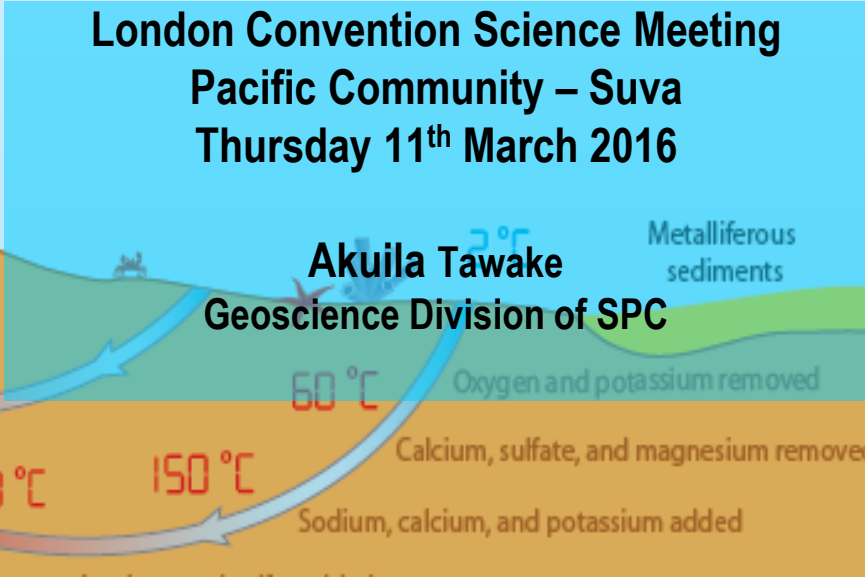
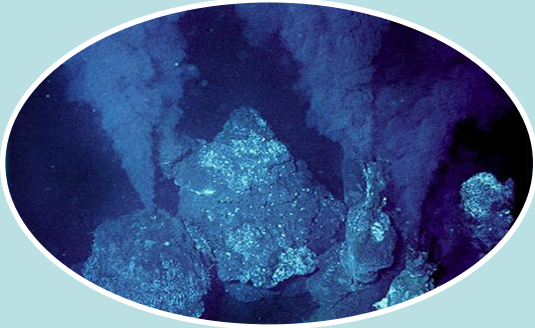


Deep Seabed Mineral Activities in the Pacific Islands Region



Deep Sea Minerals Potential



Seafloor Massive Sulphides:

- PNG
- Tonga
- Solomon Islands
- Vanuatu
- Fiji



Manganese Nodules:

- Cook Islands
- Kiribati

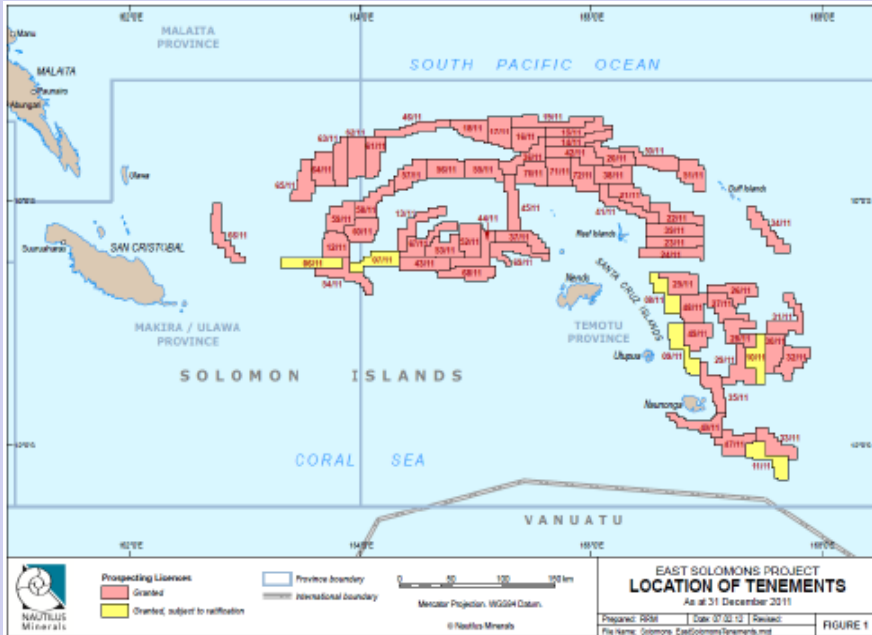


Cobalt-rich Crusts:

