

## TSCC Reporting Template (2025-2026)

**Name of the TSCC: Secretariat of the Regional Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP)**

**Period covered by the report: January 2025 – April 2026**

**Date of submission: 15 May 2026**

### **Purpose and general instructions for completing the report:**

As per the operational modalities in decision 16/3, the TSCCs are requested to submit their biennial activity reports to the global coordination entity who will report to the COP through the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. For this reporting cycle, SBI will review progress made by the TSCCs to identify possible gaps and solutions for improving the delivery of technical and scientific cooperation for consideration by the COP at its seventeenth meeting.

Please do not exceed 10-12 pages.

- An indicative word count is specified in each section.
- Upload the final draft of the report in a Word file onto the TSCC space on SharePoint. In case of a technical issue, please send the report to [mea-cbd-technicalcooperation@un.org](mailto:mea-cbd-technicalcooperation@un.org).

## **Part I. Background on the TSCC**

**Instructions:** Please provide a succinct introduction to the report. Relevant introductions from the workplans can be used here, but please ensure to also include the following elements:

- Official launch date
- Parties served by the TSCC
- Key results of needs assessment and areas of focus

**Institutional context:** A Host Agreement with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is being reviewed. SPREP is an intergovernmental organisation that serves 26 Members across the Pacific region, including 14 Pacific Island countries, 7 territories, and 5 metropolitan states, which share cultural, historical, and environmental priorities. Through its Technical Support Coordination Capacity (TSCC), SPREP strengthens regional cooperation and provides coordinated technical and scientific support across key environmental priorities. SPREP's existing regional mandate, technical expertise, convening role, and long-standing relationship with Pacific Island Members place it in a strong position to operationalize the TSCC mechanism. It also provides an opportunity to strengthen coordination of biodiversity-related technical support across the regional and global processes. Enhancing Pacific representation and engagement in implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

**Thematic focus:** The TSCC concentrates on priority areas that align with SPREP's mandate, including climate resilience, climate science and information, biodiversity conservation, environmental governance, and waste management and pollution control. Although a standalone needs assessment has not yet been completed, the TSCC uses existing national, regional, and global processes to guide its work. Within biodiversity and conservation, current priorities include invasive species management, protection of threatened and endangered species, and the sustainable management of terrestrial, marine, and coastal ecosystems.

## Part II. Report on outcomes

### Instructions:

- Please list the actual outcome(s) included in the workplan of the TSCC under each area of work.
- In the first column, list the output(s) included in the workplan and provide further information in the corresponding “Details” column. For example, you may provide a brief explanation of why an output has not been completed yet.
- Add as many rows as necessary in each table.
- Attach relevant supporting documentation in annex.

### 1. Operationalization of the TSCC

#### Outcome 1: The SPREP TSCC is Successful operationalization of effective support center

Outputs	Status	Details
Output from workplan <i>Systems of effective management in place</i> - <i>Appoint interim/acting coordinator</i> - <i>Appointing a director</i>	Completed	SPREP, in its role as the Oceania Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre (TSCC), established an interim coordination structure to support the operationalization of the Centre. Existing staff within the Biodiversity and Conservation Programme currently undertake these functions, made up of the Director of the Biodiversity and Conservation Programme (TSCC Director), the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Adviser, and the Ecosystem and Biodiversity Officer (Coordination Team).
Output from workplan <i>Systems of effective management in place</i> - <i>Biennial Workplan</i>	Completed	The SPREP TSCC Biennium Workplan 2025–2026 was completed, endorsed internally, and submitted. The workplan outlines priority outcomes, outputs, and activities aligned with the TSCC operational modalities under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It also reflects SPREP’s existing regional mandate and ongoing biodiversity work across the Pacific. A strong focus was placed on balancing operational establishments with the practical delivery of technical and scientific support to Members, especially in NBSAP revisions, KM GBF implementation, regional coordination, and biodiversity policy support.
Output from workplan <i>Systems of effective management in place</i> - <i>Signing of host agreement</i>	In progress	Discussions on the Host Agreement are ongoing. Progress has been made through engagement with relevant internal processes and raising recognition of the TSCC’s role within SPREP’s regional biodiversity mandate. However, the signing depends on internal SPREP governance processes. The Secretariat anticipates that this process will be completed before next reporting period.
Output from workplan <i>Systems of effective management in place</i> - <i>Steering Committee</i>	In progress	SPREP has identified the need to align the TSCC governance arrangements with existing institutional mechanisms to avoid duplication and ensure efficiency. Discussions are ongoing regarding the establishment of a Steering Committee that will likely be integrated within existing SPREP governance and coordination structures, like the Biodiversity and Conservation Programme (BCP) governance processes and the SPREP Meeting. While the Steering Committee has not yet been formally operationalized, internal consultations have helped clarify its proposed structure and functions.

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Additional result(s)	In addition to the outputs identified in the workplan, the TSCC has increasingly been recognized internally and externally as a regional coordination mechanism for biodiversity-related technical support. Existing SPREP programmes and staff have enabled TSCC to begin functioning despite limited dedicated resources. Some activities include working with RAMSAR Regional Initiative under the RAMSAR Convention and the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC), a global political coalition that supports countries in championing the delivery of the 30×30 target in the Pacific.
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### What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

**Progress to Date:** During this reporting period, SPREP made important progress in operationalizing the TSCC by using existing institutional structures and technical expertise. By embedding TSCC functions within ongoing biodiversity and conservation work, SPREP was able to provide technical support to Members without waiting for dedicated structures to be fully established. This helped maintain continuity in support for countries working on CBD-related priorities.

**Key Constraints:** The main challenge is the lack of dedicated financial and human resources needed to fully operationalize the Centre. Although existing staff have taken on TSCC responsibilities alongside their current roles, growing demand from Members is stretching staff capacity and slowing progress on key operational milestones. As a result, the establishment of dedicated governance structures, communication systems, and formal institutional arrangements, including the Host Agreement, has been delayed.

**Coordination Considerations:** A further challenge is ensuring that the TSCC complements, rather than duplicates SPREP's existing mandates and programmes. Since many TSCC functions intersect with SPREP's broader biodiversity work, stronger internal coordination is needed to streamline processes and clarify roles and responsibilities.

**Next Steps:** Sustainable financing will be essential to support dedicated staffing, coordination, communications, and country engagement. Discussions have started with IUCN Pacific Oceania Biodiversity Centre of Excellence to shared financial and technical capacity in supporting the Pacific region. Increased assistance from the global coordination mechanism and development partners could also help regional TSCCs accelerate operationalization, particularly through flexible funding, and technical exchanges

## 2. Visibility and responsiveness

### Outcome 2: The SPREP TSCC is recognized as a visible and responsive support center for Technical and Scientific Cooperation in the region

Outputs	Status	Details
Output from workplan <i>TSCC help desk established and maintained</i>	In progress	SPREP has initiated discussions with its Information Technology and Communications teams to establish a dedicated TSCC email address and help desk mechanism. While a standalone help desk has not yet been formally launched, the TSCC has continued to respond to requests from Members through existing SPREP coordination channels. Technical support requests related to CBD processes, NBSAPs, regional workshops, policy guidance, and KM GBF implementation have continued to be addressed by the coordinating team. This interim approach has ensured responsiveness to Members while formal systems are still being developed.
Output from workplan	Not started	Work on the dedicated TSCC communications platform and communications plan have not yet started. Progress in this area has been delayed due to limited staffing capacity and prioritization of

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<p><i>System of Effective Communications established</i></p> <p><i>- One Stop Hub for CBD related material on SPREP Website</i></p> <p><i>-Develop a communications plan</i></p>		<p>technical support activities under Outcome 4. While SPREP's broader communications platforms continue to share biodiversity and CBD-related updates, a dedicated TSCC webpage and communication strategy remain important priorities moving forward to improve visibility, accessibility of resources, and regional awareness of TSCC services.</p>
<p>Additional result(s)</p>	<p>Despite the absence of a formal communications platform, SPREP's existing reputation and regional networks have helped maintain awareness of the TSCC's role</p>	

### What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

<p><b>Current progress:</b> A key achievement has been the continued delivery of technical support through existing mechanisms. Members have continued to request assistance, indicating that the TSCC is already operating informally as a regional support mechanism.</p> <p><b>Visibility challenges:</b> Visibility remains limited because the TSCC does not yet have dedicated branding, communication tools, or online systems. Without a formal communications strategy or a dedicated webpage, Members may not fully understand the range of support available through the mechanism. Progress in this area has also been slowed by limited staffing capacity, as priority has necessarily been given to direct technical support and service delivery.</p> <p><b>Proposed way forward:</b> Practical next step would be to develop a phased communications strategy that builds on SPREP's existing platforms rather than creating entirely new systems. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a dedicated TSCC webpage within the SPREP website;</li> <li>• regular TSCC updates through existing communication channels; and</li> <li>• a formal help desk email to improve access to support.</li> </ul> <p>Additional communications support and dedicated funding would further strengthen the TSCC's visibility and accessibility across the Pacific region.</p>
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### 3. Partnership development and resource mobilization

#### Outcome 3: TSCC initiates partnership development and process of identifying and developing long- term resource mobilization strategies

Outputs	Status	Details
<p>Output from workplan</p> <p><i>System of Effective Resource Mobilization in place</i></p> <p><i>-Business Plan</i></p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>During this reporting period, SPREP developed a draft BCP business plan that incorporates the TSCC and brought it to the final stages of preparation. The plan sets out the TSCC's long-term vision, operational priorities, funding requirements, and partnership opportunities needed to strengthen and sustain the Centre. It is intended to guide future resource mobilization and provide a strategic basis for engagement with donors and partners.</p>

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<p>Output from workplan</p> <p><i>System of Effective Resource Mobilization in place</i></p> <p><i>-Capacity building</i></p>	<p>Not started</p>	<p>Capacity-building activities focused on project proposal writing for SPREP staff have not yet begun. During the reporting period, priority was given to delivering direct technical support to Members under Outcome 4 using existing technical capacity. This activity remains important for future implementation, particularly strengthening internal resource mobilization and proposal development capacity across programmes that support TSCC-related work.</p>
<p>Additional result(s)</p>	<p>SPREP has initiated discussions with the IUCN Pacific Oceania Centre for Biodiversity Excellence to explore collaborative approaches for technical cooperation, capacity support, and joint resource mobilization within the Pacific region. Discussions focused on identifying complementary areas of work, and improving coordination of biodiversity-related technical assistance across the region.</p> <p>In parallel, SPREP was selected for support under the FAO Target 2 funding programme facilitated through the CBD TSCC mechanism. This represents an early example of how the TSCC framework can help strengthen access to technical cooperation and emerging biodiversity financing opportunities linked to implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</p>	

### What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

**Key achievement:** A major milestone under this outcome has been the development of the TSCC business plan, which provides a clearer strategic direction for future growth and long-term sustainability. The process also helped identify funding gaps, priority investment areas, and opportunities for collaboration with regional and global partners.

**Main challenge:** Limited financial resources dedicated specifically to the TSCC mechanism remain the primary constraint. Many current activities continue to rely heavily on existing SPREP programme budgets and staff time, an approach that may become increasingly difficult to sustain as demand for support grows. More targeted resource mobilisation will therefore be needed to strengthen technical and scientific cooperation under the CBD framework.

**Next steps:** Looking ahead, implementation of the business plan will be critical to guide resource mobilisation efforts and support future growth. Capacity-building in proposal development and partnership management will also be important to strengthen the TSCC's ability to secure support and expand its impact. The partnership with IUCN Pacific Oceania Centre for Biodiversity Excellence will be further expanded through key collaborative opportunities both financial and technical.

## 4. Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer

### Outcome 4: The TSCC initiates cooperation in technical and scientific cooperation within the region/sub-region and across the TSCC network

Outputs	Status	Details
<p>Output from workplan</p> <p><i>Host/Co-host Workshops and Conferences</i></p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>The TSCC has continued to support and coordinate regional technical workshops and biodiversity-related meetings across the Pacific. During the reporting period, SPREP successfully co-hosted the Pacific Regional ABS/Nagoya Protocol and BBNJ workshop (in partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP), 3BIO, and Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC) which strengthened regional dialogue on access and benefit-sharing and emerging biodiversity governance issues relating to BBNJ. This workshop brought together National Focal Points for the Nagoya Protocol and BBNJ, the countries that attended were Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji Islands,</p>

