



Pacific Region  
Infrastructure Facility

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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This report is published by the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF).

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# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASPA	Association of South Pacific Airlines
CIIC	Cook Islands Investment Corporation
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CROP	Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
EIB	European Investment Bank
EU	European Union
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFC	International Finance Corporation (of the World Bank Group)
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
JICA	Japan International Cooperation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
NBC	National Building Code
NIIP	National Infrastructure Investment Plan
NZ-CAA	Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
NZ-MFAT	New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
PacWastePlus	Pacific-EU Waste Management Programme
PASO	Pacific Aviation Safety Office
PCREEE	Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
PFTAC	Pacific Financial Technical Advisory Center
PIANC	Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses
PIC	Pacific Island country
PIPI	Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicator
PMC	PRIF Management Committee
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PPA	Pacific Power Association
PRIF	Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility
PRIF CO	Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Coordination Office
PWWA	Pacific Water and Wastewater Association
RAMM	Regional Aviation Ministers' Meeting
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SIDS	Small Islands Developing States
SIM	Sustainable Infrastructure Management
SI-NIIP	Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan
SOE	State-Owned Enterprise(s)
SPC	Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Region Environment Programme
SWG	Sector Working Group
TA	Technical Assistance
TISIP	Tuvalu Infrastructure Strategy and Investment Plan
TOR	Terms Of Reference
TWG	Thematic Working Group
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USP	University of the South Pacific
WASH	Water, Sanitation, And Hygiene
WBG	World Bank Group
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation





# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

The Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) was officially launched in 2008 as a multi-partner coordination and technical assistance (TA) facility. It was established to interface between development partners and Pacific member countries to improve the quality and coverage of infrastructure and service delivery. It enhances coordination of partner investments in the Pacific and provides technical advice on infrastructure development and sustainable management.

PRIF's operations cover 14 Pacific member countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. Papua New Guinea (PNG) is an associate member country.

PRIF's development partners include the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), European Union (EU), European Investment Bank (EIB), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), New Zealand Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade (NZ-MFAT), United States Department of State (US), and the World Bank Group (WBG).

The facility entered its fourth phase with funding approval on 31 October 2019,<sup>1</sup> and its partners have provided \$12.5 million for the 4 years from November 2019 to October 2023 (ADB, \$2.0 million; Australia, \$4.1 million; New Zealand, \$4.5 million; and the US, \$2.0 million). It is being implemented by the PRIF Coordination Office (PRIF CO) based in Sydney.

This is the second PRIF Annual Report for PRIF Phase IV, covering the period 1 January to 31 December 2021.

## 1.2 OPERATING CONTEXT

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has been the most severe economic shock to the Pacific region to date, with an impact across all countries but particularly those which are tourism-dependent. While widespread, the impact has been mixed, with smaller countries largely able to insulate themselves from the health impacts in 2021 but not the significant economic downturn from border closures. Larger countries and economies, such as PNG and Fiji, have been impacted by both COVID-19 and the economic downturn following travel restrictions. By the end of 2021, the Pacific recovery was yet to begin, with new COVID-19 variants emerging.

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<sup>1</sup> Under an Asian Development Bank (ADB) technical assistance (TA) entitled, *TA9819-REG: Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Coordination Office (PRIF CO) – Leveraging Infrastructure for Sustainable Development*.

In light of COVID-19, the Lowy Institute considers that the Pacific is facing “a lost decade of development,” with projected increases in the number of people in poverty and youth unemployment, a downward pressure on budgets, and an increased likelihood of social and political disturbance.<sup>2</sup> International commitments for the Pacific COVID-19 response were estimated at \$3.3 billion in October 2021 (equaling 10% of the region’s gross domestic product) but this has not matched the scale of the crisis.<sup>3</sup> Beyond addressing the immediate needs, the Lowy Institute argues for a multiyear recovery and rebuilding program, in which infrastructure would play a critical role. They estimate that, in order to avoid a prolonged crisis, another \$3.5 billion in international funding is needed per year in addition to existing commitments.<sup>4</sup>

The role for infrastructure investment and development is significant, both as an economic kick-starter, especially for “shovel-ready” projects, and for longer-term investment and rebuilding initiatives with high economic returns toward a sustainable and resilient future. Infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation is equally important, due to its high returns and as a foundation for sustained long-term growth. Stronger collaboration and cooperation between funders, governments, and implementors, including the private sector, has never been more critical for targeting and maximizing existing funding commitments, as is the need to unlock additional funding over the short to medium term.

The Pacific remains one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to climate change and natural disasters. The World Risk Index 2021 has found five Pacific Island countries (PICs), including PNG, are among the top 15 most at-risk countries, with Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Tonga ranked first, second, and third, respectively.<sup>5</sup> The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) published a 2021 report titled *Resilience in a Riskier World: Managing Systemic Risks from Biological and Other Natural Hazards*, which found that the intersection between the COVID-19 pandemic and the existing dangers of climate change and natural disasters has transformed the “riskscape” in the smaller islands of the Pacific, as well as in Asia.<sup>6</sup> While the Pacific has made progress over the past 2 decades in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to disaster risk reduction (Goal 1, Goal 9, Goal 11), and to good health and well-being (Goal 3), most countries in the region are still ill-prepared for complex overlapping crises.<sup>7</sup>

The Pacific’s geographical spread coupled with small populations, narrow-based economies, and limited natural resources also make the region more prone to external shocks, which can in turn impact economic growth and increase poverty. To successfully manage the nexus of risks going forward, UNESCAP found that a coherent and systematic approach is needed, alongside inclusive approaches, long-term cooperation between governments, international development partners, and regional organizations.

<sup>2</sup> Roland, Rajah. “Avoiding a Pacific “Lost Decade” – The Role of Infrastructure”. PRIF Week. 11 October 2021, <https://www.theprif.org/prif-week-2021>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>5</sup> Ruhr University Bochum – Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV), World Risk Report 2021, <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/2021-world-risk-report.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *Resilience in a Riskier World: Managing Systemic Risks from Biological and Other Natural Hazards*, 2021 <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/Asia-Pacific%20Disaster%20Report%202021-Full%20report.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

# 2 Major Achievements

## 2.1 WHAT DID PRIF ACHIEVE?

PRIF's 2021 achievements in terms of its key activities to improve infrastructure in the Pacific are outlined below.

### PRIF Partner Coordination

PRIF has achieved high-level partner interest and engagement in its coordination activities, meeting or exceeding its work plan targets, with an increase across most major indicators compared to previous years:

- four PRIF Management Committee (PMC) meetings held;
- 24 Working Group Meetings held during 2021 (up 26% from 2020), with an average of 28 participants per meeting; participation rates are on the rise (up 20% from 2020 and 130% from 2019); and
- five other coordination meetings held (including on issues of insurance and aviation).

A Working Group survey administered in December 2021 found that, of the 62 respondents, almost 80% engaged with Working Groups for a period greater than 6 months and 51% attended more than three meetings. The greatest value of Working Group meetings for survey respondents included information sharing and coordination (rated 4.3/5), exploring and discussing common issues/solutions (rated 3.9 out of 5), and avoiding duplication (rated 3.8/5). Of the respondents, 66% said the donor pipeline process/updates have been useful, with some suggestions for improvement.

Respondents provided examples of applications of PRIF work to strategy development, partner level policy dialogue and project planning, as well as its strengthening of partner collaboration and alliances.

PRIF's role in supporting member country policy and planning was specifically noted.

### Working Group Survey December 2021

According to Working Group members, PRIF's key achievements in 2021 were:

- Providing a coordination mechanism and forum for partners and experts in an environment where people have been unable to engage in person and in the field.
- Progressing the national infrastructure investment plans for Tonga, Palau, Cook Islands, and others.
- Leading TAs to support future planning in the Pacific towards resilient infrastructure.

### Technical Assistance and Knowledge Work

PRIF has continued to contribute to better-informed sustainable infrastructure planning and management in the Pacific with a COVID-19 recovery theme. During the reporting period, PRIF CO has progressed 27 TAs, six of which have been completed, with 19 on track in implementation and/or consultant procurement, and six encountering delays or on hold until regional travel resumes. Examples of TAs either completed or underway are: COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Short-term Strategy Study and 2021 Updating, Improving Procurement

Practice and Local Participation in Pacific Infrastructure Delivery, Scoping Study for a Pacific Regional Recycling Hub, Promotion of the Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts, and Updating of Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators 2021, among others. Four national infrastructure investment plans (NIIPs) were completed in Cook Islands, Palau, Solomon Islands, and Tonga. PRIF's TAs have continued to provide strategic guidance in key policy areas, setting new standards and best practices and introducing new tools and methodologies with regional applications.

Of note has been PRIF's aviation TA activities, which have continued to inform partners, Pacific governments, and the industry on the pathway toward COVID-19 recovery. In a recognition of its contribution, the Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO) invited PRIF as an observer to the senior officials meeting and the Regional Aviation Ministers Meeting (RAMM) preparation process.

Also in 2021, the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021–2030 that was prepared with PRIF support was endorsed by Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) agencies and approved by Pacific leaders.

### **Pacific Forum Leaders endorse FESRIP 2021–2030 on 6 August 2021**

In 2019, PRIF made a commitment to collaborate with the Pacific Community (SPC) and fund the review of the Framework Agreement on Energy Security in the Pacific (FAESP) 2010–2020 and the development of FESRIP 2021–2030. Lessons learned from the review of FAESP guided the development of FESRIP to be more inclusive, consultative, and participatory in bringing together Pacific governments, CROP agencies, PRIF donor partners, development partners, private sector organizations, academia, and other key stakeholders to collectively address energy challenges and opportunities in the Pacific in the next decade. On 5 August 2021, the Pacific Forum Leaders formally endorsed FESRIP 2021–2030 and supported continued partnership toward implementation of the Framework.

## **Communications and Outreach**

In 2021, there was a growing recognition of PRIF's contribution and value, with a 10-fold increase on social media outreach (LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter) in comparison with 2020. There are now over 200 partner representatives registered and active on the PRIF restricted site. The inaugural PRIF Week with a theme of infrastructure and COVID-19 recovery was a well-attended, highly successful event. PRIF has also continued its strong engagement and cooperation with regional agencies including the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP), PASO, Pacific Water & Wastewater Association (PWWA), the Pacific Power Association (PPA), the Association of South Pacific Airlines (ASPA) and others.

### **PRIF Week 11–15 October 2021**

The inaugural PRIF Week: Pacific Infrastructure and COVID-19 Recovery Perspective Conference was held between 11–15 October 2021 with 443 participants from Pacific governments, regional organizations, the private sector, and development partners. PRIF Week consisted of 2-hour virtual sessions over 5 days and explored infrastructure planning, local participation, connectivity, infrastructure services and improving sustainability and resilience within a COVID-19 recovery theme. A workshop on Floating Solar and Other Productive Uses of Electricity Opportunities in the Pacific, was also held as a side event. The presentations and videos of the event can be downloaded from the PRIF website, <https://www.theprif.org/prif-week-2021>.

A PRIF Week Debrief survey captured feedback across a range of outcome areas. Out of the 57 respondents, 93% rated PRIF Week good and above, and, for 98%, PRIF Week met or exceeded their expectations. The highest-rated conference days were Day 5: Infrastructure and improving sustainability and resilience (32%), Day 2: Increasing local participation in infrastructure development (20%), and Day 4: Infrastructure services – impacts of COVID-19 and initiatives for recovery (16%). The greatest value-add for PRIF Week was providing perspectives on latest infrastructure developments in the Pacific (47%) and perspectives and developments on COVID-19 recovery (46%). 89% of survey respondents would recommend PRIF Week to others.

Overall, PRIF remains on track against all key indicators outlined in its Design and Monitoring Framework established for the 4-year Phase IV (see Annex 1), with 39 out of 42 indicators either completed or on track to be completed and three delayed.

## 2.2 WHAT DID PRIF LEARN?

### Responsiveness and Flexibility

A feature of PRIF's design is its ability to identify and respond to emerging needs. This responsiveness has been particularly valuable in the past 2 years as partners and member countries sought to address the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. In the aviation sector, for example, PRIF was able to quickly reach a consensus of partners to undertake a short-term COVID-19 recovery strategy study to inform and coordinate partner assistance to address the priority needs of the Pacific aviation sector. In addition, PRIF, responding to the interests of development partners and member countries, launched a study on enhancing local participation in infrastructure to support COVID-19 economic recovery. PRIF's latest review of the Pacific insurance landscape addresses risk management for partners, member countries, and infrastructure contractors. PRIF, through the preparatory work and the regional recycling network study, has built on data from Pacific-wide waste audits that have brought together several partners working toward the same goal.

### Cost-Effectiveness

PRIF has proven to be cost-effective in delivering its key activities. Virtual PMC and working group meetings have delivered cost savings in terms of travel and time for both PRIF CO and partners. In addition, PRIF TA, which typically uses small individual consultant teams, has, relative to the size of comparable partner TA, been cost-effective.

### Capacity Development Approaches

In 2021, PRIF enhanced its focus on integrating capacity development approaches within its activities to ensure target audiences are aware of its products, understand their value, and consider using them in their own work. Capacity development approaches, including individual, institutional, and systemic ones, are considered within all TA work and for the development of NIIPs. This means PRIF consultants are required to work closely with country counterparts to ensure the process is locally driven and owned from the outset. An enhanced use of local consultants has also been beneficial and become part of PRIF's operating model, noting capacity constraints and limited pools in country can at times pose challenges and cause delays.

While operating within COVID-19 constraints, PRIF's other TA work has similarly ensured ongoing engagement and consultation with member countries and regional organizations in the development and

### **Regional partnership for a regional recycling network solution**

In 2017, PRIF and SPREP commenced joint work to assess the potential for a regional recycling network and the feasibility of establishing a sustainable resource circulation system. This followed an initial PRIF study which found that, of the approximately 4.7 million tons of 15 recyclable materials imported annually into the Pacific, only 1 million tons were exported each year.

In collaboration with PICs, SPREP, PacWastePlus, the Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries, Global Environment Facility and UN Environment Program, PRIF in 2018, developed a Standard Methodology for Waste Audits, which was intended to be rolled out systematically and comprehensively to validate the findings. The methodology was tested in Tuvalu in 2019 and covered audits of household curbside waste, commercial premises, landfills, assessment of the current collection systems, and assessment of current infrastructure.

Between 2019 and 2021, PRIF and partner agencies worked closely together to apply its standard methodology to conduct waste audits in 15 PICs (including all PRIF's 14 countries and Timor-Leste). Regular meetings were conducted to ensure synergies were maintained, particularly during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

By the end of 2021, waste data became available for all 15 countries with the reports being reviewed and shared by PRIF and partner agencies. The raw data have been imported into the Pacific Regional Inform Database, which is managed by SPREP and is available to all countries.

With waste generation and stockpile materials data now available and validated, PRIF and partner agencies are working together to analyze the data and to scope a regional recycling network for the Pacific region. In November 2021, PRIF initiated a study to identify options and produce a pre-feasibility assessment of a recycling network, which is expected to include local processing centers and trans-shipment and recycling facilities and to cater for all or some recycling materials in one or more Pacific region locations. The pre-feasibility study is due in October 2022.

dissemination of its products. New TAs in 2021 have started to incorporate best practices, presenting back findings to member countries, regional organizations, and all other contributors. This provides an opportunity to engage with member countries and regional stakeholders and gain further insight into study conclusions, practice, and dissemination. PRIF has increased the use of webinars outside of presentations made at Working Groups and during PRIF Week and will continue to do so in 2022.

PRIF has sought to partner with regional organizations who can leverage its efforts and expand capacity development approaches across the Pacific and into the future. PRIF is currently collaborating with the PPA to support a regional approach to training in the energy sector, which would assist in the coordination of existing training initiatives and develop a regional workforce. While a long-term funding option for a regional training center is being sought, PRIF is currently recruiting a regional energy training coordinator to consolidate capacity training approaches by various donors and development partners and prepare a cohesive program when activities in the region normalizes. PRIF is considering the merits of expanding this model to other sectors in 2022 and 2023.

## Pacific Engagement

PRIF recognizes that virtual communication following COVID-19 has become a mainstay of its engagement modalities and one that offers a range of advantages, including broader opportunities to participate by a larger number of stakeholders. PRIF's Working Group meetings and PRIF Week are two examples of how this has worked well in 2021. Working Group attendance is 20% up from 2020 and 130% up on 2019 and 38% of the PRIF Week survey respondents favored the continued use of an online format, whereas only 16% wanted a return to face-to-face as soon as practical. PRIF has made more

concerted efforts to engage member countries and regional organizations throughout all its activities. The use of local consultants whenever feasible and having two PRIF CO staff in the region has enabled it to maintain a presence in country and play a more active role in coordination than is possible when implementing remotely. PRIF has also deepened its relationship with regional organizations and expects to continue to do so for the remainder of Phase IV. PRIF CO also continued to reach out to CROP agencies on regional events planned for 2021 to inform and update the PRIF regional calendar of events.