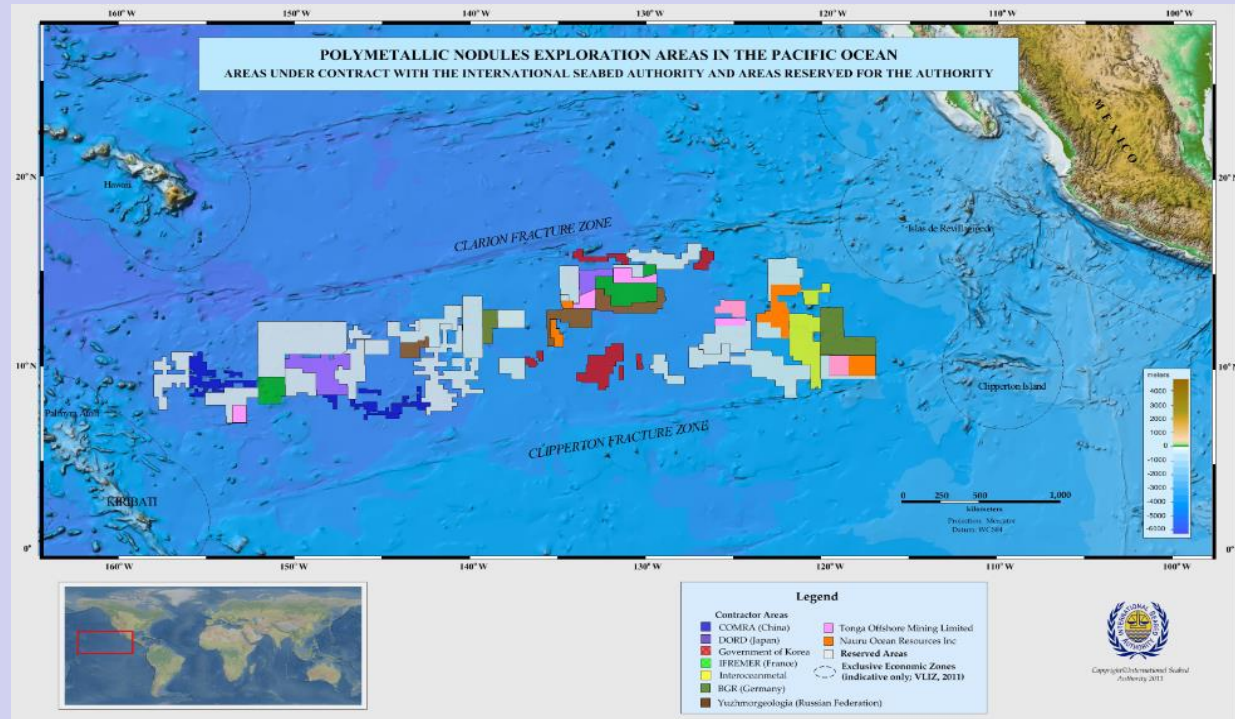
- Republic of the Marshall Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Kiribati

Recent DSM Activities

- Three active exploration companies;
- Exploration licenses issued in PNG, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu;
- PNG granted Nautilus Minerals with a deep sea mining lease in January 2011;
- Mining is expected to commence in 2018.



Exploration Interest in “the Area”



Foreign Partners

- **Nauru** – Nauru Ocean Resources Inc
- **Tonga** – Tonga Offshore Mining Ltd

State Owned Enterprises

- **Kiribati** – Marawa Research and Exploration Ltd
- **Cook Islands** – Cook Islands Investment Corporation