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		Tonga, Samoa, Palau, Cook Islands, Tuvalu, and Kiribati. Preparations are also underway for other regional events; regional workshop on Target 3 implementation (30 x 30), the 11th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, and regional preparatory meeting for CBD COP 17.
Output from workplan <i>Partnership and Coordination Meetings</i>	In progress	<p>Coordination and partnership dialogue BCP convened a Partnership Dialogue and a series of coordination meetings through the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT), regional biodiversity consultations, and internal coordination processes.</p> <p>These engagements supported information sharing, strengthened collaboration among regional organizations and partners, and contributed to more coordinated biodiversity-nature positive action across the Pacific.</p>
Output from workplan <i>Technical Review and Knowledge Products</i>	In progress	<p><b>Regional knowledge products</b></p> <p>SPREP drafted the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas and the Regional State of Environment and Conservation Report. Both are key regional knowledge products that support biodiversity planning and policy development.</p> <p><b>Technical assistance to Members</b></p> <p>Technical assistance was provided to Members for the development and review of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and 7th National Reports under the CBD. During the reporting period, SPREP supported Fiji Islands, Tuvalu, Niue, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa and Solomon Islands through technical reviews and advisory assistance.</p>
Output from workplan <i>Global and Regional CBD and Policy Engagement</i>	In progress	<p>SPREP continues to facilitate Pacific participation and coordination in CBD-related policy processes, including SBSTTA, SBI, and regional preparatory discussions ahead of CBD COP 17. Through the CBD TSCC mechanism, SPREP has also increased engagement in collaboration opportunities at SBSTTA 28 and SBI 7 side events which will greatly strengthen visibility of Pacific biodiversity priorities at a global level. However, limited funding for both SPREP and Member countries constrained participation in some intersessional meetings.</p>
Additional result(s)		<p>SPREP facilitated an interregional knowledge-sharing exchange between representatives from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Weather Ready Pacific initiative (VanKIRAP Project) to share experiences, approaches, and lessons learned on weather readiness and resilience planning in Vanuatu.</p> <p>The exchange highlighted common biodiversity and climate-related challenges faced across island regions and reinforced the value of interregional technical cooperation under the TSCC mechanism</p>

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### What has worked well, ongoing challenges and possible solutions

**Current progress:** Technical and scientific cooperation has been the strongest and most active area of implementation during this reporting period. SPREP's existing technical expertise, regional convening role, and strong relationships with Members enabled the TSCC to begin delivering meaningful support immediately after its designation. Countries continue to engage actively with SPREP for technical guidance, policy coordination, workshop participation, and biodiversity planning support.

**Key challenges:** Demand for technical support continues to grow, while available funding and staffing remain limited. Because TSCC support is ongoing and extends beyond individual activities or reporting periods, these resource constraints affect both the continuity and scale of assistance. Limited funding has also reduced participation in some global and intersessional CBD meetings, constraining opportunities for Pacific representation, coordination, and influence.

**Priorities ahead:** Stronger and more sustainable financial support will be essential to maintain and expand technical cooperation services. Closer collaboration across the global TSCC network, more targeted donor support, and greater investment in Pacific participation in CBD processes would significantly strengthen regional implementation and improve long-term impact.

### 5. Additional information (optional)

**Instructions:** Please provide a succinct summary of any additional information that you would like to share that is not captured in the previous sections. Additional details and examples may be submitted via annex(es).

## Part III. Summary of key achievements and challenges

### Instructions:

- Based on the information reported above, use this space to highlight the top 2-3 accomplishments and the top 2-3 challenges faced by your TSCC during the biennium and suggest a way forward where possible.
- Include, where relevant, suggestions on how the GCE can assist in supporting the TSCCs to address challenges.
- Use both qualitative and quantitative metrics when possible.

### 1. Key achievements during the 2025-2026 biennium

#### **Achievement 1:** Effective management and operational planning established

TSCC appointed key personnel to oversee the Oceania TSCC, with a Director, coordinating teams and as endorsement stage at the SPREP Meeting proposed for August 2028 in Samoa.

During the reporting period, SPREP began operationalising the Oceania TSCC by setting up an interim coordination structure and preparing key planning documents. It also finalized the SPREP TSCC Biennium Workplan 2025–2026 and a draft business plan, which together provide strategic guidance for implementation, coordination, and future resource mobilisation. These initial milestones have enabled the TSCC to start responding to country needs while reinforcing regional coordination under the CBD TSCC mechanism.

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### **Achievement 2:** Technical support provided to Pacific Members on CBD implementation

The TSCC provided ongoing technical and scientific support to Pacific Island Members throughout the reporting period. SPREP supported at least seven Member countries with the review and development of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), as well as preparation of their 7th National Reports to the CBD. This support included technical review, policy guidance, coordination support, and advisory assistance to strengthen national reporting and planning processes. Through these engagements, the TSCC helped strengthen country capacity, improve alignment with global biodiversity targets, and facilitate regional exchange of technical knowledge and expertise.

### **Achievement 3:** Development of strategic partnerships and resource mobilization planning

A key achievement during the biennium was the development and finalization of the BCP business plan, which outlines the Centre's long-term operational priorities, funding needs, partnership opportunities, and sustainability approach. The business plan provides a strategic framework to guide future engagement with donors, technical agencies, and regional partners while identifying priority investment areas such as staffing, communications, coordination, and country support. In parallel, the TSCC strengthened collaboration with regional organizations, development partners, and technical networks through ongoing biodiversity initiatives and regional coordination processes. These partnerships have been essential in supporting workshop delivery, technical cooperation activities, and policy engagement despite limited dedicated TSCC funding.

### **Achievement 4:** Technical & scientific cooperation and technology transfer to support the Parties

SPREP TSCC continues to facilitate regional technical cooperation and biodiversity policy engagement across the Pacific region. During the reporting period, the TSCC successfully supported delivery of the regional ABS/Nagoya Protocol and BBNJ workshop, which strengthened regional understanding of access and benefit-sharing, biodiversity governance, and emerging policy issues. Preparations also progressed for other regional events; regional workshop on Target 3 implementation, the 11th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, and regional preparatory meeting for CBD COP 17. In addition, continued work on important regional knowledge products, the Regional State of Environment and Conservation Report and the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. These activities have strengthened regional coordination, technical exchange, and Pacific engagement in global biodiversity processes.

### **Achievement 5:** Leveraging the TSCC mechanism for funding opportunities, partnership and implementation support

During the reporting period, SPREP TSCC was selected for support under the FAO Target 2 funding programme through the CBD TSCC mechanism. The support is intended to strengthen technical assistance and coordination activities related to ecosystem restoration and biodiversity priorities within the Pacific region under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

In parallel, SPREP initiated collaboration discussions with the IUCN Pacific Oceania Centre for Biodiversity Excellence to explore opportunities for joint technical cooperation, regional delivery support, and resource mobilization. These developments demonstrate growing recognition of the Oceania TSCC's role as a regional coordination mechanism and highlight the potential of the TSCC framework to strengthen access to technical partnerships, knowledge exchange, and emerging biodiversity financing opportunities across the Pacific region

## 2. Main challenges during the 2025-2026 biennium and way forward

### Challenge 1: Limited funding affecting operationalization of the TSCC

One of the primary challenges during the reporting period was the lack of dedicated funding to fully operationalize the TSCC. While SPREP was able to begin implementation using existing staff and programme resources, the absence of sustained financial support delayed important milestones such as establishment of communication systems, operational governance arrangements, and finalization of institutional processes. Increasing demand from Members for technical support has also placed additional pressure on existing staff capacity.

At the same time, the reporting period demonstrated growing momentum in transitioning the TSCC from an establishment phase toward more practical implementation support. Emerging partnerships with regional technical institutions, increasing interregional cooperation, and successful engagement with external funding opportunities indicate growing confidence in the Oceania TSCC mechanism. Building on these developments will be important to strengthen long-term sustainability, coordination capacity, and delivery of technical support across the Pacific region.

Continued support from the global coordination mechanism and development partners will be important to ensure regional TSCCs can transition from initial establishment phases toward fully operational and sustainable regional support mechanisms.

### Challenge 2: Limited support for Pacific participation in global CBD processes

Funding limitations also affected the ability of SPREP and Pacific Members to participate consistently in key CBD intersessional meetings and global negotiations leading up to CBD COP 17. Participation in these meetings is critical for ensuring Pacific priorities and perspectives are reflected in global biodiversity discussions and outcomes. Limited financial support restricted opportunities for regional coordination, technical preparation, and direct engagement in some negotiation processes. While continued support to provide virtual and regional coordination support where possible, in-person participation remains important for effective engagement.

### Challenge 3: Aligning TSCC functions with existing SPREP mechanism

Strength of the SPREP TSCC is the ability to leverage support with existing biodiversity programmes, technical expertise, and regional coordination mechanisms to begin implementation rapidly and efficiently. Although much of the TSCC functions align closely with SPREP's broader mandate, additional coordination is required to clearly define operational responsibilities, streamline reporting processes, and avoid duplication across existing institutional systems. Integration improved efficiency and avoided establishment costs, this also increased workload pressures on existing staff. Hence, the pressing need for clearer operational arrangements and dedicated resources for the operationalization of the Oceania TSCC to serve 22/21 member Pacific countries and its Territories.

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