The PRIF communication and outreach strategy promotes effective engagement with regional stakeholders and has been adjusted to respond to the aftermath of the pandemic, including a proactive and coordinated effort to engage and work with selected regional agencies on PRIF TA benefiting more than one country and providing a regional solution. For example, PRIF partnered with SPC for the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific 2021–2030. PRIF also partnered with the SPC and several other regional agencies, including SPREP, PPA, and PWWA, for the second updating of the Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators 2021. PRIF worked closely with SPREP on the development of Shared Approach for the Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for Pacific Island Countries and country waste audits. The Regional Study for Water Sector Training Centre in the Pacific was carried out in close consultation with SPC, USP and the PWWA.

In some cases, engagement with regional organizations in PRIF's TA work has amplified its impact. For example, following completion of the Waste Audit Methodology by PRIF in 2019, PRIF and its partners, SPREP, PacWastePlus, World Bank, UN Environment Program (UNEP) and the Global Environment Facility, agreed to coordinate efforts to complete waste audits in 15 Pacific countries including all PRIF's 14 countries. The data from the audits have been uploaded to the regional information database held by SPREP and are informing the PRIF Scoping Study for a Regional Recycling Hub.

## Publication Workflow and Dissemination Strategies

2021 was also a busy year for publications, with a total of nine knowledge and flagship products published in the reporting period. PRIF is currently reviewing its workflow to streamline processes and ensure a heightened focus on targeted dissemination strategies that maximize exposure and awareness of PRIF products among regional organizations and member countries.

### Engagement with Pacific Region Organizations

Pacific region organizations play an important role in developing collaborative regional and responses to critical issues and serve as an important mechanism to convene regional meetings of their diverse member countries. PRIF values its engagement with regional agencies and in 2021 built on previous efforts to expand its outreach and collaboration work. Significant partnerships in 2021 include SPC, SPREP, PASO, University of the South Pacific (USP), PPA, and PWWA.

## Cross-Cutting Issues

Crosscutting issues are a key concern of development partners and in 2021 PRIF has continued important work under the Environmental and Social Working Group, with major publications including the Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for Pacific Island Countries, the Study on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Infrastructure Across the Pacific and the Guidance for Managing Sea Level Infrastructure Risk in the Pacific Island Countries. In 2022, PRIF will roll out its communication strategy and capacity development for the Shared Approach to increase awareness of its benefits and promote its application. This will be complemented with off-spring TA projects on climate change-induced sea level rise and gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) to advance PRIF guidance to Pacific Island Countries.

PRIF recognizes that cross-cutting themes can be better integrated across all sectors and Working Groups and will seek to identify opportunities to do so during the remainder of Phase IV. The independent mid-term review terms of reference have included cross-cutting themes as an area of interest. It is hoped the report, expected to be finalized in July 2022, will provide further insights and some clear recommendations for broadening the approach to cross-cutting themes during Phase IV and beyond.

## 2.3 EARLY SIGNS OF IMPACT

While PRIF is scheduled to finalize its monitoring, evaluation & learning (MEL) framework in mid-2022, it has already been able to document some early signs of impact that demonstrate PRIF's effectiveness.

### PRIF's coordination and information-sharing function enhances partner effectiveness

Attendance and engagement statistics for Working Group members in 2021, alongside feedback collected from the inaugural Working Group survey in December indicate that PRIF's coordination and information sharing role is both valued and useful to partners. This is particularly so in a COVID-19 recovery context, where the provision of a coordination mechanism and forum for partners and experts in an environment where regional travel has been limited was recognized as a key achievement. Through project pipeline updates and coordination meetings, as well as engagement with partners in developing new TAs, PRIF has identified early instances of duplication of efforts by development partners, such as the energy efficiency project in Nauru, the Manu Folau ferry replacement in Tuvalu, and the revision to the Building Codes in Fiji, and supported the respective governments in coordinating this work. PRIF's current coordination role in the regional aviation recovery strategy, led by RAMM and with support from PASO, is also an area of interest with potential significant impact on partner support and the roll out of a regional approach and solutions for the Pacific aviation sector.

### Efficiency gains through regional approaches and harmonized systems and processes

The development of a regional approach to Pacific needs and solutions, both among partners and member countries, has been an area of focus for PRIF during Phase IV. A good example of this is PRIF's current efforts on operationalizing a regional approach to training and capacity development in the energy sector, with the aim of ensuring that partner funding is effective, delivering coordinated and integrated training programs. PRIF is working closely with PPA, PWWA, and other regional bodies in identifying an appropriate regional solution.

### **PASO/PRIF Joint Communique on Regional Aviation Development Partnership**

Following active engagement during 2021, PASO and PRIF CO signed a joint communique virtually on 21 January 2022 to formally strengthen their regional collaboration and coordination including addressing the serious impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the aviation industry and economies of most PICs.

“The Joint communique is an expression of our commitment to work together so that the Regional Aviation Ministers Meeting (RAMM) deliverables are implemented. Our new partnership will address all aviation sectors, such as commercial, regulatory and operations for the progress of aviation in the region,” said Mr Andrew Valentine, PASO’s General Manager.

Both parties acknowledged the supporting role of PRIF to PASO in helping implement the RAMM outcomes, understanding that PRIF is contributing to the aviation sector through a development partner and commercially focused lens by addressing its respective stakeholders concerns over the commercial opportunities and viability of aviation in the Pacific region and regional project implementation. A key focus of the new collaboration is producing the PRIF-commissioned study on COVID-19’s impact and recovery assessment for aviation in the Pacific. This will address the concern Ministers raised at the 2021 RAMM over the impacts of COVID-19 on aviation sector. PRIF is also continuing post-COVID-19 aviation support covering support for ASPA airline collaboration, optimal airline fleet analysis and consideration of a regional project implementation hub and trial.

PRIF also assists in identifying opportunities to support both partners and member countries with the development of harmonized systems and processes that improve efficiency and decrease transaction costs. For example, the Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for Pacific Island Countries was finally agreed in 2021 after extensive engagement among partners through PRIF’s environmental and social Working Group. While development partners each have their own safeguard policies, there is now an agreed, harmonized approach for addressing safeguard issues in the Pacific context for the benefits of member countries.

### **Evidence that PRIF TA is leading to better infrastructure outcomes**

The PRIF Comprehensive National Infrastructure Planning Program approved in 2020 remains a flagship initiative and one which ensures strong engagement with member countries in the development and prioritization of national infrastructure plans. What matters for PRIF is the extent to which the planning and prioritization process is enabling member countries and partners to target and coordinate appropriate investments required to build an inclusive and economically sustainable future. Equally critical is the issue of local capacity and any improvements that PRIF may contribute to through its engagement and execution of TA. This approach has been applied in undertaking NIIPs in Cook Islands, Palau, Solomon Islands, and Tonga in 2021. As an example, the 2021 Cook Islands NIIP, requested and led by the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC), included a mid-term review of the 2015 NIIP, as well as an update to guide the prioritization of infrastructure investments for the next 10 years, including reprioritization and sequencing of remaining priority projects and new projects being considered by the government. The mid-term review found that nearly 80% of the 43 priority infrastructure projects in the 2015 NIIP had either been completed or were underway. This is a strong indicator that the Cook Islands NIIP had strong ownership and buy in from the government and was utilized to support planning and implementation of national infrastructure priorities. Please refer to Annex 4: Country Factsheets for detailed reporting on PRIF activities at the member country level.

## Launching of Cook Islands NIIP 2021–2030 on 12 August 2021

“The NIIP is a key plan that falls under our national vision...to enjoy the highest quality of life consistent with the aspirations of our people, and in harmony with our culture and environment. As this mission statement recognizes, investing in our country’s infrastructure is akin to investing in our people – they are one and the same,” said Hon. Mark Brown, the Prime Minister of Cook Islands at the launching of CI NIIP 2021–2030 on 12 August 2021 in Rarotonga.



In 2021, the government, through the CIIC, requested PRIF assistance in updating their first NIIP initially developed in 2015. The 2021 update found that almost 80% of the 43 priority infrastructure projects identified in 2015 have been fully completed or are nearing completion, including landmark projects like Te Mato Vai and the Manatua Cable, as well as maintaining and developing key civil infrastructure. The new NIIP 2021–2030 focused on a variety of strategic investments across 12 sectors over the next 10 years. The new NIIP identified 136 candidate infrastructure projects, with a combined total budget in excess of \$685 million, grouped into 36 infrastructure programs, based on commonalities of sector, geographic location, and similarities in design. As a government reference document, it is a living and evolving plan that will be monitored, reviewed, and updated as required, adapting to the changing needs of the nation over time. The Cook Islands now has the capacity to update and manage their infrastructure planning themselves.

Another example is a PRIF sanitation study. Access to basic sanitation and hygiene in the Pacific's outer islands is an important issue. With the aim to improve public health and hygiene in the Pacific, PRIF investigated the feasibility, risks, and opportunities of on-site technological options in peri-urban and remote locations. With Vanuatu and RMI as the study areas, the study was completed in September 2019. PRIF recently sought clearance and endorsement from the respective governments to publish the report for public dissemination. PRIF CO presented the report to the RMI Cabinet chaired by the President David Kabua. The study recommended that RMI establish a sanitation and hygiene taskforce led by the chief secretary's office and develop: (i) a national sanitation and hygiene strategy; (ii) sanitation and hygiene guidelines; and (iii) pilot an Island-wide sanitation program that will include the development of low-cost local toilet solutions including appropriate septic tanks that properly treat waste and improve effluent quality. The meeting concluded that this was of crucial importance for the country and requested PRIF to identify partners to support RMI with the development and implementation of a national strategy. Discussions are ongoing regarding a pilot for an island-wide sanitation program that will include the development of low-cost local toilet solutions including appropriate septic tanks that properly treat waste and improve effluent quality.

### Enhanced brand recognition and creation of a knowledge hub

2021 saw a significant raising of its profile of PRIF as a "go to" resource for technical expertise in the planning, prioritization, coordination, and management of infrastructure in the Pacific. Investment in the website members area, an increased social media presence, deeper engagement, and relationships with regional organizations and the inaugural PRIF Week have led to significant improvements in PRIF's website access statistics and social media reach. The publication of nine high quality knowledge products, far exceeding the design and monitoring framework requirement of a minimum three per annum, was largely done in partnership with regional organizations. This focus on partnership and co-development recognizes that sustainability of PRIF's work is largely dependent upon recognition and validation of the work by regional organizations and member country governments. PRIF's new observer status at the RAMM is an example of its enhanced profile in the aviation sector.



# 3 Phase IV Activities Report

## 3.1 WORKPLAN PRIORITIES FOR 2021

The PMC in early March 2021 approved the 2021 PRIF CO Workplan. In order to improve the quality and coverage of infrastructure in the Pacific, PRIF CO's Workplan focused on the following areas:

### 1. Pursue a COVID-19 Recovery Theme

Implement 2021 partner coordination and TA operations with a theme of supporting post-COVID-19 economic recovery in member countries with consideration for resilience and climate change.

### 2. Enhance Coordination Activities

Enhance partner coordination activities through PMC and PRIF working group meetings on post-COVID-19 recovery, important infrastructure planning and management issues, cutting-edge approaches and coordination of partner assistance programs.

### 3. Ramp up TA Activity

Strive to increase TA activities to support infrastructure planning and management and address specific issues: (i) continue the implementation of the comprehensive program on infrastructure planning, aiming to complete national plans for 75% of PRIF member countries in 2021; (ii) continue engagement in the aviation sector; and (iii) undertake TA that includes health and COVID-19-related infrastructure, capacity building and skills development, encouraging local opportunities and jobs, resilience and climate change and private sector participation.

### 4. Promote PRIF and Its Work

Continue to implement the approved Communications and Outreach Strategy to promote PRIF and partner infrastructure activities in the Pacific. Continue to maintain the PRIF website and document repository and maximize use of social media platforms and knowledge products; as well as outreach activities to regional organizations and other stakeholders to cooperate with and complement their activities. PRIF CO will also promote more widely its planning and management services to member countries.

### 5. Ensure Sound Administration and Management

Augment PRIF staff capacity with the engagement of the Fiji Technical Assistance Officer and prepare individual staff workplans based on the PRIF CO 2021 work plan. PRIF CO will make concerted efforts to ramp up activities to achieve at least \$3 million of disbursement to utilize the Phase IV budget efficiently and effectively.

PRIF CO has largely implemented its 2021 Workplan. Full details of PRIF activities are summarized below.

## 3.2 PRIF PARTNER COORDINATION

### 3.2.1 PRIF Management Committee

The PRIF Management Committee (PMC) comprises senior officials of partner agencies and provides strategic oversight of PRIF activities. PMC meetings provide a venue for high-level partner coordination and have a dedicated session for updates of each agency's program activities in the Pacific. The PMC virtually met four times in 2021 chaired by Ms. Fei Deng of the World Bank and the highlights are outlined below:

**PMC 4 March 2021** (33 participants) – PRIF CO summarized 2020 activities and presented its 2020 Annual Report. The PMC approved the PRIF CO 2021 Workplan with a theme, “Infrastructure and COVID-19 Recovery”. PRIF supported the Tuvalu NIIP 2020–2025 with the participation of partner desk officers.

**PMC 3 June 2021** (21 participants) – Approved three regional TA projects amounting to \$860,000. PRIF CO presented a review of the PRIF-supported NIIP work in Palau, Tonga, and the Cook Islands contrasting the different approaches and experience in each country.

**PMC 2 September 2021** (26 participants) – PRIF CO presented a mid-term review of Phase IV implementation covering progress against TA objectives, operations, and budget realization. The PMC approved three TA projects amounting to \$950,000. PRIF CO launched the Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators 2021; presented the preliminary findings of the PRIF-supported TA on GESI in infrastructure in the Pacific; and encouraged partners' support and participation to the PRIF Week Program.

**PMC 9 December 2021** (31 participants) – PRIF CO presented its achievements in 2021 and its monitoring and evaluation (M&E) specialist presented plans for an independent mid-term review (MTR) in the first quarter of 2022, initial M&E-related activities, and insights to the key result areas. Each of the seven PRIF working group chairs reported on their group's 2021 activities and presented their 2022 plans. The PMC approved two TA projects amounting to \$280,000. The US agreed to chair the PMC for 2022.

### 3.2.2 Sector and Thematic Working Groups

Working groups are central to PRIF's mandate, as they provide the main platform for partner coordination and drive its TA activities. There are seven working groups: energy, transport, information, and communications (ICT), water and sanitation, urban development, environment, and social, sustainable infrastructure management (SIM). They comprise project officers and specialists from PRIF partner agencies working in the Pacific. They identify and advocate for sector priority initiatives and TA projects to be incorporated in PRIF's workplan; enhance donor coordination through knowledge and project pipeline sharing; and provide sector expert guidance and advice to PRIF CO in the implementation of its activities.

A survey among members on their perception of working groups was conducted in December 2021. Out of a total of 59 survey respondents, energy and transport working group provided the highest response at 21% each, followed by urban development 19% and environment and social 15%. 71% of the respondents had engaged with working groups over 6 months and 51% had attended more than three meetings in the past year. Key highlights from the survey results are listed below:

- i) the greatest value of working groups includes information sharing and coordination (rated 4.3 out of 5), exploring and discussing common issues and solutions (rated 3.9 out of 5), and avoiding duplication (3.8 out of 5);

- ii) key working group achievements in 2021 are providing a coordination mechanism and forum for partners and experts, who are not able to engage in person and in the field; progressing the NIIPs for Tonga, Palau, Cook Islands, and others; and leading TAs supporting future planning towards resilient infrastructure;
- iii) 69% see value in increasing engagement with member countries at the working group level;
- iv) 66% said the donor pipeline process and meeting updates are useful; and
- v) 82% felt that the current terms of reference of working groups are accurate and reflective of their work.

Due to COVID-19, all 24 working group meetings in 2021 were held virtually, with an average attendance of 28 people per meeting. Each working group meeting typically featured a presentation from PRIF or partners, discussion on PRIF TA activities including on the COVID-19 environment and activities that will assist and/or lead to recovery, and a round of reporting on each agency's activities and project pipelines. The virtual format and having a common theme attracted great interest and wide participation by partner representatives in working group meetings.