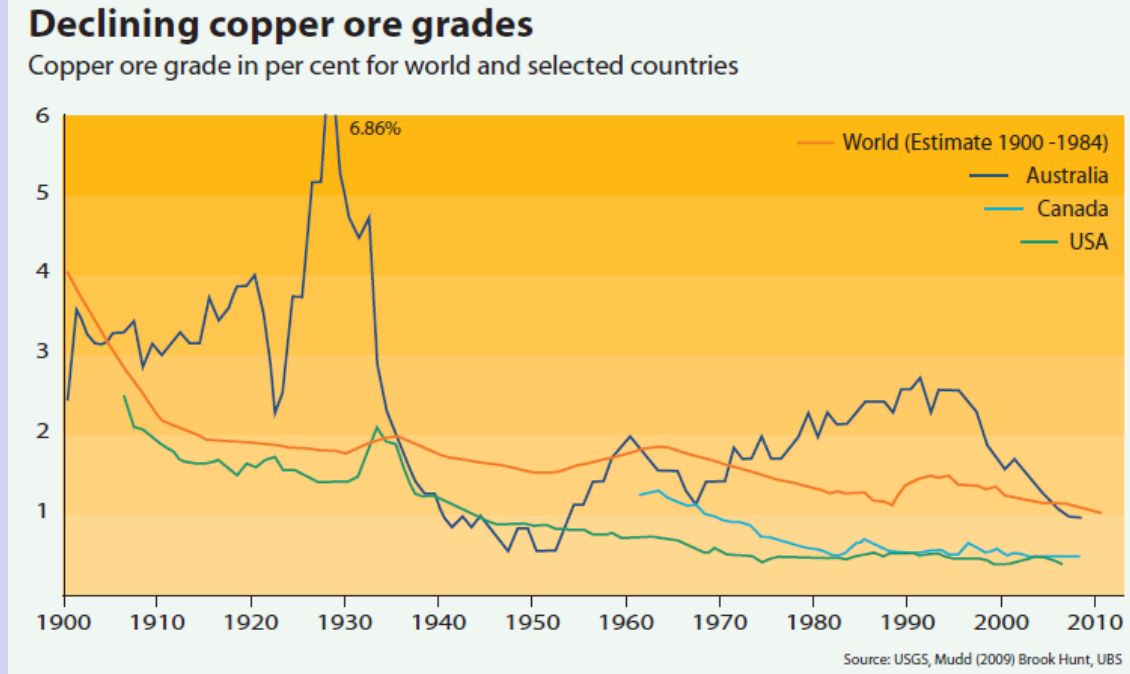
Other Interested Countries

- Fiji and Tuvalu

Drivers of DSM Mining

International:

- Global economic growth;
- States securing access to resources;
- Innovative frontier industry;
- Increasing difficulty and complexity of terrestrial mining.



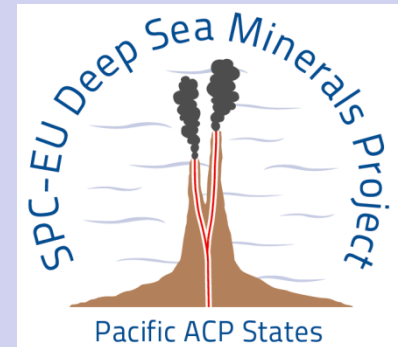
Pacific Region:

- Opportunity to participate in a new economic sector;
- Alternative economic development opportunity;
- Contribute to poverty alleviation and well being of Pacific Communities.

SPC-EU Deep Sea Minerals Project

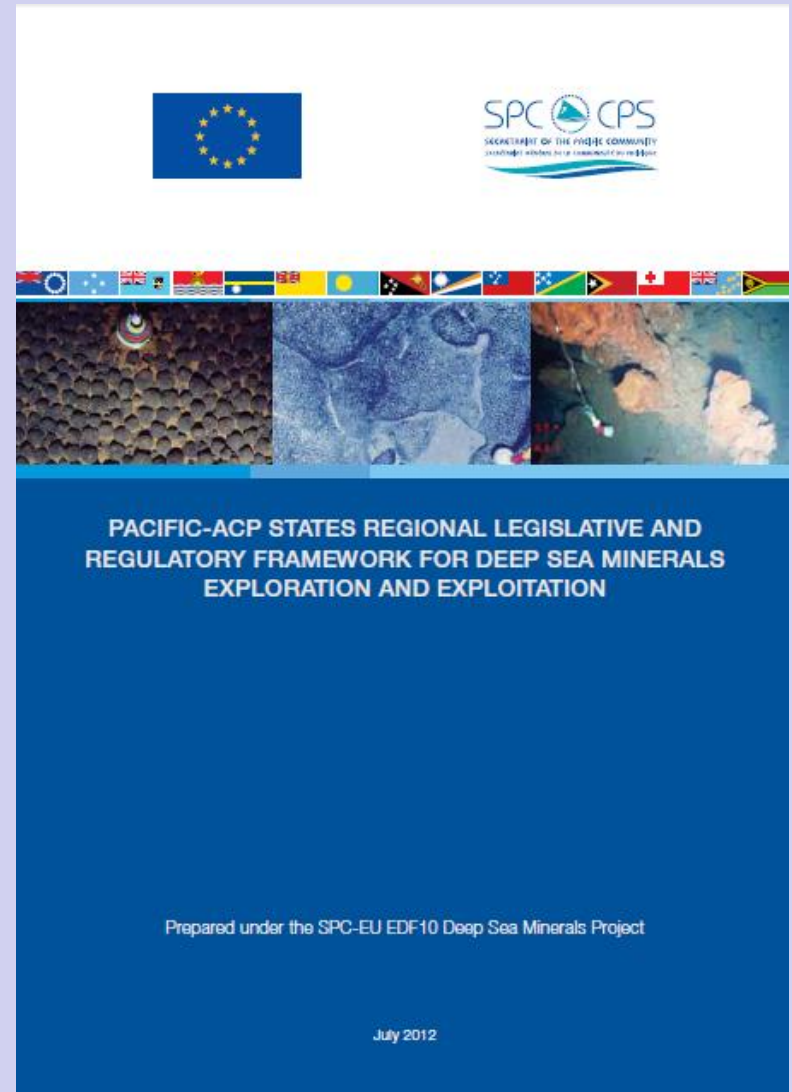
Objective: to strengthen the system of governance and capacity of Pacific ACP States in the management of deep-sea minerals through:

- (i) development and implementation of sound and regionally integrated legal frameworks;
- (ii) improved human and technical capacity, and
- (iii) effective environmental monitoring systems.



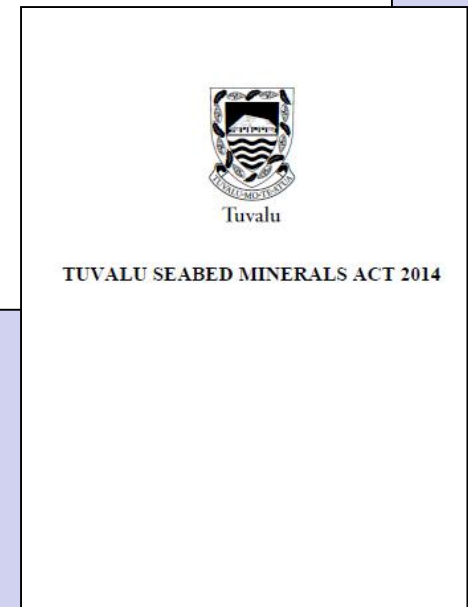
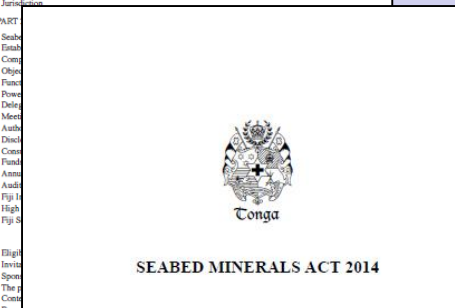
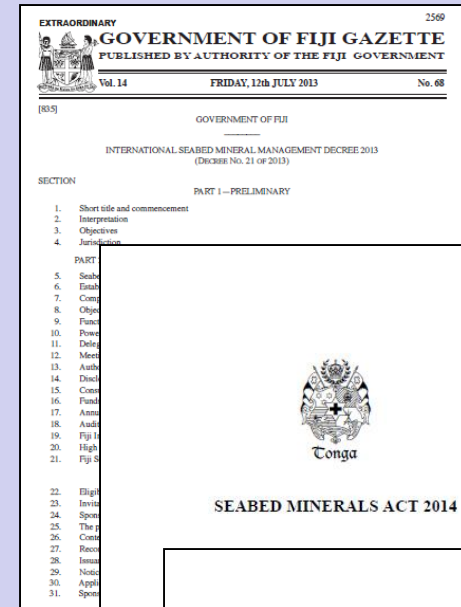
Regional Legislative and Regulatory Framework
















- RLRF was completed in 2012 and endorsed by Pacific Leaders.
- Used by Pacific-ACP States to develop/review their national DSM policy, legislation and regulations.
- Currently under reviewing and the 2nd edition to be finalised in 2016.



