

Draft Agenda of the Pacific Regional COP CBD Workshop

Dates: 21st-25th September 2026

Background

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is organizing the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This workshop meeting aims to coordinate Pacific Island countries' positions, share updates, reflect and finalise developed strategies to effectively advocate for the region's current priorities at COP 17.

The meeting will be held in Suva, Fiji from 21st-25th September 2026.

Targeted at focal points for NDCs or NAPs and NBSAPs from Pacific countries, members of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT) and Secretariats of the UNFCCC and CBD. The structured program intends to create space for well-meaning dialogue, upskilling of negotiators and a showcase of innovative solutions that amplifies a Pacific-led process with urgent yet inclusive coordinated positions on the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution.

For the planned five days, the preparatory meeting and workshop aim to provide the platform for the Pacific Parties to:

1. Coordinate a collaborative approach on the coordinated agenda setting of regional biodiversity priorities in readiness for COP 17 with preparation of position briefs, in coherence with advancing policy in the climate and biodiversity nexus across the Pacific.
2. Strengthen engagement at the COP 17 with the One-CROP approach and facilitation of technical backstopping by regional partners.
3. Facilitate group skills building for negotiation on a set of priority agenda items with leads, co-leads and alternate countries identified for further support.
4. Enhance political support and cross sectoral engagement with participation of representatives also from agriculture, forestry and fisheries at the pre-COP and during the COP 17.

Objectives of the Pre-COP CDB Workshop

- Strengthening whole-of-government approaches through improved cooperation and coordination among the focal points and other government experts on CBD and UNFCCC.
- Identification of the nexus areas and entry points when preparing the NDCs, NAPs and NBSAPs at the national level.
- Synergies to be promoted with other more theme/sector-specific strategies and action plans, such as those related to food systems, disaster management, and connected to climate change and biodiversity-related aspects.
- Building on outcomes of the last COP 16 Pacific experience, national focal points from member Pacific countries with technical support of partners will identify key entry points for promoting synergies in how they tackle climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity, along with conservation finance and capacity building, to implement their revised NBSAPs and NDCs.
- Serve as a platform for national NDC and NBSAP focal points to discuss how the uptake of scientific information and policy coherence approaches can be used to inform

national policymaking processes that look at the climate and nature nexus in a coherent, holistic, and synergistic manner.

Expected Outcomes:

- Participants will gain increased understanding and awareness of areas where policy coherence can be improved by jointly examining the NBSAPs and NDC processes.
- Increased practical understanding of how the synergies and interlinkages between biodiversity and climate clusters could be promoted at the national level through strengthening interinstitutional coordination and collaboration across the national focal points for CBD and UNFCCC. To complete the Rio Conventions, we may want to consider some connection with UNCCD. Several Pacific SIDS are parties to UNCCD, and nexus areas such as food systems, NbS, ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) are also strongly linked with UNCCD.
- Increase awareness of the importance of integrating national climate and biodiversity targets into other sectoral plans. It is also anticipated that the discussions will facilitate regional peer learning and encourage the establishment of new partnerships among countries based on their exchanges on best practices and lessons learnt to address challenges in preparing the national reports on biodiversity and climate change.
- Gather insights on the role of Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme *Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre* for the Convention on Biological Diversity and how existing resources can be leveraged to support capacity building in the Pacific region.
- Identify priority needs of the Pacific SIDS in implementing CBD, UNFCCC and other relevant MEAs in a coherent way through ensuring synergies and how regional partners can collectively support countries in addressing those needs and priorities.

<i>Date & Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Monday, 21 September 2026		
8:30–9:00	Registration of participants Welcome Coffee	
9:00–9:45	1. Opening of the workshop	Welcome remarks (TBD); Objectives and agenda of the workshop
	2. Global Context	Participant introductions / icebreaker Intended outcomes: Participants are introduced to the objectives of the workshop and expected outcomes.
MORNING TEA BREAK & Group photo		
10:15 -12:15	3. Overview of the COP agenda and Pacific priorities. Engagement since COP16 including AHTEG on indicators for the Kunming-	SPREP and member countries' present on their program of national

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	Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework., SBSTTA SPREP hosting the Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre	implementation, positions (if any) on priority themes. SPREP to present on the TSCSC.
LUNCH BREAK (1.45 hour)		
2:00 -4:00	4. Pacific priorities: Monitoring Framework for the GBF and mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review. 5. Country context: NBSAP targets	Overview of ongoing negotiations To confirm 2-3 countries to update on NBSAP reporting progress; synergies between the NDC, NAPs etc.
Tuesday, 22 September		
8:30-9:00	Recap	
	6. Pacific NBSAP Accelerator Partnership (45 mins) + Q & Answers	A joint initiative of UNEP, the CBD Secretariat, and UNDP, designed to accelerate the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) globally. SPREP is co-host of this Pacific Partnership and Facilitator Programme that aims to provide tailored, country-driven support to strengthen coordination, unlock financing, and fast-track priority actions aligned with the Global Biodiversity Framework. A key component of this support is the Matchmaking Mechanism to connect countries with technical and financial partners: identifying priority needs, facilitating dialogue with donors and implementing agencies, helping translate national biodiversity priorities into concrete, fundable initiatives.
MORNING TEA BREAK (20 minutes)		
10:15 -12:00	7. Outcomes of the 11 th Pacific Nature Conference 8. SBSTTA-8 and SBI-7	SPREP/ PIRT Chair to present

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		Plenary: PIC member delegates who attended these leadup sessions.
	9. Country context: NBSAP reporting (cont'd)	To confirm 2-3 countries to present on their experience with the NBSAP reporting progress; synergies with NDC, NAP pathways.
LUNCH BREAK (1 hour)		
2:00 – 4:00	Part I. Building on our Negotiations skills	Training session targeting CBD national focal points. About COP 17 in Armenia.
Wednesday, 23 September		
8:30-9:00	Recap	
	10. Pacific Visibility and Coordination at COP 17	SPREP lead Communications Role of partners & booth visibility
	11. Research & Advocacy	SPREP with partners like PICAN to support with the technical backstopping for country mandates, Pacific positions and avenues for high level support and approval.
LUNCH BREAK		
		Bilateral sessions for member countries.
2:00 – 4:00	Part II. Negotiations skills training	Better understanding of the CBD negotiation process.
Thursday, 24 September		
8:30-9:00	Recap	Pacific booth & linkages at the UNFCCC COP-Moana Pavilion
	12. UNFCCC COP Linkages	
10:00	Part III. Negotiations Training	
4:00	End of Day	Bilateral: Pacific NBSAP Accelerator Partnership

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Friday, 25 September		
8:30-9:00	Recap & outline day's program	
10:00	Brainstorm & preparatory drafting of Pacific-led Position Papers	Group work in conjunction to the negotiation training group of PIC focal points.
	Part IV. Negotiation Skills	Communications & Outreach SPREP Comms
LUNCH BREAK		
4:00pm	Presentation of Certificates Negotiations skills training Conclusion Remarks	SPREP

Further information, please contact:

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