

Agenda item 9.2.1: Strengthening Regional invasive species focused climate change adaptation and resilience initiatives

Purpose:

1. To inform Members on steps and plans for strengthening SPREP's Guiding Framework for Invasive Species to include climate change adaptation and build climate change resilience.

Background:

2. The 31 SPREP Meeting endorsed the *Guiding Framework for Invasive Species Management in the Pacific (2nd Edition)*. To support implementation of the Framework significant resources are required.
3. The 31 SPREP Meeting also directed and supported the Secretariat to continue to develop regional climate change adaptation and resilience initiatives focused on invasive species.
4. In response, the Secretariat is developing a regional invasive species focused project for the Global Environment Facility 8th Replenishment Round. The Project Identification Form is expected to be approved in 2024 and the project under implementation in 2026 until 2031.
5. To provide further support to the GEF8 project and other regional cross-cutting invasive species issues, the Secretariat proposes that an Adaptation Fund regional invasive programme be developed to finance these aspects over the same period.
6. To provide for larger national and regional invasive species initiatives it is also proposed that an Enhanced Direct Access programme for the Global Climate Fund's third cycle be developed.

Recommendation:

7. The Executive Board Meeting is invited to:
 - 1) **Note** with appreciation, the strengthening of regional invasive species focused climate change adaptation and resilience initiatives; and
 - 2) **Approve** the development of (i) an Adaptation Fund cross-cutting regional programme to provide support to the GEF-8 Regional Invasive Species Project; and (ii) the development of an Enhanced Direct Access programme for the Global Climate Fund's third cycle for larger invasive species initiatives for countries.