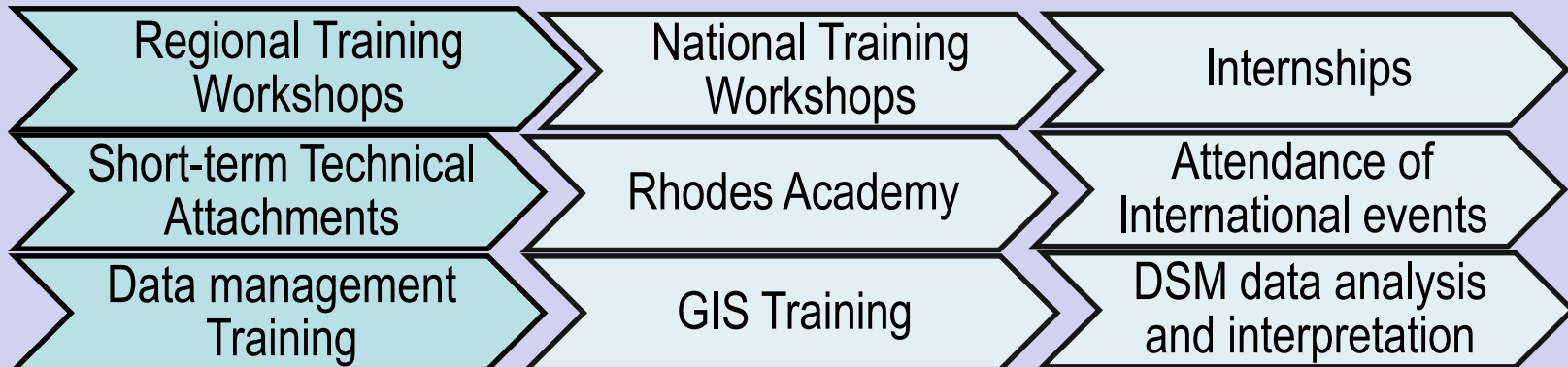
Development of National Legal Instruments

- **Fiji** – International Seabed Minerals Management Decree promulgated in 2013.
- **Tonga** – Seabed Minerals Bill passed and enacted in September 2014.
- **Tuvalu** – Seabed Minerals Bill passed and enacted in December 2014.
- **Nauru** – Seabed Mineral Bill enacted in October 2015.
- **Policy and/or legislation drafted:** FSM, RMI, Kiribati, Niue, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji



Country		DSM Policy	DSM Legislation	National Offshore Minerals Committee Established
	Cook Islands	✓	✓	✓
	FSM		presented to Congress	
	Fiji	under review	✓	✓
	Kiribati	under consultation	<i>draft</i>	✓
	RMI	with Cabinet	with Cabinet	✓
	Nauru		✓	
	Niue	<i>(draft)</i>	<i>(draft)</i>	
	Palau			
	PNG	under review	under review	✓
	Samoa			✓
	Solomon Is	<i>(draft)</i>		
	Timor Leste			
	Tonga	To be developed	✓	✓
	Tuvalu	under consultation	✓	
	Vanuatu	under consultation		✓

Capacity Building Initiatives



Regional DSM Training Workshops

2012 -2015: Eight Regional Training workshops held on different DSM thematic areas.

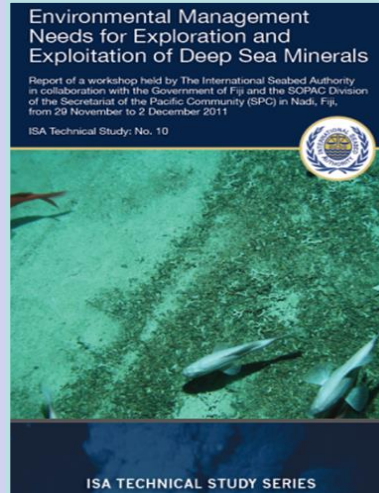
Thematic areas: geology, technology, biology and environment, law and legislative drafting, contract negotiations, societal impacts, public engagement, fiscal regime and revenue management



Engagement with the ISA



Build on the long relationship between ISA and SOPAC;
SPC is an Observer in the ISA Council and Assembly meetings;
2013 – 2015: ISA-SPC Legal Internship;
Signed a MoU for cooperation with the ISA in 2015.



Jointly organised the international workshop on ***“Environmental management needs for deep seabed minerals exploration and exploitation”*** in Fiji in November 2011



Coordination of PSIDS delegates' participation at the ISA Session and related meetings;
2013 – 2015: Providing support to: Cook Islands, Tonga, PNG, Solomon Islands, Samoa, RMI, FSM, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Nauru.

DSM Project Publications

SPC-UNEP/GRID-Arendal DSM publication (consists of 5 booklets) was officially launched in December 2013;

The report has been distributed to Pacific ACP States and other stakeholders;

Nodule assessment reports: (1) Cook Islands was joint funded by the Cook Islands government and the DSM Project; (2) Kiribati was funded by the DSM Project;

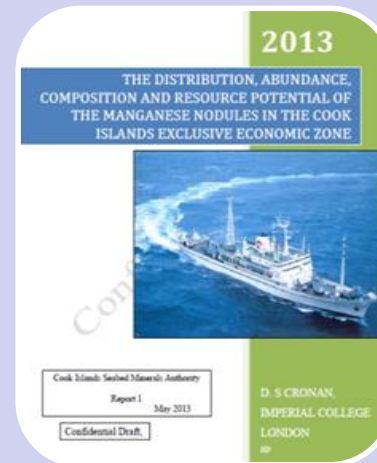
The SPC-UNEP/GRID-Arendal report is available in <http://gsd.spc.int/dsm/>



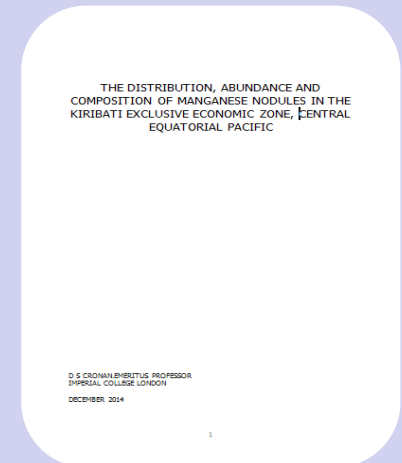
Seafloor Massive Sulphides



DSM and the Green Economy



Cook Islands nodules potential



Kiribati nodules potential

Cost-Benefit Analysis of Deep Seabed Mining in the Pacific

- Cardno was contracted to carry out a CBA of deep seabed mining in the Pacific;
- Feb – Sept: information gathering, stakeholder consultations, country visits – Cook Islands, RMI and PNG; draft report review.
- Final report was submitted in Oct 2015, and released to PICs in Feb 2016.

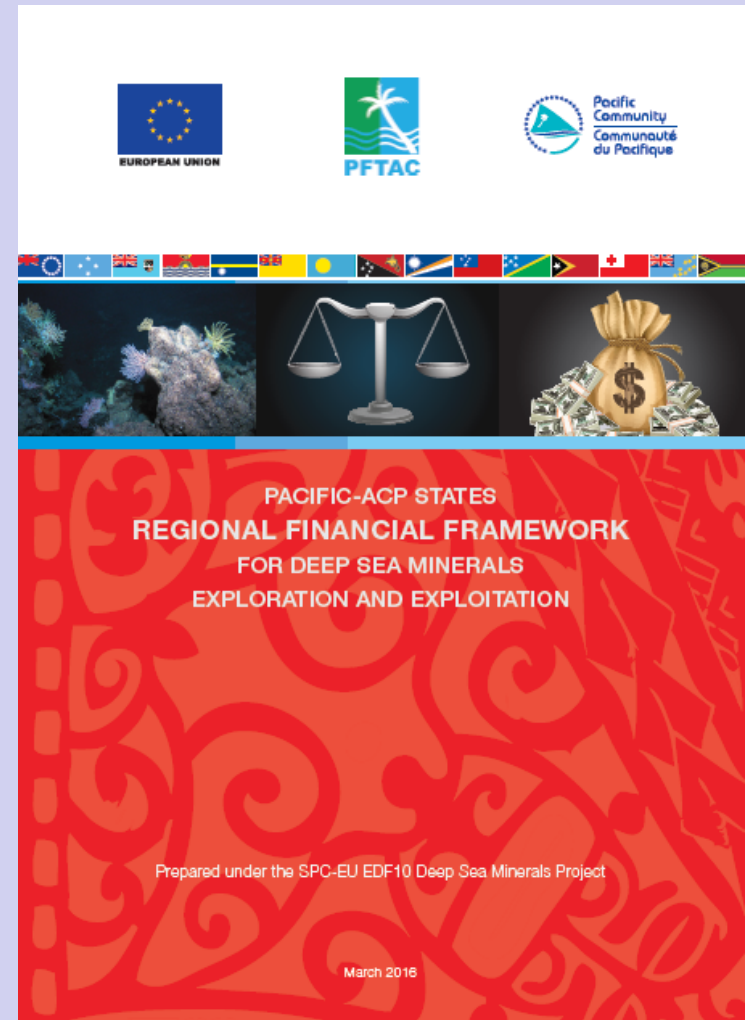


Regional Financial Framework

A partnership between the Pacific Financial and Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) and the SPC-EU Deep Sea Minerals Project.

Assist PICTs in developing:

- national DSM financial framework
- DSM fiscal and revenue management policies
- appropriate fiscal regime and revenue management options
- Encourage PICTs to use appropriate revenue saving schemes



Research Guidelines for DSM Scientific Research



Collaboration with National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

Practical Guide for development of national guidelines and/or regulations for marine research activities relating to DSM so that they are performed in accordance with international standards and best practice.

Data Collection

MSR - Exploration
Baseline - Monitoring

Environmental Management Framework

Provide environmental management strategies, components and options which can be incorporated into DSM policy, legislation and regulations.

Go-to Guide

- Environmental concepts
- Policy and regulation considerations
- Example wording
- Definitions
- EIA template



Regional DSM Agreement

The Regional Agreement aims to:

- Foster regional cooperation among PICTs;
- Ensure the harmonisation of legal instruments pertaining to the management of deep seabed mineral resources with national jurisdictions of PICTs and their interest in “the Area”;
- Ensure conformation to international law.

Process for ratification:

2015: 1st Draft developed

2016: consultations and review

2017: tabled to the SPC CRGA and then to Forum Leaders for consideration

REGIONAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION
AMONG PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES AND
TERRITORIES TO SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE DEEP
SEA MINERAL MANAGEMENT IN THE PACIFIC
REGION

DRAFT

Assistance provided by DSM Project

National DSM
Committees

National
Consultation

National DSM
Policy

National DSM
Law

Awareness
Raising Events

Publications

Regional
Guidelines /
Frameworks

Regional
Workshops

Data
Management

Cost Benefit
Analysis

Contracts and
Negotiations

DSM
Documentaries /
Information
Brochures

Technical
Training

Internships

Pacific
Attendance at
International
Events

Regional DSM
Treaty



Government



**Experts /
International
Organisations**



Civil Society

Private Sector



Communities



**Multi-
stakeholder
Participatory
Approach**

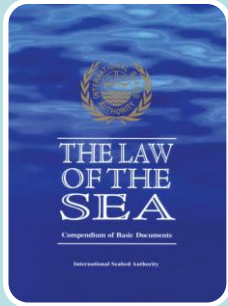
DSM Project Information Sharing

- Share DSM information at regional and international conferences / meetings;
- Project workshop reports, presentations, newsletters, information brochures, and news releases prepared and disseminated;
- Three DSM documentaries completed and disseminated to PICs and other stakeholders;
- Translation of DSM information brochures to national languages – E.g. Kiribati and Tonga
- More information are available in

<http://gsd.spc.int/dsm/>



Key DSM Issues in the Pacific



Legal and Finance

- Development /review and enforcement of national policy and law
- Government-company DSM contract negotiations
- Fiscal regime and revenue management



Technical and Research

- Additional DSM exploration
- Environmental management and monitoring
- Research in science, social science and legal aspects of DSM
- Minerals / mining data management



Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement

- Training and institutional strengthening
- Ongoing stakeholder consultations and awareness