maiava, Head of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC)- email communication
- Mr Tim Westbury, Economics Affairs Officer, UNESCAP and Evaluation Manager for overseeing the evaluation process and assistance in providing useful contacts, guidance, project related documents, and facilitating access to some of the key respondents
- Mr Sanjesh Naidu, Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP for guidance regarding some aspects of the evaluation and also for setting up appointments with PFTAC personnel
- Mr Edgar Dante, Programme Officer, Evaluation Unit for guidance on ESCAP's approach to evaluation and to evaluation documents
- Ms Osnat Lubrani, UNDP Pacific Regional Office Coordinator and Resident Representative
- Salma D. El Hag Yosif, Regional Programme and SIDS Engagement Coordinator, UNDP
- Ms Peseta Noumea Simi, CEO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Samoa
- Ms Cristelle Pratt, Deputy Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat -email communication
- Ms Seema Naidu, Gender Gender Equality, Human Rights and Social Inclusion Specialist and Trainer, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
- Mr David Kloeden, Head, Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC)
- Mr Richard Neeves, Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC)