



PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT

Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific

2013 Pacific and PNG Update:

The future of Pacific regionalism





Leaders Vision in the Auckland Declaration, April 2004

"Leaders believe the Pacific region can, should and will be a region of peace, harmony, security and economic prosperity, so that all of its people can lead free and worthwhile lives.

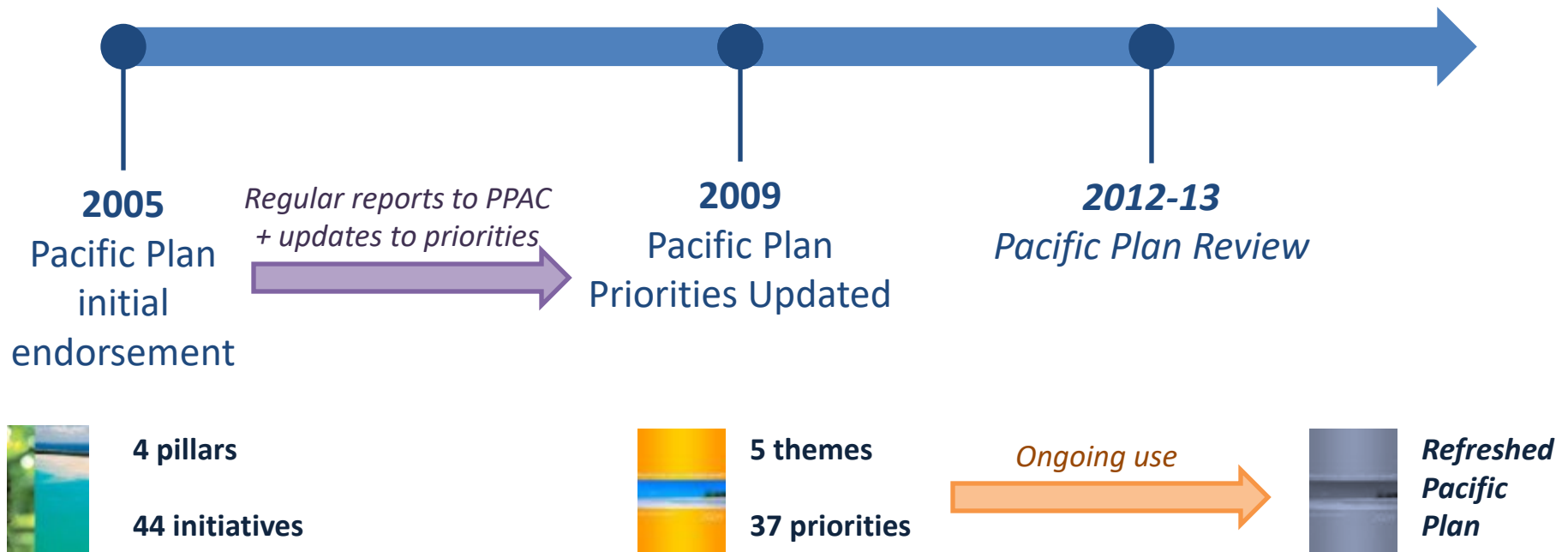
"We treasure the diversity of the Pacific and seek a future in which its cultures, traditions and religious beliefs are valued, honoured and developed.

"We seek a Pacific region that is respected for the quality of its governance, the sustainable management of its resources, the full observance of democratic values and for its defence and promotion of human rights.

"We seek partnerships with our neighbours and beyond to develop our knowledge, to improve our communications and to ensure a sustainable economic existence for all."



Ongoing Development and Review of the Plan





Pacific Plan Review Team



Sir Mekere Morauta, KCMG

Former Prime Minister of PNG from 1999 to 2002



Two representatives from Forum Countries:

Mrs. Peseta Noumea Simi + Mr. Redley Killion



Two international consultants:

Mr. Peter Bazeley + Dr. Nick Poletti



Pacific Plan Review Objectives

Assess effectiveness and ensure continued relevance of the Pacific Plan, considering:

- ❖ the relevance of the Plan's strategic underpinnings
- ❖ the impact of the Plan from 2005 to 2012 and to what extent it delivered on the Leaders initial aspirations
- ❖ the governance and priority-setting arrangements for the Plan
- ❖ how the strategic interests and priorities of Smaller Island States can be more effectively reflected in the approach to the Plan
- ❖ the extent to which the Plan has influenced programming decisions by development partners
- ❖ the extent of ownership of the Plan
- ❖ the effectiveness of implementation arrangements for delivery of initiatives and priorities under the Plan, including the role of key actors



Review Timeframe

December 2012 – Review Team meets, confirms methodology

January–May 2013 – Country consultations + Public submissions

May – Regional Consultation workshop and Special Session of Pacific Plan Action Committee in Suva

June–July – Preparation of draft report (including additional consultations, if necessary)

August – Second Session of Pacific Plan Action Committee in Suva

September 2013 – Leaders Meeting in the Republic of the Marshall Islands



Key Findings from Review Consultations

- **The region is:**
 - ✓ Diverse and complex; connected but fragmented
 - ✓ Faced with vulnerabilities and uncertainties
- **'Regionalism' is:**
 - ✓ Needed and desired
 - ✓ A long-term project with an as-yet uncertain end-point
 - ✓ Supported or complemented by sub-regionalism
- **Greater regional integration:**
 - ✓ Requires a stronger Pacific plan / framework
 - ✓ Should be based on Leaders' vision and values, and supported by a process that reflects the true drivers of progress





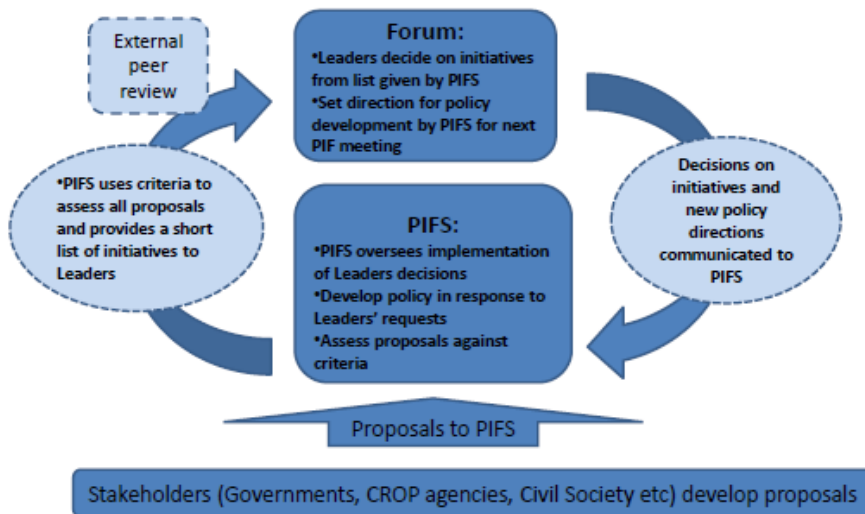
A New Pacific Framework

Pacific Plan :

- ✗ Should not be seen as a 'regional development plan'
- ✗ Should not be oriented towards donor funding

Pacific Plan :

- ✓ Should be seen as a framework for advancing regional integration processes through informed political choice
- ✓ Should be based on Leaders' vision for the region
- ✓ Should include shared regional values as articulated in Leaders' declarations
- ✓ Should contain evolving priorities that are set and updated through a robust annual process





Systemic Changes Would be Needed

In order to establish this new framework, substantial and systemic change will be required – such as:



✓ Modifying the Forum meeting to create more space for political discussions

✓ Making prioritisation more open and transparent

✓ Strengthening the Secretariat to act as “gate keeper”

✓ Shifting some decision-making to other meetings

✓ Establishing a special process for SIS priorities

✓ Improving coordination with donors

✓ Strengthening overall governance





The Future of Pacific Regionalism...?





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Thank you

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