**Summaries of working group activities are presented below.**



## ENERGY WORKING GROUP

The working group met four times in 2021: 2 March, 20 July, 18 November, and 15 December, all chaired by Mr. Mitsunori Motohashi of the World Bank, with an average of 25 attendees per meeting.

The 2 March meeting discussed petroleum fuel supply in the Pacific including future demand and trends up to 2030 and areas where support is needed; the NZ-MFAT announced New Zealand's Pacific Infrastructure Technical Assistance Fund, a rolling fund of NZ\$1–2 million/year for 4 years for preparatory services (e.g., site investigations, concept design, surveys, training, community consultations, legal and commercial advice) to high-priority projects for PICs; and potential TA topics and group activities for 2021.

At the 20 July meeting, the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE), presented its *Regional Electric-Mobility Policy and Program in the Pacific*; PRIF CO presented the inception report of the TA on *Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential* to obtain concurrence of the survey and collection of primary data on energy use by residential consumers in PICs and access to finance; the World Bank presented its preliminary investigation on fossil fuel subsidies in the Pacific and solicited support if it should be pursued further through a PRIF TA; and members shared updates to their project pipelines. The PRIF CO concept note for a *Regional Energy Training Coordinator* to update the training needs assessment carried out by PPA in 2017 was submitted for group endorsement out-of-session.

In the 18 November meeting, Ernst & Young presented its *Accounting Guidance to Power Purchase Agreements and Carbon Capture and Storage*, and the World Bank on *Resilience of Power Systems to Climate Change in the Pacific*. The meeting also reviewed and endorsed three PRIF CO TA proposals: (i) Stock take on fossil fuel subsidies in the Pacific, (ii) Pacific Electric Vehicle Regional Standards (in collaboration with PCREEE), and (iii) Regional Energy Training Coordinator; followed by development partners' sharing of their energy pipelines.

The 15 December meeting was solely for the presentation of the draft final report of the PRIF *Pacific Clean Energy Financing* TA, to gather feedback from the meeting on the preparation of the final report. Proposed discussion topics for the next meeting were: (i) updates on post-disaster mutual assistance for power utilities in the Pacific; (ii) facilitating co-financing opportunities; and (iii) enhancing private sector participation in the energy sector.



## TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

The transport sector working group (SWG) met five times in 2021: 28 January, 13 April, 15 June, 17 August, and 23 November, all chaired by Mr. David Weinstein of NZ-MFAT, with an average of 31 attendees per meeting.

The 28 January meeting had ASPA providing the status of Pacific airlines since COVID-19 and scenarios and actionable initiatives with adequate government support, including the potential for collaboration among airlines, negotiation for new air service agreements, and creating world-class facilities and staff training. PRIF CO informed the group of intentions to commence two TAs that were on hold in 2020: (i) updating the guidance for coastal protection works in the Pacific and provision of online training, and (ii) responsible sourcing of aggregates in the Pacific.

The 13 April 2021 meeting focused on the aviation and maritime sub-sectors, commencing with an introduction to PASO, i.e., current operational and financial status, challenges and issues faced since the onset of the pandemic, and its programs and plans to assist in the recovery of the Pacific aviation sector. This was followed by a DFAT presentation of the Australian Government's *Program on Sustainable Pacific Air Connectivity*, part of its AU\$305 million Pacific COVID-19 response package; and the World Bank's proposed *Pacific Airport Equipment Maintenance Program*. NZ-MFAT provided an overview of New Zealand's maritime responses during COVID-19, including supply chain assessment, fuel usage, and Pacific maritime freight protocols document in collaboration with New Zealand's Ministry of Health. The World Association for Waterborne Infrastructure of the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses (PIANC) presented its proposed new guideline for small ports specific to the needs and challenges of small island countries, with the view of seeking PRIF collaboration for better Pacific engagement.

The 15 June meeting had the World Bank present its Solomon Airlines Strategic Options Analysis; and the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand (NZ-CAA) present the value of meteorological observations to aviation and maritime transport across the Pacific and the investment required to repair, maintain, and/or upgrade the meteorological equipment in the region. PRIF CO presented the TA on *Post-COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Support Program* and the concept note on *Responsible Sourcing of Aggregates in the Pacific*, for discussion.

At the 17 August meeting, DFAT and NZ-MFAT co-presented the highlights, next steps, and their reflections on the outcome of the recently held RAMM; the World Bank gave the still-relevant recommendations of the 2011 *Review of PASO* and related agreed actions in the RAMM; and the group endorsed three PRIF CO TA projects: (i) the *Post-COVID19 Pacific Aviation Support Program* anchored on the RAMM outcomes; (ii) the *Updating of the Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study*; and (iii) *Infrastructure Risk Management and Insurance in the Pacific*. NZ-MFAT through its Pacific Infrastructure Technical Assistance Fund (PITAF), is preparing the concept note for the *Feasibility Study on Pacific Meteorology – Implications to Aviation and Maritime Transport* presented by NZ-CAA during the 13 April 2021 meeting, and will share with the group for comments.

At the 23 November meeting, NZ-MFAT presented its transport roadmap planning tool under the *Navigating Island Futures in Transport Project* and the World Bank and University of New South Wales, the *Pacific Blue*

*Shipping Partnership on Decarbonising Maritime Transport in the Pacific.* The Chair provided an update on the recently held Pacific Aviation Officials' Meeting, followed by PRIF CO's status update on the various aviation projects under implementation.

The transport working group has also organized three Pacific aviation coordination meetings on PRIF partner activities and engagements with RAMM, PASO, and ASPA; and two dialogues with various stakeholders (contractors and the insurance industry) on insurance issues in the Pacific. The working group also agreed to expand its transport sector theme per meeting to maritime, land, aviation, and multi-modal; look into ways of decarbonizing the transport sector in the Pacific; and coordinate maritime initiatives in the region.



## WATER & SANITATION WORKING GROUP

The working group met three times in 2021: 18 March, 28 July, and 10 November, the first two of which were chaired by Mr. Stephane Dahan of the World Bank and the third one by Ms. Celina Smith of DFAT, with an average of 23 attendees per meeting.

At the 18 March meeting, PRIF CO presented and gathered feedback to the draft final report of its *Scoping Study – A Regional Approach to Water and Sanitation Training in the Pacific* and the Independent Evaluation Unit of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) presented its report on Relevance and Effectiveness of the GCF's Investments in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The 28 July meeting had ADB present its Pacific WASH webinar series in partnership with PWWA utilities, which has seen positive behavioral change in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices and increasing country participation; PRIF CO present the inception report of the *Diagnostic Study of PWWA Water Utilities*; and partners shared updates on WatSan activities and pipeline projects.

At the 10 November meeting, NZ-MFAT presented its new project with the SPC on *Building Regional Awareness and Cooperation on Water Security (BRAC)* and informed the group on the re-establishment of a Technical Working Group for Water Security under the Pacific Resilience Partnership Taskforce. The SPC presented the El Niño–Southern Oscillation Update and its implications to the Pacific region including related regionally funded projects. For its next meeting, the group agreed to discuss ADB's *City Wide Inclusive Sanitation Project*; the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene update on *WASH in Schools and Healthcare Facility* datasets for the Pacific; and new strategic directions for optimizing the value-add of the working group.



## INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY (ICT) WORKING GROUP

The working group met twice in 2021: 3 March and 24 August, both chaired by Ms. Natasha Beschoner of the World Bank and an average of 30 attendees per meeting.

At the 3 March meeting, the World Bank presented the *Pacific Digital Government Report* prior to its tabling at the Forum Economic Ministers' Meeting of July 2021 while United States Agency for International Development requested group feedback to its concept note on *Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership (DCCP) – Pacific Activity*, aimed at providing TA and grants worth \$20 million over 5 years to advance regional connectivity and economic integration in the Pacific region.

The 24 August meeting had cybersecurity as the main theme and introduced the group to the work of the following agencies in the sub-sector: (i) International Telecommunications Union (ITU) on cybersecurity in the Pacific, including ongoing challenges/threats, level of country readiness, and a proposed PIC roadmap; (ii) the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization on its new strategic direction for a meaningful impact to its member countries; (iii) the Global Foundation for Cyber Expertise on its Pacific presence and how to align their efforts to the Pacific cyber community; and (iv) the Pacific Cybersecurity Operational Network on its strategies and activities to strengthen cybersecurity effort in the Pacific, including the Cybersafety Pasifika Program of the Pacific Island Chief of Police and the Pacific Island Legal Officers Network cybercrime capacity-building activities. Members also shared their ICT pipeline projects and requested a progress report from the World Bank's Pacific Digital Government project for the next meeting.

The working group hopes to map the cybersecurity activities of development partners and other sector players, look at new strategic directions on changing technology and digital requirements, and identify three TA priorities in 2022.



## URBAN WORKING GROUP

The working group met four times in 2021: 27 April, 16 June, 10 August, and 25 November, all chaired by Ms. Jingmin Huang of ADB, with an average of 38 attendees per meeting.

The 27 April meeting discussed and approved the PRIF concept note for the *Scoping Study of the Pacific Recycling Network*.

The 16 June meeting focused on solid waste management and incineration with the World Bank presenting the findings and recommendations of the *Solid Waste Management in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Project* – the Maldives and Seychelles; ADB presenting the results of its *Greater Male (Maldives) Environmental Improvement and Waste Management and Greater Male Waste to Energy Project*; and PacWastePlus presenting the concept brief for a *Pacific Regional Incinerator Backstopping Effort for Healthcare Waste Management Incineration*, for possible PRIF development partners' co-funding.

The working group meeting of 10 August endorsed the PRIF CO concept note on Improving National Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific for the PMC meeting. PRIF CO updated on the waste audits in the region—three finalized (Cook Islands, Palau, and Tuvalu), six under review (Fiji - Suva, Labasa and Ba, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, PNG, and Samoa), and the rest on track for completion by the end of October 2021. PRIF CO also shared a list of high-priority projects from the recently completed NIIPs—Cook Islands, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu.

The 25 November meeting was conducted within the Third Clean Pacific Roundtable Conference organized by SPREP and with the participation of PICs governments, recycling associations, among other stakeholders. PRIF CO presented the inception report of the *Regional Recycling Hub Study*, including a summary of the status and findings of the various country waste audits, to solicit feedback and guidance from the meeting.



## ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL WORKING GROUP

The Environment and Social working group met three times in 2021: 30 March, 16 July, and 3 November with an average of 21 attendees per meeting. Meeting chairs were Ms. Jean Williams of ADB and Mr. Philip Martin of DFAT.

Mr. Roger Guinery of PRIF CO chaired the meeting of 30 March, which endorsed the *Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for the Pacific Island Countries* for publication, promotion and roll-out; and partners shared existing and planned environment and social policies and projects in the region.

Ms. Jean Williams of ADB chaired the 16 July meeting, where partners shared their gender, environment, climate change, and disaster risk management activities and projects; PRIF CO informed members on the progress of TA consultants' procurement for the *Promotion of the Shared Approach*; and introduced Mr. Philip Martin of the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific, DFAT as the chair for the next 12 months.

The 3 November meeting, chaired by Mr. Philip Martin, had ADB present the regional strategy of its regional TA on *Sustainable Capacity Development for Safeguards in the Pacific – Phase 1* and PRIF CO present the draft final report of the *Guidance on Managing Sea Level Rise Infrastructure Risk in Pacific Island Countries*, both for group comments/feedback.



## SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

The working group met three times during the year: 7 April, 17 June, and 4 November with an average of 23 attendees per meeting. Mr. Matthew Harding of the Australian DFAT chaired the first and third meetings and Mr. Jeff Whitty of NZ-MFAT chaired the second meeting.

At the 7 April meeting, PRIF CO updated the group on the implementation of the Comprehensive National Infrastructure Investment Planning and Management Program, presented the priority projects for each country a NIIP has been prepared (Cook Islands, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu), and showed the application of the multicriteria analysis in the prioritization process; presented the inception report on benchmarking infrastructure maintenance across PICs. Members also shared key activities on sustainable infrastructure management including on asset management and systems planning approaches, vulnerability assessments, resilience strategies, and public financial management.

The 17 June meeting had PRIF CO present the infrastructure maintenance maturity assessment indicators and financial performance measures to be used against 14 governments and seven sectors in PICs under the Infrastructure Maintenance Benchmarking TA; and an update on the NIIP Program in the Cook Islands, Palau, and Tonga, contrasting approaches, experience, and best practices for future PRIF infrastructure planning.

The 4 November meeting had PRIF CO present the final report of the *Infrastructure Maintenance Benchmarking in Pacific Island Countries*, which contained case studies and good practices in development partner and government projects and reinforced the importance of development partners' investment in maintenance to break the *neglect and rebuild paradigm* in PICs. Topics for next meeting include PRIF CO presentation on the findings and recommendations of the *Local Participation in Procurement TA*; plans and ways to progress the NIIP program in Fiji, Samoa, Kiribati, and Vanuatu; and the preparation of a knowledge product on best practice approaches to NIIP in the Pacific.

## 3.3 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND KNOWLEDGE WORK

PRIF TA and knowledge work is driven by demands from partners, member countries, and regional organizations. TA requests from these stakeholder groups are prioritized, developed, endorsed by the relevant working group, and approved by the PMC. PRIF CO prepares the concept note, administers the funding, procurement, and implementation of the assistance in close consultation with the responsible sector or thematic working groups. The criteria for consideration of a TA proposal are as follows:

1. Consistent with PMC-approved PRIF TA main operations areas and key strategic areas;
2. Will benefit the work of several PRIF partners and/or will benefit several PRIF member countries. Country TA may be justified if the results would be of interest and shared with other countries; and
3. Consistent with national development strategies, NIIPs and of expressed interest by the relevant country/countries.

### 3.3.1 Infrastructure Planning and Management Technical Assistance

In June 2020, the PMC approved a \$2.9 million comprehensive program to improve national infrastructure planning and management in 13 member countries under PRIF. The program is designed to be central to PRIF's coordination role and to better link it with member countries, including providing them with a good level of capacity in infrastructure planning. Work commenced in 2020 in five countries, with two projects completed in the same year and NIIPs for Cook Islands (launched in August), Palau (launched in November) Tonga (endorsed by Cabinet in August) and Solomon Islands completed in 2021. The preparation of NIIPs for Niue and Kiribati were also approved in 2021 (see Annex 2 for brief description of activities). Discussions were held with officials in Fiji, Vanuatu, and Samoa and these countries are expected to receive assistance in 2022.

The COVID-19 travel restrictions have had an impact in the NIIP program. Activities were undertaken by government staff and national consultants, with virtual oversight by international consultants and PRIF CO staff. This necessitated additional time and effort to deliver NIIPs—on average, a NIIP now requires about 7 months. Despite the delays, there has been a stronger commitment and engagement by governments, which has improved understanding of infrastructure planning processes and strengthened local capacity. Overall, the initial ambition of the NIIP program to have all countries strengthened up to a Type 3 level (full competency undertaking an NIIP) will be difficult to achieve in the remaining 2 years of Phase IV. The realistic outcome and present objective of the program during Phase IV is to have engaged with each member country with infrastructure planning assistance at least once and to have a current NIIP.

On 15 April 2021, PRIF CO held a national infrastructure investment planning webinar to promote its national infrastructure planning services to PRIF member countries. Participants came from several Pacific countries, i.e., Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu, with Niue, Fiji, Samoa, and Kiribati initiating discussions with PRIF CO about receiving assistance to develop NIIPs. Niue and Kiribati proceeded with formal requests for assistance (Table 1).

**Table 1: NIIP Program Implementation in 2021**

Country	Technical Assistance	Sector	PMC Approved Budget (\$)	Committed Amount (\$) (31 Dec. 2021)	Period of Implementation
Cook Islands	Midterm Review and Updating of Cook Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2015	Multisector	100,809	92,415	Oct 2020 –June 2021
Palau	Preparation of Palau National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2020–2030	Multisector	155,000	116,787	Sept 2020 –June 2021
Solomon Islands	Updating of the 2019 Solomon Islands Infrastructure Strategic Plan	Multisector	35,000	11,449	Nov 2020 –June 2021
Tonga	Tonga National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2020–2030	Multisector	150,000	115,368	Sept 2020 –May 2021
Niue	Preparation of the Niue Infrastructure Investment Plan	Multisector	110,000		Feb–July 2022
Kiribati	Preparation of the Kiribati Infrastructure Investment Plan	Multisector	184,870		Mar–Oct 2022

NIIP = national infrastructure investment plan, PMC = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Management Committee.  
Source: PRIF.

NIIPs were discussed in detail during SIM Working Group meetings and PMC meetings. In March 2021, PRIF CO organized a session to discuss the Tuvalu NIIP, with the participation of in-country partner staff. During the PMC meeting in June 2021, PRIF CO delivered a session to contrast the approaches, methodology and processes of recent NIIPs, report on lessons learned and seek guidance from PMC.

PRIF CO is currently developing a NIIP Best Practice publication, including the approaches, methodologies and tools to develop a country-led national infrastructure planning exercise. This publication is expected in March 2022. It is our intention to use this publication to promote the NIIPs and to build government capacity in infrastructure investment planning and management. The NIIP Best Practice publication will also integrate the knowledge and tools developed in other studies such as the study on sea level rise, GESI, and local procurement into infrastructure planning.

### 3.3.2 General Technical Assistance

During the reporting period, PRIF CO had 21 general TAs under implementation, mostly regional in scope (Table 2). Annex 3 briefly describes each PRIF TA and their implementation status.

As of 31 December 2021, \$4.04 million of TA has been approved by the PMC and \$2.23 million has been contracted. In terms of human resources, PRIF CO has engaged 42 international short-term consultants for a total of 83.4 person-months and 13 national consultants for a total of 26.9 person-months. Of the 42 international consultants, 35 were female and seven male; and among the 13 national consultants, seven were female and six male.

TA consultants have been engaged through the following ADB service procurement contracts: (i) individual consultant services, 28 consultants; (ii) resource person, nine consultants; (iii) framework agreement, 18 consultants; and (iv) service provider, 12 individuals and organizations.

**Table 2: PRIF CO Technical Assistance Activity, as of 31 December 2021**

Country	Technical Assistance	Sector	PMC Approved Budget (\$)	Committed Amount (\$) (31 Dec. 2021)	Period of Implementation
Fiji	Fiji Waste Audit	Urban Development	99,000	41,193	Oct 2020 – Aug 2021
Regional	Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021–2030	Energy	99,000	46,935	Feb 2020– May 2021
Regional	Scoping Study for a Pacific Water and Sanitation Training Centre	Water and Sanitation	150,000	93,569	Jul 2020– Apr 2021
Regional	Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators 2020	Multisector	74,000	54,800	Oct 2020– Jun 2021
Regional	2021 Updating of Post-COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Short-term Strategy Study	Transport	70,000	63,401	Sep 2021– Jan 2022
Regional	Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential	Energy	130,000	126,420	Jun 2021– Feb 2022
Regional	Benchmarking Maintenance in the Pacific Island Countries	Multisector	110,000	106,662	Mar 2020– Nov 2021
Regional + Kiribati, Micronesia and Nauru	Improving Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific	Urban Development	400,000	350,000	Nov 2021– Aug 2022
Regional	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Issues in Infrastructure	Multisector	60,000	49,704	May 2021– Jan 2022
Regional	Diagnostic Study of Pacific Water and Wastewater Utilities	Water and Sanitation	135,000	132,648	Jun 2021– Mar 2022
Regional	Climate Change Impact Scenarios for Infrastructure Planning	Environment and Social Issues	120,000	74,423	Mar 2021– Feb 2022
Regional	Improving Procurement Practice and Local Participation in Pacific Infrastructure Delivery	Multisector	200,000	163,220	Aug 2021– Jan 2022
Regional	Promotion of the Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impact (SA)	Multisector	200,000	80,000	Oct 2021– Dec 2022
Regional	Scoping Study for a Pacific Regional Recycling Hub	Urban Development	460,000	425,900	Nov 2021– Oct 2022
Regional	Post COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Support Program (three sub-projects)	Transport	350,000		Feb 2022– Mar 2023
Regional	Infrastructure Risk Management and Insurance in the Pacific	Multisector	200,000		Feb–Aug 2022
Regional	Support for a Regional Energy Training Coordinator to PPA	Energy	80,000		Feb 2022– Feb 2023
Regional	Stocktake of Fossil Fuel Subsidies in the Pacific	Energy	200,000		Feb–Sept 2022
Regional	Webinars for PRIF Asset Condition Assessment Methodology Manual	Multisector	12,282	12,282	Dec 2021– Feb 2022
Marshall Islands, Vanuatu	Sanitation Options for RMI and Vanuatu	Urban Development		6,966	Dec 2021– Feb 2022
Regional	Best Practice Approaches to National Infrastructure Investment Planning in the Pacific	Sustainable Infrastructure Management	70,000	54,565	Dec 2021– Mar 2022
	Mid-Term Review of PRIF Phase IV	Monitoring & Evaluation	100,000		Mar–July 2022
<b>Total (excludes TAs completed in 2020)</b>			<b>3,319,282</b>	<b>1,882,688</b>	

PMC = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Management Committee, PRIF CO = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Management Coordination Office, PPA = Pacific Power Association, RMI = Republic of Marshall Islands, TA = technical assistance.

Source: PRIF.

## 3.4 COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

The PRIF Phase IV Communication and Outreach Strategy, approved in March 2020, aims to generate public awareness of PRIF and its donor partners' activities and promote effective engagement with donor partners, member countries, and other regional stakeholders. The expected outcome is to raise awareness and enhance communication about PRIF's strategic direction and service provision and showcase its TA and knowledge products throughout the Pacific.

### 3.4.1 Website

The PRIF website provides a snapshot of its role, its partners, where it works, and its target audience. The website features a document library of PRIF and other publications and a restricted site for PMC and working group meetings and other documents.

In 2021, PRIF CO completed the enhancement of the members-restricted site for ease of management and more flexibility to accommodate members' needs. By the end of 2021, there were over 200 PRIF partner staff members registered for the restricted site.

Overall, the PRIF website recorded a more than three-fold increase in page views per week, from 1,635 at the beginning of the year to 5,513 by the end (Figure 1). Important to note is the increase of over 100% in new visitors and almost 75% increase in new page views in the last part of 2021, reflecting PRIF's release of new publications and other activities, such as PRIF Week.

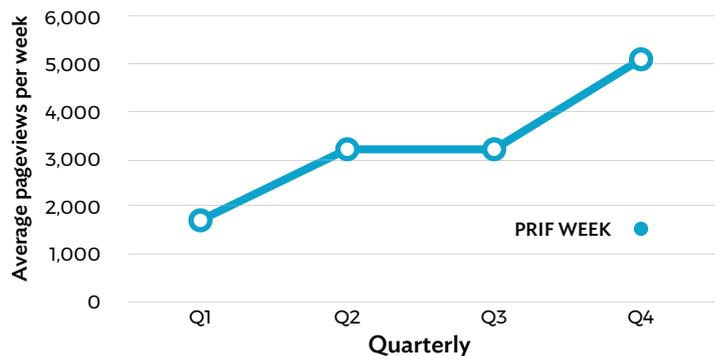
### 3.4.2 Social Media

The PRIF social media channels continue to be a valuable platform for sharing and promoting PRIF activities, events, reports, and publications. This was particularly the case in light of ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. PRIF has been endeavoring to increase audience engagement with consistent communication and a planned and focused approach for regular posting on all PRIF social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn).

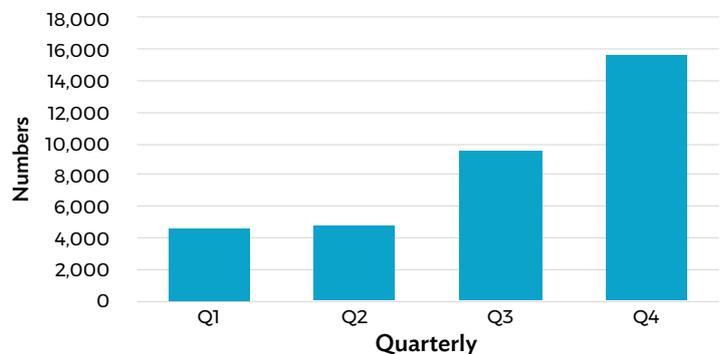
The key metrics of PRIF's social media channels demonstrated significant growth in followers, impressions, engagement, and likes. Figure 2 shows the quarterly PRIF Facebook engagement growth. The growth in activity is linked to several high-profile PRIF activities and engagements, including PRIF Week, and the launching of new knowledge products, such as the Regional Diagnostic Study of Constraints in the Application of Building Codes in the Pacific and 3 country case studies- Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, the Palau NIIP 2021 to 2030, and the Fiji Waste Audit.

The ADB Partnerships' Facebook post on *PRIF CO – Leveraging Infrastructure for Sustainable Development* was the top performing post in August 2021.

**Figure 1: The Average Pageviews of the PRIF Website per week for each quarter in 2021**



**Figure 2: PRIF Facebook Engagement by Quarter, 2021**



Source: PRIF.

### 3.4.3 Regional Engagement and Outreach

PRIF CO's collaboration and working relationship with regional organizations in the Pacific expanded in 2021, in line with PRIF's Communication and Outreach Strategy as follows:

- ASPA together with PRIF aviation consultants prepared the *Regional Options for Pacific Aviation Sustainability Post COVID-19* report for consideration by Pacific aviation donors;
- PASO is a key PRIF partner in *Updating the Post COVID Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy* for the next Aviation Ministers Meeting in Cook Islands in 2022;
- Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat invited PRIF CO team leaders to present at the first meeting of the Technical Working Group on Public Financial Management for Climate Change Finance in January 2021;
- PPA is a recipient of the PRIF TA Support for Regional Energy Training Program Coordinator;
- Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) has collaborated with PRIF in the development of a methodology for visual condition assessment of assets that can be used as a stand-alone, and can be included in the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative (PCRAFI) data collection template, as well as the development of a regional asset register;
- PWWA is working with its member utilities to improve the efficiency and performance of water utilities in the Pacific and create a framework and appropriate interventions to improve universal access to water and sanitation;
- SPREP is a working partner in the country waste audits, and facilitated PRIF Urban Development SWG's participation in the 3rd Clean Pacific Roundtable 2021;
- SPC is a working partner in the preparation, endorsement by Pacific Forum Leaders, and promotion on the usage of the FESRIP: 2021–2030, volumes 1 and 2; preparation and launching of the Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators (PIPIs) 2021; member country webinars on Asset Condition Assessment Methodology; and on the creation of a working group centered around resilient infrastructure and resilient housing;
- SPC invited PRIF CO to attend the 51st Committee of Representatives, Governments, and Associations and the SPC Conference, where PRIF presented the "Observer Statement" outlining areas of PRIF/SPC collaboration throughout 2021.
- PRIF CO also shared the highlights of the PRIF-supported *Post-COVID-19 Short-Term Strategy for Pacific Aviation* at an ADB Pacific Talk session on 2 March 2021.

### 3.4.4 PRIF Week

The inaugural *PRIF Week: Pacific Infrastructure and COVID-19 Recovery Perspective Conference* contributed to an encouraging performance in the PRIF social media metrics. The PRIF Twitter channel recorded 44 new followers, the highest for any period since the reactivation of the channel in 2020. The Twitter impressions reached 6,344, more than half the quarterly impressions received for 2021 (average: 11,562). The PRIF Week Facebook engagement metric recorded 10,949, more than half the average engagement per week for any post, which suggests that PRIF Week generated interest in the event posts shared. Similarly, on LinkedIn, PRIF Week metrics on clicks and impressions recorded 316 and 4,255, respectively, an unprecedented increase compared to the weekly average. As mentioned above, the website metric shows a 75% increase in new visitors as a result of PRIF Week.

### 3.4.5 Publications

Publications are important products showcasing PRIF TA findings and contribute to the body of knowledge for informed decision making and good practice in infrastructure development in the Pacific.

In 2021, PRIF published nine knowledge products and flagship publications (see Table 3). In 2021, PRIF tripled its publications that were uploaded to the website and published in other platforms including LinkedIn and promoted in the \ social media channels and cross-promoted by partners and regional agencies.

**Table 3. PRIF Knowledge Products and Flagship Publications, 2021**

Fiji Waste Audit
Tuvalu Waste Audit
A Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
Methodology for Condition Assessment of Public Sector Infrastructure Assets in Pacific Island Countries
Sanitation Options for Vanuatu and Marshall Islands
Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators (PIPIs) 2021
Palau National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2021 to 2030
Cook Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2021–2031 – Full and Summary versions
Regional Diagnostic Study of Constraints in the Application of Building Codes in the Pacific - Guidance Note, and 3 country case studies (Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu)

Source: PRIF.



# 4 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

The PRIF M&E specialist commenced work on 27 September 2021 on a part-time basis. Key priorities for the M&E Specialist in the first 12 months are to: (i) coordinate the design and implementation of an independent, mid-term review of PRIF to be conducted during the first part of 2022; (ii) develop PRIF's first MEL framework and support regular outcome level reporting; and (iii) build a shared team understanding and appreciation of MEL principles and a growing capacity to track, monitor and report on outcome level results with a view to applying learning into both strategic approaches and day-to-day operations.

## 4.1 PRIF CO REFLECTIONS WORKSHOPS

Late in 2021, PRIF CO held a series of two-hour reflections workshops. Led by the PRIF CO team leader with support from the M&E specialist, the sessions enabled the team to: (i) review the implementation of Phase IV and discuss possible enhancements; (ii) discuss options for an enhanced engagement strategy and approaches with member countries and regional organizations; (iii) identify ways for more selective and streamlined processes, particularly for publications of knowledge products; (iv) review working groups and TA strategic direction; and (v) review the progress and achievements against NIIP comprehensive program and recommend enhancements. The lessons learned and conclusions from these workshops have been integrated into the PRIF Work Plan for 2022.

## 4.2 WORKING GROUPS SURVEY

In November 2021, as part of the PRIF CO Reflections, a survey was sent to members of the seven PRIF working groups to gather feedback and insights on: (i) the format, structure, and approach to meetings; (ii) key priorities and issues at the working group level for 2022; and (iii) suggestions for enhancing effectiveness and efficiency of working groups. This was the first survey of working group members and the findings showed working groups were highly valued. Please refer to section 2.1 for survey result highlights. The results of the survey will be used by working group chairs to inform the planning discussions for activities in 2022 and to inform the PRIF MEL framework to be developed in 2022.

## 4.3 PHASE IV MID-TERM REVIEW

The independent PRIF mid-term review (MTR) was approved by the PMC out-of-session in December and procurement of three international specialists launched. The services are expected to commence in March 2022 and be completed in July 2022. The MTR will review progress of PRIF CO in Phase IV and provide recommendations for the remainder of PRIF Phase IV and inform the planning for a potential PRIF Phase V. The ADB TA paper, *Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Coordination Office–Leveraging Infrastructure for Sustainable Development 2019* is the guiding document for PRIF Phase IV, and its design and monitoring framework is the basis for PRIF CO's monitoring and evaluation work and the MTR.

# 5 PRIF CO Administration

PRIF’s activities are managed by the Coordination Office led by the PRIF CO team leader. Functionally, the PRIF CO team leader reports through the PMC Chair to the PMC. Administratively, the PRIF CO team leader reports through the ADB project officer to the ADB Regional Director of the Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office in Sydney.

## 5.1 REPORTING

Regular monitoring information has been reported to PMC at quarterly meetings and through the PRIF CO quarterly and other reports. Presentations have been made to the PMC on the progress of the PRIF Phase IV Work Plan and the working group activities. During the period, PRIF CO prepared the following reports (Table 4).

**Table 4. PRIF CO Schedule of Reports**

Report	For the Period Ending
PRIF CO Annual Report 2020	December 2020
PRIF CO Workplan 2021	December 2021
PRIF CO Quarterly Progress Report 6	March 2021
PRIF CO Quarterly Progress Report 7	June 2021
PRIF CO Quarterly Progress Report 8	September 2021
PRIF CO Quarterly Progress Report 9	December 2021

PRIF CO = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Management Coordination Office. Source: PRIF.

## 5.2 PRIF CO STAFFING

With PMC approval, PRIF CO expanded to nine staff, eight full-time and one part-time. In 2021, staff were mostly working from home in line with COVID-19 work policy. The current staffing and contracting status of PRIF CO is shown in Table 5.

**Table 5. Staffing of PRIF CO**

Position	Name	Start Date	End Date
PRIF CO Team Leader	Sean O’Sullivan	16 Dec 2019	31 Oct 2023
TA Officer	Jane Romero	10 Nov 2019	31 Oct 2022
TA Officer	Lorena Estigarribia	10 Nov 2019	31 Oct 2022
TA Officer in Fiji	Timothy Stats	21 April 2021	20 Apr 2022
TA Officer in Samoa	Meapelo Maiai	15 Nov 2021	14 Nov 2022
Infrastructure Economist	Roger Guinery	6 Apr 2020	5 Nov 2021
	Luke Smith	19 Jan 2022	18 Jan 2023
Communications and Secretariat Coordinator	Caroline Tupoulahi-Fusimalohi	14 Jan 2020	15 Jan 2023
Operations and Finance Officer	Nina Mines	2 Dec 2019	31 Dec 2022
Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist	Simona Achitei	27 Sep 2021	30 Sep 2022

PRIF CO = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Coordination Office. Source: PRIF.

## 5.3 PRIF CO BUDGET

**TA Funding.** Partner contributions received to date total \$9.97 million, as shown in Table 6. Of this, \$6.95 million has been committed or contracted, equivalent to 70% of funds received and 55% of the total funding commitment.

**Table 6. PRIF Partner Funding**

PRIF Partner	Funding Commitment (USD equivalent)	Funds Received (USD equivalent)	Fund Utilization (Committed, USD equivalent)
Australian Aid (DFAT)	4,089,000	1,516,622	1,910,490
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NZ-MFAT)	4,450,821	4,450,821	2,810,673
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,312,453
United States Department of State	2,000,000	2,000,000	916,974
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,539,821</b>	<b>9,967,443</b>	<b>6,950,590</b>

PRIF = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Management. Source: PRIF.

**Expenditure.** Expenditure to-date is \$3.76 million, which is 30% of the total PRIF funding (see Table 7). Expenditure in 2021 was \$2.27 million, which is lower than the work plan target of \$3 million due to the time taken for consultant recruitment for newly approved TAs and COVID-19-related factors, including the slow production of milestone deliverables by TA consultants, and the absence of travel-related costs for PRIF CO and TA consultants.

**Table 7. PRIF Expenditure, as of 31 December 2021**

Cost Category	Approved Budget (USD)	Actual Disbursement To Date (USD)	Utilization Rate (%)
	(a)	(b)	(a)/(b)
Technical Assistance Projects	7,065,000	1,226,060	17.4
PRIF CO Staff Cost and Travel	3,597,000	2,027,022	56.4
Workshops & Training	61,000	36,671	60.1
Studies & Surveys	30,000	6,166	20.6
Equipment	61,000	9,496	15.6
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,431,000	459,243	32.1
Financial Audit	128,000	-	0
Contingencies	166,821	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,539,821</b>	<b>3,764,658</b>	<b>30.0</b>

Source: PRIF. PRIF CO = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility Management Coordination Office.

# ANNEX 1:

## REPORTING AGAINST THE DESIGN & MONITORING FRAMEWORK

PRIF CO has applied the traffic-light system in determining the status of achieving the performance indicators cited in the design and monitoring framework, whereby: achieved/on-track (green), off-track or delayed (amber); or unlikely to achieve (red).

Level of Measurement	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baseline	Progress Report, 8th Qtr. (July-Sept 2021)	Status
<b>Impact</b>			
Quality and coverage of infrastructure investments and service delivery in PRIF member countries improved			
<b>Outcome</b>			
<b>By 2023:</b>			
Comprehensive and coordinated project and TA support on infrastructure investments provided by PRIF partners	a) Co-financing for ADB infrastructure TA and projects in the Pacific is increased by 25% (2018 baseline: \$512M)	Data not currently available	 Delayed
	b) All 13 PRIF member countries engaged in PRIF activities (2019 baseline: 0)	All 13 PRIF member countries plus PNG are covered in 14 Regional TAs. In addition, individual TAs provided to 11 countries - Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Niue, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu. Finally, PRIF CO has engaged with all member countries through direct contact and/or webinars and outreach activities.	 On track
	c) TA provided to at least 10 out of 13 PRIF member countries, across technical sectors and crosscutting themes (2019 baseline:0)	Individual TAs provided to 11 countries - Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Niue, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu.	 On track
	d) Improved infrastructure maintenance supported by at least 50% of TA activities and new PRIF partner infrastructure projects (2019 baseline: Not applicable or not previously recorded)	Infrastructure maintenance included in all Phase 4 NIIPs, TA on infrastructure maintenance benchmarking completed.	 On track
<b>Outputs</b>			
<b>By 2023:</b>			
1. Coordination of PRIF partner infrastructure investments in the Pacific further enhanced	At least four management committee meetings held per annum (2019 baseline: 0)	<b>2020:</b> four PMC meetings held. <b>2021:</b> four PMC meetings held.	 On track

Level of Measurement	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baseline	Progress Report, 8th Qtr. (July-Sept 2021)	Status
1. (continued)	At least one meeting held per annum for each working group (2019 baseline: 0)	<p><b>2020:</b> 19 WG meetings held.</p> <p><b>2021:</b> 24 WG meetings held, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport SWG – 28 Jan, 13 Apr, 15 Jun; 17 Aug; 23 Nov</li> <li>• Energy SWG – 2 Mar; 20 July; 18 Nov; 15 Dec</li> <li>• ICT SWG – 3 Mar; 24 Aug</li> <li>• WatSan SWG – 18 Mar; 28 July; 10 Nov</li> <li>• ESS TWG – 30 Mar; 16 July; 3 Nov</li> <li>• SIM TWG – 7 April, 17 Jun; 4 Nov</li> <li>• Urban Development SWG – 27 Apr, 16 Jun; 10 Aug; 25 Nov</li> <li>• Two Joint Transport &amp; Energy SWGs meeting on Project Insurance – 14 Jan, 11 June</li> <li>• Five Aviation Sector Donors Meeting – 19 Jan, 12 Mar, 6 May, 28 Sep, 8 Dec</li> </ul>	 <p>On track</p>
	Project pipeline updated at least once per year (2019 baseline: Not applicable/not previously recorded)	<p><b>2020:</b> Project pipeline updated on 1 April and August</p> <p><b>2021:</b> Project pipeline updated on 28 Feb; 15 May; and 24 Aug</p>	 <p>On track</p>
	PRIF partners led at least one parallel TA activity per annum (2019 baseline: not applicable/not previously recorded)	<p><b>2020:</b> DFAT Long-term Pacific Aviation Sector Post-COVID-19 Recovery Project</p> <p><b>2021:</b> DFAT Implementation of Long-term Pacific Aviation Program and WB Regional Airport Equipment Maintenance Program</p>	 <p>On track</p>
2. Technical advice on infrastructure development and sustainable infrastructure management provided to PRIF partners and member countries	By 2023:		
	a) Approved strategic workplan (and annual updates) covering all sectors and cross-cutting themes prepared and implemented by the coordination office (2019 baseline: not applicable/not previously recorded)	<p><b>2020:</b> PRIF Phase IV Workplan approved at 5 March 2020 PMC meeting</p> <p><b>2021:</b> Annual Workplan approved on 5 March 2021 PMC meeting</p>	 <p>On track</p>
	b) Infrastructure policy, planning, regulatory, and project advice provided by the coordination office to at least nine out of 13 PRIF member countries (2019 baseline: 0)	<p>Six PICs have been provided national infrastructure plans (Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Niue, Tonga, Palau and Solomon Islands)</p> <p>Eight PICs have been/being provided project advice as pilot/target countries in regional TAs (Cook Is, Kiribati, Fiji, Nauru, FSM, Solomon Is, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu)</p> <p>Total: 12 countries (no project TA yet in RMI, PNG)</p>	 <p>On track</p>
c) Integrated approach to new infrastructure investments and management of existing infrastructure achieved in all infrastructure plans or planning process prepared by the coordination office (2019 baseline: 0)	Integrated approaches (planning, robust economic analysis, consideration for climate change and environmental impacts) included in NIIPs prepared for Nauru, Tuvalu, Palau, Cook Islands, and Tonga and the Solomon Islands Infrastructure Priority List	 <p>On track</p>	

Level of Measurement	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baseline	Progress Report, 8th Qtr. (July-Sept 2021)	Status
2. (continued)	d) At least three knowledge products prepared per annum (2019 baseline: 0)	<p><b>2020:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Waste Audit Methodology: A Common Approach (web published)</li> <li>2. Cook Islands Waste Audit (web published)</li> <li>3. Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Strategy Study (web-published)</li> </ol> <p><b>2021:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Methodology for Condition Assessment of Public Sector Infrastructure Assets in Pacific Island Countries (web published)</li> <li>2. Regional Diagnostic Study on the Application of Building Codes in the Pacific and Guidance Documents for Fiji, Solomon Is, and Vanuatu (web published)</li> <li>3. Tuvalu Waste Audit Report (web published)</li> <li>4. Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts (web-published)</li> <li>5. Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators (PIPIs) 2020 (web and hardcopy published)</li> <li>6. Sanitation Options for Vanuatu and Marshall Islands (web published)</li> <li>7. Fiji Waste Audit Report (web published)</li> <li>8. 2021 Baseline Assessment Report for Infrastructure Maintenance across Pacific Island Countries (being prepared for web publication)</li> <li>9. Guidance for Managing Sea Level Rise Infrastructure Risk in Pacific Island Countries (being prepared for web publication)</li> </ol>	 On track
	e) Advisory or knowledge products covering at least three cross-cutting themes prepared (2019 baseline: 0)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Issues in Infrastructure</li> <li>2. Benchmarking Maintenance in PICs</li> <li>3. Climate Change Impact Scenarios for Infrastructure Planning</li> <li>4. Improving Procurement and Local Participation in the Pacific</li> <li>5. Improving Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific</li> <li>6. Promotion of the Shared Approach for the Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts</li> </ol>	 On track
	f) At least 2 capacity building activities conducted (2019 baseline: 0)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promotion of the Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts in 2022</li> <li>2. Webinars on Asset Condition Assessment Methodology in 2022</li> </ol>	 On track

Level of Measurement	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baseline	Progress Report, 8th Qtr. (July-Sept 2021)	Status
2. (continued)	g) At least 2 sector assessments produced (2019 baseline: 0)	<p>1. Pacific aviation sector assessment (including the Pacific airline industry) as part of the Post-COVID-19 Short-term Aviation Study and ASPA sustainability support study.</p> <p>2. Assessment of the water sector in the Pacific as part of the Scoping Study for a Water Sector Training Centre and Diagnostics of PWWA Utilities</p> <p>3. Assessment of the Pacific energy sector, particularly energy end use by residential consumers as part of the Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential</p>	 On track

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
<b>Key Activities with Milestones</b>	1.1. Sign full-time contracts for PRIF CO core team consultants by March 2020	Achieved 24 Feb 2020	 Achieved
1. Coordination of PRIF partner infrastructure investments in the Pacific further enhanced	1.2 Prepare annual PRIF work plan and seek PRIF management committee approval by March 2020	Achieved 5 March 2020; 4 March 2021	 On track
	1.3 Prepare and circulate quarterly reports to PMC within 1 month of the end of each quarter	Sixth to ninth quarterly reports submitted to PMC within 1 month of end of each quarter	 On track
	1.4 Prepare and circulate annual report to PMC within 2 months of the end of each year	2020 Annual Report submitted at PMC meeting of 5 March 2021 then web- and hard-copy published	 On track
	1.5 Prepare a PRIF coordination and communications strategy and action plan covering TA activities and regional initiatives not financed under the TA and including opportunities for improved coordination with PRIF partners, regional agencies, and other regional TA programs by April 2020	Achieved 5 March 2020	 Achieved
	1.6 Implement the PRIF coordination and communications strategy, and report to PMC quarterly on progress, quarterly	Related activities included in all quarterly reports, first Annual Report, and this report	 On track
	1.7 Prepare a database of proposed PRIF partner pipeline activities by the end of the first year and update the pipeline every six months	<p><b>2020:</b> PRIF Partner pipeline activities first updated in April and included in 2nd Quarterly Report and updated in August reported at PMC meeting of 3 September 2020</p> <p><b>2021:</b> PRIF Partner pipeline projects updated on 28 Feb, 15 May, and 24 August 2021</p>	 On track

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
1. (continued)	1.8 Maintain and update the PRIF website, prepare online newsletters and manage social media, ongoing	<p><b>2020:</b> New PRIF website completed in August 2020; restricted sites for PMC &amp; SWGs completed in December 2020. PRIF social channels established for Facebook, and revived Twitter and LinkedIn since July 2020. PRIF contribution to PLCO newsletter released every 2 months, and SPREP waste newsletter.</p> <p><b>2021:</b> PRIF website enhanced with restricted sites developed for PMC and WGs. The website is regularly updated and used to disseminate PRIF activities to internal and external stakeholders. Regular postings at PRIF social media channels – Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn and at <i>ADB Today</i> and SPREP and ADB-PLCO Newsletters.</p>	 On track
	1.9 Provide secretariat support to all management committee and sector working group meetings, ongoing	Provided secretariat support to 4 PMC meetings, 24 sector working group meetings, five PRIF aviation donors' dialogue; and two joint Transport & Energy SWG meetings on insurance risks.	 On track
	1.10 Support PMC chair raise the strategic level of engagement at PMC meetings, ongoing	The PRIF CO Phase IV Workplan considered more strategic level PMC meeting engagements and all draft PMC agenda are discussed with the PMC chair. Supported the PMC Chair on four PMC meetings in 2021.	 On track
	1.11 Assist the management committee to engage with potential new PRIF members and new country of focus, ongoing	Achieved in 2020, PNG became PRIF associate member. Not applicable this year	 On track
	1.12 Facilitate information sharing and peer reviews between PRIF partners and among other relevant stakeholders, regional organizations, and sector interest groups, ongoing	<p><b>2021:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The joint transport and Energy SWG meeting of 14 January 2021 facilitated the sharing by ADB and WB of experiences on insurance issues in infrastructure projects in the Pacific and discussion on how PRIF can assist.</li> <li>2. Transport SWG meeting of 28 January was an avenue for ASPA to update partners on the state of airlines in the Pacific region post-COVID recovery, aviation issues and challenges, and gain their support.</li> <li>3. Energy SWG meeting of 2 March was an avenue for NZ-MFAT to introduce its <i>Pacific Infrastructure Technical Assistance Fund</i> to PRIF partners and MFAT-commissioned consultants presented <i>Petroleum Fuels Outlook in the Pacific</i>.</li> <li>4. The ICT SWG meeting of 3 March, World Bank presented its <i>Pacific Digital Government Report</i> and USAID its draft proposal on <i>Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership (DCCP)</i> - Pacific Activity and encouraged inputs for its development.</li> </ol>	

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
1. (continued)	1.12 (continued)	<p>5. At the WatSan SWG meeting of 18 March, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) shared the <i>Relevance and Effectiveness of its Investments in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)</i> and PRIF presented the Draft Final Report of the <i>Scoping Study to Explore a Regional Approach for Water Sector Training in the Pacific</i>.</p> <p>6. At the ESS WG meeting of 30 March, PRIF partners approved the document, <i>Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for the Pacific Island Countries</i>, including its promotion and rollout in the region.</p> <p>7. Facilitated 2nd meeting on Pacific insurance landscape, issues and challenges on 11 June 2021 among Pacific insurance industry, infrastructure contractors, and PRIF partners.</p> <p>8. The Transport SWG meeting of 13 April was an avenue for PASO to present its current status and COVID recovery plans to PRIF partners; WG to peer review DFAT's Program on Sustainable Pacific Air Connectivity, WB's Regional Airport Asset Maintenance Program, PIANC's Guidance for Small Ports in SIDs; and hear New Zealand's maritime responses during COVID-19, on supply chain assessment, fuel usage, and Pacific maritime freight protocols.</p> <p>9. The Transport SWG meeting of 15 June discussed the Solomon Airlines Strategic Options Analysis Study and the value of meteorological observations across the Pacific for the aviation and maritime sectors and the urgent need to upgrade and maintain the equipment.</p> <p>10. At the Urban Development SWG meeting of 27 April, partners peer reviewed the PRIF Concept Note for a Scoping Study for a Regional Recycling Hub. At the 16 June WG meeting, partners shared results of their studies on incinerators for solid waste management in small island countries and waste to energy technologies and discussed PacWastePlus concept note on a Facility for the repair and maintenance of healthcare waste incinerator in the Pacific Region.</p> <p>11. The Energy SWG meeting of 16 July reviewed the inception report of the GESI TA and members shared ESS projects and activities.</p> <p>12. The Energy SWG meeting of 20 July had: PCREEE present its regional e-mobility policy and program for the Pacific; PRIFCO present the inception report of the Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential TA; WB lead a discussion on fossil fuel subsidies in the Pacific; and partners share their energy projects.</p>	 On track

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
1. (continued)	1.12 (continued)	<p>13. The Watsan SWG meeting of 28 July had ADB present preliminary impacts of its WASH webinars in PICs, PRIF CO consultants present the inception report on the Diagnostics of PWWA utilities, and partners share their sector project pipelines.</p> <p>14. The Transport SWG meeting of 17 August had: partners sharing the highlights and outcomes of the 30 June Regional Aviation Ministers Meeting; WB on the highlights of 2011 Review of PASO, some still relevant to-date; NZ-MFAT on the implications of the Pacific Meteorology TA to aviation and maritime transport; and PRIF CO solicited member's comments and endorsement to the Study on Risk Management and Insurance for Pacific Infrastructure and Post-COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Support Program.</p> <p>15. The 24 Aug ICT SWG meeting got together ICT cybersecurity agencies in the region (ITU, Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization, Global Foundation for Cyber Expertise, and Pacific Cybersecurity Operational Network) to present their agencies and projects and overview of the Pacific cybersecurity landscape, constraints and threats and for PRIF partners to share their ICT projects for the region</p> <p>16. The 3 November 2021 meeting of the Energy SWG provided feedback to the regional strategy of the ADB TA on Sustainable Capacity Development for Safeguards in the Pacific – Phase 1, and PRIF's Guidance on Managing Sea Level Rise Infrastructure Risk in Pacific Island Countries.</p> <p>18. The Energy SWG in its 18 November meeting reviewed three TA proposals: (i) Stock take on fossil fuel subsidies in the Pacific, (ii) Pacific Electric Vehicle Regional Standards (in collaboration with PCREEE), and (iii) PRIF Support for a Regional Energy Training Coordinator to PPA.</p> <p>19. The Energy SWG at its 15 December meeting, provided feedback and guidance to Draft Final Report of the Pacific Clean Energy Financing TA.</p> <p>20. The Transport SWG at its 23 Nov meeting, peer reviewed the World Bank/University of NSW Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership on Decarbonising Maritime Transport in the Pacific.</p> <p>21. The Urban Development SWG meeting of 25 November provided feedback to the Inception Report of the Regional Recycling Hub Study.</p>	 On track

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
1. (continued)	1.13 Facilitate the preparation of sector profiles for two member countries, outlining activities of PRIF partners and other regional organizations in each sector, in consultation with SWGs by October 2023	<p>1. The Updating of the Post-COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Strategy Study which commenced on 15 Sept 2021, provided current Pacific aviation landscape; Pacific aviation forecasts considering recent travel bubble experiences and future trends; reviewed PRIF partner support and PRIF member country activities to support Pacific aviation; and updated recovery scenarios, required actions and priority areas of support, indicative financing instruments and costs to facilitate aviation recovery.</p> <p>2. The Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential TA that commenced in July took stock of the current Pacific energy landscape in five PICs (Cook Is, Kiribati, Tonga, Solomon Is, and Vanuatu) representative of the region, and conducted household surveys in Kiribati and Tonga on market and willingness to pay for DER and EE as well as financial programs of national development banks in PICs to provide a basis to initiate support by PRIF development partners.</p>	 On track
2. Technical advice on infrastructure development and sustainable infrastructure management provided to PRIF partners and member countries	2.1 Sign short-term agreements with technical specialist-consultants covering a range of sector and crosscutting themes by March 2020	Ongoing activity. PRIF has 28 consultants under the individual consultancy services (ICS) contract, 18 under the Framework Agreement contracts, nine on resource person contracts, and 12 on service provider contracts.	 Achieved
	2.2 Assist member countries in preparing national infrastructure development plans and/or asset management plans on demand and in consultation with SWGs by October 2023	Completed six NIIPs (TUV, NAU, TON, COO, SOL, PAL); commenced on two Kiribati and Niue NIIPs; and in discussion with three countries in preparing their NIIPs (FIJ, SAM, VAN)	 On track
	2.3 Support and facilitate ongoing tracking of actual country and regional programs of PRIF partners against the infrastructure plans, in coordination with PRIF partners headquarters and posts by October 2023	<p>The updating of the Cook Is and Solomon Is NIIPs reviewed PRIF partners' and other donors' uptake of projects in previous NIIPs. 85% of previous NIIP project pipeline in Cook Is has either been completed or is in process of being completed. Any NIIP updates will include a review of previous NIIP implementation and pipeline update.</p> <p>A database of priority infrastructure projects prepared under the NIIPs was created and presented at the PMC and sector working group meetings to assist with tracking. The database will be reported at the next PMC meeting.</p>	 On track
	2.4 Assist member countries in preparing sector development plans on demand and in consultation with SWGs by October 2023	<p>The TA on Diagnostic Study of PWWA water utilities is assisting 5 countries prepare management strengthening plans and strategies. (Solomon Is, Kiribati, Fiji, Palau, Samoa).</p> <p>The Niue NIIP will contain a detailed transport sector development plan.</p>	 On track

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
2. (continued)	2.5 Provide short-term technical advice using specialist technical advisors and technical specialists from the PRIF sector working groups, as requested by PRIF partners, member countries, and regional organizations by October 2023	The PIANC World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure requested PRIF Transport working group to be part of the PIANC Working Group No. 240 in developing the Guidance for Ports in Small Island Countries.	 On track
	2.6 Develop knowledge products and technical reports per annum in close coordination with PRIF partners, member countries, SWGs and regional organizations by October 2023	<p><b>2020:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Waste Audit Methodology: A Common Approach</li> <li>2. Pacific Aviation Post-COVID-19 Short-term strategy Study</li> <li>2. Methodology for Condition Assessment of Public Sector Infrastructure Assets in Pacific Island Countries</li> <li>3. Cook Islands Waste Audit Report</li> <li>4. Nauru Economic Infrastructure Strategy and Investment Plan 2019</li> <li>5. Tuvalu Priority Infrastructure Investment Plan 2020–2025</li> </ol> <p><b>2021:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. The Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for Pacific Island Countries</li> <li>8. Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators (PIPIs) 2020</li> <li>9. Sanitation Options for Vanuatu and Marshall Islands</li> <li>10. Tuvalu Waste Audit Report</li> <li>11. Fiji Waste Audit Report</li> <li>12. 2021 Baseline Assessment Report for Infrastructure Maintenance across Pacific Island Countries</li> <li>13. Guidance for Managing Sea Level Rise Infrastructure Risk in Pacific Island Countries</li> <li>14. Cook Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan, 2021–2030</li> <li>15. Palau National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2021 to 2030</li> </ol>	 On track
	2.7 Consult with PRIF partners and other relevant organizations to include strategic themes in the first annual workplan for PMC approval by October 2023	Achieved in the approved Phase IV Work Plan	 Achieved
	2.8 Maintain and expand the document library on the PRIF website by October 2023	Ongoing. Document library on the website completed in September 2020 and being updated regularly.	 On track
	2.9 Implement a quality assurance process for PRIF TA Outputs, including liaison with sector lead coordinators and working group members, and independent review by short-term specialist consultants by October 2020	Established and Ongoing: PRIF TA reports are submitted and presented to relevant working groups for discussion, comments, and quality assurance. Resource person contracts were utilized to peer review and supplement short-term consultants' outputs. Performance Evaluation Reviews (PERs) of short-term consultants being conducted at the end of service contract.	 Achieved

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
2. (continued)	2.10 Prepare a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan consistent with the TA's design and monitoring framework for PMC approval by June 2020	M&E Specialist commenced at the end of Sept 2021 and is currently preparing an M&E plan.	 Delayed
	2.11 Report quarterly and annually on progress against the M&E plan	Monitoring evaluation and learning framework will be developed in the first quarter of 2021 calendar year. Reporting will commence shortly thereafter.	 Delayed
	2.12 Liaise with government counterparts of PRIF partners, member countries, and regional organizations, on proposals for assistance on demand, ongoing	Ongoing. Liaise with PIC governments and regional organizations on NIIP preparation, benchmarking infrastructure maintenance in the Pacific, GESI in infrastructure; determining climate change impact scenarios for infrastructure planning; improving procurement and local participation in infrastructure projects; 2021 updating of the aviation sector strategy study, responsible sourcing of aggregates in the Pacific; promoting the Shared Approach to PICs and as Speakers/Hosts during PRIF Week. PRIF CO working with regional organizations such as SPC, SPREP, PPA, PWWA JPRISM, PASO, ASPA, USP and international organizations such as UNEP, UNOPS, IMF-PFTAC, ITU CDRI, and IWC.	 On track
	2.13 Develop sector assessments in close coordination with PRIF partners, member countries, sector working groups, and regional organizations (by October 2023)	Completed assessment of water sector and training institutions and programs in Water and Sanitation under the Scoping study for a Pacific Water & Sanitation Training Centre  Ongoing Diagnostic Study on Strengthening Management of 5 PWWA water utilities  Ongoing Study on Pacific Clean Energy Financing Opportunities  Ongoing. Updating of the Post COVID-19 Pacific Aviation Strategy Study  Ongoing. Scoping Study of a Pacific Region Recycling Hub which will assess solid waste production in the region; determine the need and rationale for a recycling hub; and if viable, design operational scenarios.	 On track

Level of measurement	Performance indicators with targets and baselines	Progress Report, 9th Qtr. (Oct-Dec 2021)	Status
2. (continued)	2.14 Include capacity building component to regional initiatives (by October 2023)	<p>PRIF National Infrastructure Planning and Management Program involves learning by doing— increase capability in national planning, budget management, and economic analysis of development projects, among others.</p> <p>The Promotion of the Shared Approach to PICs includes capacity development and training to multiple actors in the infrastructure sector, including project monitoring and/or implementing units (PMU/PIUs), international and local environmental and social specialists and consultants, engineers, contractors, and civil society organizations (CSOs) and nongovernment organizations both regionally and in the PICs.</p> <p>The completed Scoping Study for Regional Water and Sanitation Training Centre included list of training providers, training courses, costs, and funding strategy.</p> <p>Recently Approved PRIF Support for a Regional Energy Training Coordinator to the Pacific Power Association (PPA) will coordinate various training offerings by donors and development partners,</p> <p>prepare a calendar of trainings and liaise with power utilities to ensure key staff are targeted for appropriate trainings.</p>	 On track

# ANNEX 2:

## NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

Project Name	Brief Project Description and Status of Implementation	Status
Updating of the 2019 Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan	The Government requested a review of the Solomon Islands infrastructure pipeline given that most projects included in the 2019 high priority list now have committed funding, and new projects have been identified since then. The Government approved the concept note for the preparation of Solomon Islands NIIP 2020–2030, where work was done by a national infrastructure consultant with PRIF CO support and guidance. The Solomon Islands NIIP was finalized on 31 March 2021. Further assistance is being discussed with the Ministry of National Planning and Development Cooperation which will involve the development of a fully fledged NIIP complementing the Australian infrastructure program and the Ministry's plans.	<b>Completed</b>
Updating of the Cook Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan	Cook Islands Infrastructure Committee requested PRIF assistance to update the NIIP in early September 2020. PRIF recruited international and national consultants to assist the CIIC conducting a mid-term review of the 2015 Cook Islands NIIP and updating the plan and processes for infrastructure investment planning. The Government launched the NIIP in August 2021.  <a href="https://www.theprif.org/document/cook-islands/national-infrastructure-investment-plans/cook-islands-national-0">https://www.theprif.org/document/cook-islands/national-infrastructure-investment-plans/cook-islands-national-0</a>	<b>Completed</b>
Preparation of Palau National Infrastructure Investment Plan	The Government of Palau requested assistance in the development of an NIIP and approved the concept note in August 2020. PRIF recruited two international and two national staff who started in late October 2020. The Palau NIIP 2021–2030 was endorsed and adopted by the Government of the Republic of Palau in June 2021 as a guide to public infrastructure planning and budgeting, and development partner support. The Palau NIIP was published in September 2021.  <a href="https://www.theprif.org/document/palau/national-infrastructure-investment-plans/palau-national-infrastructure-investment">https://www.theprif.org/document/palau/national-infrastructure-investment-plans/palau-national-infrastructure-investment</a>	<b>Completed</b>
Review and Updating of the Tonga National Infrastructure Investment Planning 2013–2023	The Government of Tonga requested PRIF support to strengthen the infrastructure investment planning processes in August 2020. PRIF recruited two international consultants and two national consultants who initiated work in October 2020. The Tonga NIIP and the Project Cycle Manual were approved by the Cabinet on 30 August 2021. The launching was hindered by elections processes and more recently, the volcanic eruption. PRIF is considering a reprioritization of projects due to the significant changes in circumstances.	<b>Completed</b>
Preparation of the Niue National Infrastructure Investment Plan	Niue Ministry of Infrastructure requested PRIF to support updating the National Transport Strategy and developing a NIIP in April 2021. PRIF is recruiting two internationals and one national for the TA which is envisaged to commence in February 2022.	<b>Ongoing</b>
Preparation of the Kiribati National Infrastructure Investment Plan	Kiribati Ministry of Finance requested PRIF assistance to develop their first NIIP on 8 November 2021. PRIF has recruiting two internationals and two nationals to assist Ministry of Finance with developing the NIIP. The NIIP TA is envisaged to commence in March 2022.	<b>Ongoing</b>
Fiji National Infrastructure Investment Plan	PRIF liaised with the Ministry of Economy in 2021 to develop a concept note for the development of an NIIP. A revised draft, addressing government's comments, has been shared with Ministry of Works in January 2022.	<b>Request Pending</b>
Vanuatu National Infrastructure Investment Plan	With assistance of the ADB Vanuatu Office, PRIF liaised with the Prime Minister's office to conduct a midterm review and update of the NIIP 2015.	<b>Request Pending</b>
Samoa National Infrastructure Investment Plan	PRIF liaised with the Ministry of Finance to discuss the review and update of the Samoa NIIP.	<b>Request Pending</b>

# ANNEX 3:

## GENERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

Project Name	Brief Project Description and Status of Implementation	Status
Fiji Waste Audit	Part of a regional project to conduct waste audits and institutional assessments of public institutions and the private sector in Fiji to help inform the regional recycling hub's design. The Consultants terms of reference were approved in April 2020 and work commenced on 28 May 2020. The inception report was presented and discussed at a Steering Committee meeting for Pacific Waste Audits. The waste audits for the Labasa and Ba Town Councils were delayed by the COVID-19 country lockdown and strong cyclones that hit Fiji from the fourth quarter of 2020 to May 2021. The Draft Waste Audit Report was received in July 2021, presented at the Urban Development SWG meeting of 10 August 2021 for comments and feedback and was finalized before the end of August. The Consultants' report is available at <a href="https://www.theprif.org/document/fiji/solid-waste-management/waste-audit-report-fiji">https://www.theprif.org/document/fiji/solid-waste-management/waste-audit-report-fiji</a>	Completed
Regional Diagnostic of Constraints in the Application of Building Codes in the Pacific - Phase 1	This is a PRIF Phase III TA that investigated the capacity of Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu to apply their national building codes; produced national building code action plans and prepared a 5-year costed roadmap/program of support that PRIF development partners can consider for future national updates, administration, management, and compliance enforcement. The study's final report and three country reports were prepared for web publication and can be found at <a href="https://theprif.org/document/regional/building-codes-and-standards/regional-diagnostic-study-application-building-codes">https://theprif.org/document/regional/building-codes-and-standards/regional-diagnostic-study-application-building-codes</a> ; <a href="https://theprif.org/document/solomon-islands/building-codes-and-standards/building-code-and-standards-guidance-solomon">https://theprif.org/document/solomon-islands/building-codes-and-standards/building-code-and-standards-guidance-solomon</a>  <a href="https://theprif.org/document/fiji/building-codes-and-standards/building-code-and-standards-guidance-fiji-case-study">https://theprif.org/document/fiji/building-codes-and-standards/building-code-and-standards-guidance-fiji-case-study</a>  <a href="https://theprif.org/document/vanuatu/building-codes-and-standards/building-code-and-standards-guidance-vanuatu-case">https://theprif.org/document/vanuatu/building-codes-and-standards/building-code-and-standards-guidance-vanuatu-case</a>	Completed
Scoping Study for Regional Water and Sanitation Training Centre	A scoping study that identified the need and assessed the feasibility of a regional approach to water and sanitation sector training in the Pacific; developed training models in partnership with major institutions in the region; and prepared and costed a detailed implementation framework for regional water sector training. The study commenced on 1 July 2020 by a water sector specialist and was later joined by a resource person with experience in Pacific technical and vocational education and training to assist with the implementation plan. The draft final study report was received in December 2020 which was presented at the Water and Sanitation SWG in March 2021. A final copy of the report is available at <a href="https://theprif.org/document/regional/water-wastewater-and-sanitation/scoping-study-regional-approach-water-sector">https://theprif.org/document/regional/water-wastewater-and-sanitation/scoping-study-regional-approach-water-sector</a>	Completed
Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators 2021 (PIPIs)	The Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators Study aimed to: present an overview of infrastructure performance in Pacific Island Countries; support discussion on the level and mix of infrastructure investments in the region; and provide data to compare outcomes in the five infrastructure subsectors of transport, energy, water and sanitation, ICT and solid waste management. The updating of the 2016 PIPIs in partnership with SPC was approved by the PMC on 3 September 2020. A Statistical Analyst who oversaw the preparation of the 2016 PIPIs was engaged to conduct the study. The draft final report was received on March 2021 and was distributed to the five PRIF SWGs for review and feedback. The report was finalized in July 2021, prepared for publication, and can be downloaded at <a href="https://theprif.org/document/regional/infrastructure-performance/pacific-infrastructure-performance-indicators-2021">https://theprif.org/document/regional/infrastructure-performance/pacific-infrastructure-performance-indicators-2021</a>	Completed

Project Name	Brief Project Description and Status of Implementation	Status
The Shared Approach for the Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for Pacific Island Countries (SA)	The Shared Approach sets out methods and procedures for implementing safeguard/environmental and social policies in a manner suitable to PICs, as well as approaches to management of environmental and social issues commonly encountered in the preparation and implementation of projects in the Pacific region. The preparation of the Shared Approach was part of PRIF Phase III that was approved and completed in mid-June 2021 with the support of all PRIF development partners. The report is available at <a href="https://www.theprif.org/document/regional/gender-and-social-safeguards/shared-approach-management-environmental-and-social">https://www.theprif.org/document/regional/gender-and-social-safeguards/shared-approach-management-environmental-and-social</a> . The members of the Environment and Social Safeguards Working Group have agreed to socialize the report among development partners and for PRIF to promote and conduct training on the Shared Approach to Pacific island countries. This is a separate, currently ongoing TA, the write-up of which can be found below.	<b>Completed</b>
Benchmarking Infrastructure Maintenance in the Pacific	The concept note to help improve maintenance of infrastructure in PICs through benchmarking maintenance performance indicators and raise the profile of infrastructure maintenance within governments, development partners, and stakeholders was approved in December 2020. The Study commenced in March 2021 by a two-person team of infrastructure maintenance and public financial management consultants. A 2021 Baseline Assessment Report of Infrastructure Maintenance Across PICs was completed in October 2021 and presented at a webinar on 30 November 2021. The report is currently being prepared for web publication.	<b>Completed</b>
Asset Condition Assessment Manual	The Asset Condition Assessment Manual was written during PRIF Phase III and was used in the preparation of NIIPs in Tonga and Palau in 2021. <a href="https://www.theprif.org/document/regional/infrastructure-maintenance/methodology-condition-assessment-public-sector">https://www.theprif.org/document/regional/infrastructure-maintenance/methodology-condition-assessment-public-sector</a> . PRIF has engaged the author to conduct two interactive webinars in February 2022 to socialize the Manual to public officials in PICs and regional associations such as PPA and PWWA. PRIF has teamed up with SPC for this event.	<b>Ongoing</b>
Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Issues in Infrastructure	A study to inform the practices of PRIF partners in identifying and addressing gender equality and social inclusion issues through the full infrastructure cycle of project preparation, implementation, maintenance, and management, commenced in May 2021. The Inception Report was presented to the Environment and Social WG meeting of 16 July 2021. A draft GESI Report was received on 9 August and presented at the 2 September PMC meeting. A final report incorporating suggestions from the working group, PRIF partners and PRIF CO was received in mid-December 2021.	<b>Ongoing</b>
Pacific Sea Level and Climate Change Scenarios for Infrastructure Planning	A study to provide reports, forecasts, scenarios, and guidance for all PRIF member countries on sea-level rise, for practical application in infrastructure planning, commenced in March 2021. The Study Stocktake Report was received on 30 June 2021 and a draft <i>Guidance Report for Managing Sea Level Rise Infrastructure Risk in Pacific Island Countries</i> was submitted and presented to PRIF CO on 6 September. A draft final report containing forecasts and scenarios for sea level rise, climate change and infrastructure impacts for each and all PICs was presented at the Environment and Social Thematic Working Group meeting of 3 November 2021. The final report incorporating PRIF CO and WG feedback was received on 20 December 2021 and will be presented at a Pacific key stakeholders' webinar on 24 January 2022. The study report is being prepared for web publication.	<b>Ongoing</b>
Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential	A study to determine potential residential consumers demand for distributed energy equipment and energy efficient appliances in 14 PICs, the results and recommendations of which are intended to assist PRIF development partners to support retail financing and/or provide a basis to design their own support initiatives. The Energy Sector Specialist mobilized on 25 May 2021 and was joined by a regional Economist on 23 August 2021. An inception report was presented at the Energy SWG meeting of 20 July, followed by a series of consultations with donor partners and regional organizations. Country energy profiles were made for five PICs representative of the region (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu) and in-depth household willingness to pay and market surveys were conducted in Kiribati and Tonga from 25 October to 5 November 2021. A draft final report containing an analysis of these profiles and studies and recommendations were received on 6 December and presented at the Energy Sector WG meeting of 15 December 2021. Comments from PRIF and the WG will be incorporated in a Final Report expected in mid-February 2022.	<b>Ongoing</b>

Project Name	Brief Project Description and Status of Implementation	Status
Improving Procurement Practice and Local Participation in Pacific Infrastructure Delivery	A study to improve procurement practice and local participation in infrastructure delivery in Pacific island countries and provide a forum where key stakeholders can identify opportunities for improvements. The Study was approved at the 3 June PMC meeting. Two international procurement and infrastructure specialists mobilized on 23 August 2021 and were joined by the national coordinators for Tonga and Solomon Islands during the fourth quarter of the year. A Mid-term Report was received on 22 October 2021 containing results of a stocktake of procurement practices in PICs. A draft final report was received on 24 December 2021 covering the study findings and recommendations for presentation at a PRIF working group for feedback and comment in late January/early February 2022.	Ongoing
Promotion of the Shared Approach for Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	A project to increase awareness and interest in the Shared Approach, improve implementation of environmental and social safeguards, and encourage the application of the proposed methods and procedures in the Shared Approach document. The Communications Specialist commenced on 6 October 2021 and tasked to prepare a communications strategy to disseminate the document; develop an outline capacity development workplan; and develop relevant communications materials. A Communications Strategy for 2022–2025, received on 3 December 2021, was reviewed and accepted by PRIF CO. A capacity development workplan is due on 15 January 2022, which once approved will be followed by the design and production of communications materials, and detailed TA implementation.	Ongoing
Regional TA on Improving National Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific (including response to requests from Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia [FSM])	The Concept Note for a regional TA to support national efforts in improving building codes, improving capacities for enforcement of codes, and other related initiatives in PRIF member countries, was approved at the 2 September 2021 PMC meeting. A resource person Infrastructure Specialist was contracted to support the Government of FSM prepare for the establishment of a national building code while contributing to the overall objectives of the regional TA. The two international core building code specialists commenced services in late November 2021 while procurement of two national project coordinators for Kiribati and Nauru is ongoing for completion by end January 2022. An inception report was received on 24 December 2021.	Ongoing
Infrastructure Risk Management and Insurance in the Pacific	This is a regional study to improve the cost-effective management of infrastructure project lifecycle risks in the Pacific. The concept note was approved at the 2 September PMC meeting and the consultants' Terms of Reference were prepared in November 2021. Procurement of consultants is underway for an expected mobilization of late January/early February 2022.	Ongoing
Scoping Study for a Regional Recycling Network	A TA to identify options for a Pacific regional recycling network and produce a pre-feasibility assessment of the most favorable option. The recycling network is expected to include local processing center/s, trans-shipment and recycling facilities and cater for all or some recycling materials, in one or more locations in the Pacific region. The study commenced on 8 November for 12 months with a consulting firm with extensive experience in waste recycling. The scope, objectives, and schedule of the study and initial findings of the Pacific Country Waste Audits were presented at the Urban Development SWG meeting of 25 November 2021. An Inception Report was received on 10 December 2021 and presented to the Project Implementation Committee on 17 December 2021. A market assessment report identifying which materials have the highest potential to be part of a regional recycling network and mapping out the landscape of potential (private) actors, is expected by 14 February 2022.	Ongoing
Sanitation Options in the Pacific – RMI and Vanuatu	The Sanitation Options report was completed in early 2019 under PRIF Phase III. Prior to web publication in 2021, the two Study authors were re-engaged on resource person contracts to: present the findings and recommendations of the 2019 study to the country stakeholders; provide expert opinion in the consultation meetings with key officials and agencies in RMI and Vanuatu; and update the content of the study to ensure its relevance. The assignment is to be completed by 15 February 2022.	Ongoing
2021 Updating of the Scoping Study on Post COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy	The 2020 Scoping Study completed in January 2021, identified recovery scenarios, required actions, broad needs, and priority areas of support, together with indicative financing instruments and costs to facilitate aviation recovery in the region. Conducted by the same team of consultants, the Updating will review PRIF partner support and PRIF country activities to support Pacific aviation and update recovery scenarios, broad needs, and priority areas of support. The Updating commenced in early September 2021 and a draft final report was received in late December 2021, which will be presented at a webinar to the PRIF Transport SWG and the Pacific Aviation Donors Group meetings in the first quarter of 2022.	Ongoing

Project Name	Brief Project Description and Status of Implementation	Status
Diagnostics of Pacific Water and Wastewater Association (PWWA) Utilities	A study to formulate recommendations, propose measures and develop tools to assist PWWA, member-water utilities and PICs achieve universal access to safe water and sanitation Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, commenced in May 2021 by a three-person consultant team. An Inception Report received on 15 July was presented to the WatSan SWG on 28 July 2021. An Interim Report containing the test of the Diagnostic Framework with Solomon Waters and preliminary analysis of collected data and surveys done with the assistance of PWWA field offices was received in late October 2021. An SDG-6 Assessment Report for all PRIF countries and a SWOT analysis of the five target utilities is underway as part of the draft final report expected in early February 2022.	Ongoing
Post-COVID-19 Aviation Support Program	The concept note for three sub-projects under the Program was approved at the 2 September 2021 PMC meeting. Consultant's TOR were prepared for: (i) airline options for Pacific aviation sustainability, which will entail the development of a business case for a potential Pacific Airlines Strategic Alliance with PIC government buy-in and conduct of a viable network and fleet options study to guide the selection of common aircraft types, servicing and capacity training needs; (ii) explore the need and options for establishing a wider aviation-focused regional hub/body in support of and beyond PASO's present mandate; and (iii) trial regional and harmonized approaches to aviation project implementation and maintenance. Procurement of four international consultants commenced in December 2021 for an expected start in February 2022.	Ongoing
Support for Regional Energy Training Coordinator	A TA approved by PMC on 9 December 2021, aims to support the Pacific Power Association (PPA) coordinate various energy sector training offerings by development partners, utilities, and other agencies in the Pacific, by providing a Regional Energy Training Program Coordinator (Consultant) for 12 months at the PPA Secretariat in Suva, Fiji. Procurement of the consultant will commence in January 2022 for mobilization in February or early March 2022.	Ongoing
Stocktake of Fossil Fuel Subsidies in the Pacific	A TA approved by PMC on its 9 December 2021 meeting, it aims to stock take, quantify, and evaluate the effectiveness of fossil fuel subsidies implemented in PRIF member countries including PNG as well as elaborate on the impacts of fuel subsidies on household affordability, the economy, fiscal impact, balance of payments, inflation, and distributional and environmental impacts. An energy specialist and an economist will be procured in January 2022 for mobilization in February 2022.	Ongoing
Mid-term Review of PRIF Phase IV	The Consultants' Terms of Reference was submitted to the PMC out-of-session on 13 December 2021 and in the absence of objections/comments, was considered approved by 17 December 2021. Procurement is underway for the three-person team consisting of a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Team Lead, a senior M&E Specialist, and an Inclusion Specialist. The team is expected to mobilize in March 2022 for five months.	Ongoing
Responsible Sourcing of Aggregates in the Pacific	The TA originated from NZ-MFAT concern over low-quality aggregates being used by some countries in the region thereby compromising the quality of infrastructure. The TA proposal was raised at the Transport SWG meeting of 15 June 2021.	Delayed
Affordable Coastal Protection - Phase 3: Monitoring System	The Terms of Reference were updated after consultation with relevant PRIF partners and preliminary discussions with potential consulting firm(s) on ways to deliver the TA remotely. The updated TOR was presented at the 15 June 2021 meeting of the Transport SWG meeting for any further comments/suggestions. Procurement of consulting firm to commence in 2022.	Delayed
Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) Tariff Study	PRIF CO re-engaged with WAF in February 2021 on a new TA and held discussions with NZ-MFAT on the proposal.	Delayed
Road Pavement Design for the Pacific Region, Phase 3	Phase 3 Terms of Reference were revised to include pilot testing the use of plastic waste in low volume road construction in PICs and have been approved. Procurement of consultant is postponed until travel restrictions to the region are lifted as country missions are essential for the work.	On-Hold

CO = Coordination Office, PMC = PRIF Management Committee, PRIF = Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility.

# ANNEX 4:

## COUNTRY FACTSHEETS

### COOK ISLANDS

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>In April 2015, the Cook Islands Cabinet endorsed and adopted the Cook Islands NIIP prepared with PRIF assistance.</p> <p>In 2020, the Cook Islands Investment Corporation (CIIC), which oversees the monitoring and implementation of Cook Islands NIIP, requested assistance from PRIF to conduct a mid-term review of the 2015 NIIP and update it to guide the prioritization of infrastructure investments for the next 10 years, including reprioritization and sequencing of remaining priority projects and new projects being considered by the government for national budgeting and coordination of funding support from development partners and identification of funding modalities including the private sector, public-private partnerships, and climate finance.</p>	<p>The 2020 mid-term review found that 79% of the 43 priority infrastructure projects identified in the 2015 NIIP had either been completed or were underway.</p> <p>The 2021 NIIP was assembled through a consultative process involving a wide range of stakeholders—government, international agencies, and the private sector.</p> <p>A total of 136 infrastructure projects and studies, grouped in 38 infrastructure programs, were identified with a combined budget of approximately NZ\$685 million. The programs were prioritized utilizing the multi-criteria analysis from the Cook Islands Te Tarai Vaka Process. The final phasing of the NIIP projects over the 10-year plan period will need to work within the CAPEX thresholds set by the Ministry of Finance and Economy.</p> <p>The Cook Islands Prime Minister, the Hon. Mark Brown, launched the 2021 National Infrastructure Investment Plan on 12 August 2021.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Cook Islands Country Waste Audit</b></p> <p>Country waste audits will provide crucial and important data to scope a tailored regional waste management and recycling hub by providing the quantity and quality of recycling materials available in the region. The information and data gathered will be used by countries in the Pacific to support the development and monitoring of waste and resource recovery projects and recommend the infrastructure and policy interventions required.</p> <p>Together with PIC governments and regional partners, such as PACWASTE, UNEP, JPRISM, SPREP and PRIF partners, a common Waste Audit Methodology was developed by PRIF in 2019. A waste audit and institutional assessment in the Cook Islands was undertaken on two islands (Rarotonga and Aitutaki) from 146 households, 53 businesses, 31 interviews, 100 stockpile, and 95 landfill assessment.</p>	<p>Twenty-two people from the Cook Islands were trained in conducting waste audit (20 male, 2 female). All information was recorded on smart phones and loaded onto the ArcGIS platform, allowing for remote and real-time quality checking of the data.</p> <p>The average household waste generation per day in the two islands is 1 kg (0.1–3.8 kg per household per day), mostly hygiene products, organic waste, and glass. Waste from businesses include paper/cardboard, plastic, metals, and glass. There is very little material being exported from the Cook Islands for recycling or recovery purposes.</p> <p>The Cook Islands Waste Audit Report was published in January 2021 and is being used for country planning and monitoring. Data from the audit were handed over to the Regional Waste Management Database and shared with the consulting firm conducting the Regional Recycling Hub Scoping Study.</p>

## COOK ISLANDS (continued)

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>Technical Assistance</b> (continued)	<p><b>Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>The Cook Islands Airport Authority, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management and the Ministry of Transport were consulted for the Study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The Study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p>	<p>The Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study identified several travel bubbles including the Rarotonga/Realm Countries Bubble; the trans-Tasman Bubble; and Pacific Pathways. Air Rarotonga received salary support from the Government, a business continuity loan, and CSO subsidies for services to the outer islands. The airline anticipates 2 years to recovery and has developed a multi-faceted recovery strategy placing a higher focus on sustainable CSO services, developing the medevac services, re-establishing the Tahiti service when practical, widening services to the surrounding region, partnership with other carriers, and investing significantly in human capital. The Government designed a COVID-19 Economic Recovery Roadmap and has used the NIIP to seek development partners' funding and investment in priority infrastructure.</p>
	<p><b>Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a demand analysis and stocktake of the Pacific energy landscape with specific attention to energy end-use by residential consumers, potential for distributed energy resources, and energy efficiency with the end-view of determining prospects for retail lending through national development banks with targeted distributed energy resources and energy efficiency financial products for poor and female-headed households, and future support programs to PICs by PRIF partners.</p> <p>Cook Islands was one of five countries profiled to gain a deeper understanding of market drivers and barriers for the upscale of renewable energy products and energy-efficient appliances.</p>	<p>The Cook Islands does not have a quantitative energy efficiency target and there are no loan facilities specifically targeting energy efficiency and renewable energy programs at the household level. However, the Government is committed to reducing heavy reliance on diesel and is working with development partners on appropriate infrastructure to achieve this goal.</p>

## FIJI

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	In April 2021, PRIF initiated engagement with the Ministry of Economy and prepared a concept note for assistance at their request.	The Ministry of Economy formally endorsed the PRIF concept note on 4 February 2022 for supporting and strengthening Fiji's National Infrastructure Investment Planning. The preparation of the Fiji NIIP is expected to commence in March 2022.
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Fiji Country Waste Audit</b></p> <p>Country waste audits will provide crucial and important data to scope a tailored regional waste management and recycling hub by providing the quantity and quality of recycling materials available in the region. The information and data gathered will be used by countries in the Pacific to support the development and monitoring of waste and resource recovery projects and recommend the infrastructure and policy interventions required.</p> <p>Using the Waste Audit Methodology earlier developed by PRIF, an audit in Ba and Labasa Districts was conducted involving 104 household and 14 commercial samples, six stockpile and 263 landfill-loads assessments. Key delivery partners for the audits were the Ba and Labasa Town Councils, Department of Environment, Ministry of Local Government and the respective communities.</p> <p><b>Diagnostic Study of PWWA Water Utilities</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to assist member utilities and their governments formulate policies and determine priorities for investments in water to meet the 2030 agenda for SDG 6; to prepare a framework for the PWWA to monitor the ability of utilities to provide universal access to water and sanitation; and to identify actions to enable the target utilities to be efficient and effective. The Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) was one of five target utilities in the Pacific for the Study.</p> <p><b>Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>The Ministry of Economy, Airport Fiji Ltd, and Fiji Airways were consulted for the Study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The Study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p>	<p>The audit found that 37.3% of waste generated at the household level is organics, followed by plastic at 17.4%, and paper and cardboard at 16.8%.</p> <p>The Fiji Waste Audit Report was published on the web in December 2021. PacWastePlus intends to design and implement an organic processing program for local communities, including some from Labasa.</p> <p>In order to enhance SDG-6 achievement, WAF proposed to focus the diagnostic analysis on water supply and sanitation (WSS) in informal settlements and rural communities in Fiji.</p> <p>The study is ongoing; consultants completed 80% of the SDG-6 Assessment for Fiji and WAF and half-way in preparing the Action Plan.</p> <p>The study showed that the aviation sector in Fiji is an important industry providing transport for tourists and inter-island connections. The government's economic recovery strategy is embodied in the "Fijian COVID Safe Economic Recovery Framework", whereby resumption of international travel and tourism was dependent on the achievement of high vaccination rates in Fiji and selected source markets. The Bula and the Pacific Pathways Bubbles were the two air travel bubbles proposed by Fiji to facilitate travel between the Pacific nations and the Blue Lane Initiative for the marine sector to bring tourist to Port Denarau.</p> <p>Fiji Airways is implementing its Travel Ready Program and has received liquidity support from ADB to fund the airline's fixed costs during hibernation and working capital requirements for the planned restoration of regular flights. Airports Fiji Ltd received support from the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific and in co-financing with ANZ Bank Fiji to refinance existing debt; and a loan from ADB for airport refurbishment.</p>

## FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (FSM)

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	Assistance to FSM on national infrastructure planning is included in PRIF's program for 2022–23.	Not yet started.
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p data-bbox="371 419 1055 443"><b>Improving National Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific</b></p> <p data-bbox="371 467 1205 611">In June 2021, the Department of Transport, Communications and Infrastructure of the Government of FSM wrote to PRIF requesting for an expert who could conduct preliminary review of the buildings/houses in FSM, outline the scope and approach for developing the building code, and prepare the consultants' Terms of Reference for the national building code (NBC) preparation.</p> <p data-bbox="371 627 1205 802">PRIF fielded a short-term resource person consultant that provided the expertise. PRIF also designed a wider regional study to support improvements to national building codes, their implementation and enforcement, and contribute to the efficient and effective application of design and construction standards across the Pacific. FSM is included in this regional study which will commence with the preparation of an NBC Action Plan.</p>	The FSM NBC Action Plan will include a proposal on how the national and state governments can administer and enforce the code, as well as relevant policies, guidelines, and training. A building code Technical Working Group will be established to draft the Terms of Reference for preparing the Amendments to the I-Codes or the development of Code Application Documents. An FSM NBC Final Report is expected by mid-July 2022.

## KIRIBATI

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	On 8 November 2021, Kiribati endorsed the concept note for PRIF assistance to prepare an NIIP.	PRIF is in the process of recruiting a four-person team for activity commencement in March 2022.
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a demand analysis and stocktake of the Pacific energy landscape with specific attention to energy end use by residential consumers, potential for distributed energy resources and energy efficiency with the end view of determining prospects for retail lending through national development banks with targeted distributed energy resources and energy efficiency financial products for poor and female-headed households, and future support programs to PICs by PRIF partners. Kiribati and Tonga were two countries where actual surveys were done while only desktop research were done for Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu.</p>	<p>There is low level of awareness on the promotion of energy efficient appliances in Kiribati and no formal adoption of energy standards. The Development Bank of Kiribati offers loans for purchasing solar products and electrical appliances. Formal banks, cooperatives, and private ending institutions also offer different kinds of loans for purchasing solar products and electrical appliances. Kiribati's effort in transitioning to a clean energy sector is progressing very well due to the significant input of its development partners.</p>
	<p><b>Diagnostic Study of PWWA Water Utilities</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to assist member utilities and their governments formulate policies and determine priorities for investments in water to meet the 2030 agenda for SDG 6. The Public Utilities Board (PUB) of Kiribati was one of five target utilities in the Pacific for the Study. At the request of PUB and in view of the dire status of water and sanitation services on South Tarawa, the focus of the diagnostic analysis has been to assist PUB and prepare a short-term action plan to safeguard the continuation of water supply until the reverse osmosis plants from the South Tarawa Water Supply Project become operational.</p>	<p>The study provided short-term solutions and recommendations that can be rapidly implemented to assist PUB management in delivering services while managing a water supply system that is in crisis. The South Tarawa Water Supply Project is scheduled for completion in 2027–28.</p> <p>PUB does not generate sufficient revenue to fund its operations currently and, as such, requires additional financial support. The report identified measures to assist PUB with: (i) immediate water loss reduction activities, (ii) increasing water supply availability to customers, (iii) improving water quality (disinfection), and (iv) PUB operational support, including estimated physical tools and equipment costs needed.</p> <p>The consultants also assisted the Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy in developing a WASH Strategy for the Outer Islands.</p>
	<p><b>Improving Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific</b></p> <p>As part of a regional study to support improvements to national building codes, their implementation and enforcement, and contribute to the efficient and effective application of design and construction standards across the Pacific, PRIF is assisting the Government of Kiribati in updating the 2012 Kiribati NBC.</p>	<p>With the help of a Kiribati National Coordinator engaged by PRIF, a Technical Working Group will be established to develop a Kiribati NBC Action Plan that will guide its review, updating, and revision, strengthen legal and institutional building control frameworks, and improve the application and compliance enforcement by central and local government agencies. It is expected the updates to the building code will be finalized in August 2022.</p> <p>A Home Building Manual (HBM) is also intended to be developed that will focus on the structure, construction detailing and WASH aspects of simple low-cost housing, school buildings, and clinics that utilize locally available materials and products to improve the resilience of the building stock that may not be covered by the NBC. The Kiribati HBM will be targeted at local builders and communities with a limited understanding of the complexities of the NBC.</p>

## NAURU

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>The Nauru Economic Infrastructure Strategy and Investment Plan 2011 was prepared with PRIF assistance and represented a country-led and prioritized investment plan for economic infrastructure for the next 5–10 years.</p> <p>The Nauru Integrated Infrastructure Strategic Plan (NIISP) 2019, prepared under PRIF Phase III was endorsed and adopted by the Nauruan Cabinet on 27 November 2019 as a guide to public infrastructure investment planning and budgeting.</p>	<p>The Nauru Government and PRIF virtually launched NIISP in August 2020 and distributed copies to development partners. An infrastructure asset information and condition assessment report was included in the plan, as well as capacity-building options to strengthen the government’s capacity to implement the Nauru Infrastructure Asset Management Framework and the NIISP.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Improving National Building Codes and Standards in the Pacific</b></p> <p>On 14 July 2021, the Government of Nauru requested PRIF assistance for the preparation of an NBC. Assistance will be part of a wider regional PRIF study to support improvements to NBCs, their implementation and enforcement, and contribute to the efficient and effective application of design and construction standards across the Pacific.</p> <p><b>Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>Nauru was included in the initial study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post-COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p>	<p>PRIF is currently recruiting a Nauru National Coordinator, who will assist in the creation of an NBC Technical Working Group to prepare Nauru BC Action Plan covering technical, legal, institutional and compliance enforcement arrangements. The Nauru NBC is expected to be finalized by the end of June 2022. The TA will also prepare a new Nauru Building Code Bill, which will identify the department(s) responsible for managing, administering, and enforcing the NBC Act and regulations on how it will be applied.</p> <p>The Study reported that during the pandemic, Nauru Airlines was able to operate (even at sometimes negative cashflow) as freighter aircraft bringing essential cargo to various PICs, including Kiribati, Fiji, and Nauru and within Australia. It was part of the Pacific Humanitarian Pathway on COVID-19. Nauru’s COVID-19 recovery strategy focuses on virus control and containment through border control and quarantine processes, support to the hospital and health care sector, and maximizing vaccination. The need to maintain transport connectivity during the pandemic for food and economic security is also central to the strategy, with plans to continue to fund Community Service Obligations for Nauru Airlines and the port utility.</p> <p>The Government obtained a loan from Exim Bank, Taipei,China for an aircraft replacement program for Air Nauru and the airline has recently acquired a new B737 700 Freighter for flying many Qantas night freighter services within Australia and the region, as well as increased charter flights to Nauru.</p>

## NIUE

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	On April 2021, the Niue Ministry of Infrastructure requested PRIF assistance in the preparation of NIIP 2030. Also included will be the mid-term review of the National Transport Strategy and Short-term Action Plan 2017–2026.	In January 2022, PRIF will engage a three-person team for this TA, including an Infrastructure Specialist/Team Leader, an Infrastructure Planning Specialist/Economist, and a National Project Coordinator who will be based in Niue for the 6 months' duration.

## PALAU

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>In August 2020, the Bureau of Budget and Planning of the Government of Palau endorsed the PRIF Concept Note for Technical Assistance in the Preparation of the Palau NIIP. The NIIP aims to support the country's recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic by rationalizing and mobilizing infrastructure investment opportunities to reinstate and expand commerce and trade, restore and create new jobs, and generate government revenues that will allow Palau to get back to and remain on a sustainable growth path.</p> <p>A government task force was set up to lead the formulation of the NIIP and a development committee of senior officials from key agencies was formed to assess and prioritize proposed infrastructure projects based on social, cultural, and environmental development concerns of the government and society, and potential financial and economic impact.</p>	<p>The NIIP identifies a total of 68 investments in infrastructure, with the top 20 priority projects a mixture of infrastructure for resource development, utility renewal and expansion and strengthening of central government administration.</p> <p>A NIIP Design and Monitoring Framework has been designed with the Bureau of Public Works in cooperation with the Bureau of Budget and Planning, who will be responsible for the monitoring and reporting on NIIP implementation as a component of the government's annual budget formulation.</p> <p>The Palau NIIP 2021–2030 was launched by the Government in July 2021 and presented at the Palau Economic Symposium in Koror in November 2021.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Diagnostic Study of Pacific Water and Wastewater Utilities (PWWA)</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to assist member utilities and their governments formulate policies and determine priorities for investments in water to meet the 2030 agenda for SDG 6; to prepare a framework for the PWWA to monitor the ability of utilities to provide universal access to water and sanitation; and to identify actions to enable the target utilities to be efficient and effective. The Palau Public Utilities Corporation was one of five target utilities in the Pacific for the Study.</p>	<p>Access to basic water and sanitation services in Palau is high; however, there are still several quality issues. Turbidity is often high and bacteriological standards are not always met. This applies to the main system in Koror–Airai and to the many small subsystems in the outer states. Palau Public Utilities Corporation agreed to carry out a general assessment of its operations, which identified the challenge of improving water quality as the focus for the diagnostic analysis. Preparation of the SDG-6 Assessment Report and Action Plan are currently ongoing.</p>

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Benchmarking Infrastructure Maintenance in Pacific Island Countries (PICs)</b></p> <p>This study aimed to improve maintenance of infrastructure across PICs through identification of baseline metrics and assessment of progress (maturity) against key good maintenance management practices. It gathered data from 26 entities across six infrastructure sectors in 14 PRIF member countries, including PNG. Financial records were sourced for PNG Ports and these were included in the analysis database.</p>	<p>Financial records for PNG Ports were found to be in good order, with the replacement cost and annual depreciation of assets included. The Port has a capital intensity ratio of 6.7, meaning it would take 6.7 years of revenue to replace its asset base—this is very much in line with the 6.2-year average across all entities surveyed.</p> <p>PRIF held a webinar on 30 November 2021 to disseminate the results and recommendations of the Baseline Assessment Study and was attended by eight agencies from five PICs. The report will be published on the web in February 2022.</p>
	<p><b>Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>This study reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic; identified priority short-term post-COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM in 2022.</p>	<p>Air travel is the most important form of transport in PNG, with its largest cities, Port Moresby and Lae, only directly connected by air. Airport projects under the Civil Aviation Development Investment Program are still ongoing but were disrupted by COVID-19. Air Niugini continues to operate flights, with some subsidy from the Australian Government. Air Niugini and Link PNG continue to operate to nearly all domestic ports and review schedules on a weekly basis. PNG Air has been exploring a merger with competitor Link PNG and the two airlines are collaborating closely.</p>

## REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS (RMI)

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Sanitation Options in the Pacific</b></p> <p>With the aim of improving public health and hygiene in the Pacific, PRIF investigated the feasibility, risks, and opportunities of technological options for improving on-site sanitation in peri-urban and remote locations. With Vanuatu and RMI as the study areas, the study was completed in September 2019. PRIF sought clearance and endorsement from respective governments to publish the report for public dissemination and, in late 2021, re-engaged the study authors to make presentations on the findings and recommendations of the study and provide expert opinion in the consultation meetings with key officials and agencies in RMI and Vanuatu.</p>	<p>The study recommended that RMI establish a Sanitation and Hygiene Taskforce led by the Chief Secretary's Office and develop: (i) a National Sanitation and Hygiene Strategy; (ii) Sanitation and Hygiene Guidelines; and (iii) pilot an Island-wide sanitation program that will include the development of low-cost local toilet solutions including appropriate septic tanks that properly treat waste and improve effluent quality.</p> <p>PRIF CO and the authors presented the report to the RMI Cabinet led by the Hon. President David Kabua. The study found that the lack of fit-for-purpose toilets and a mechanism to deal with full septic tanks in RMI's outer islands have serious potential to contaminate fragile freshwater tables, which could cause or transfer diseases. Proper sewage management is also a concern in Majuro and other urban areas. The Government views sanitation for all as a high priority and showed great interest in the report and its findings and seeks development partner support to implement the recommendations.</p>
<b>Other engagement</b>	<p>PRIF reached out to the RMI Permanent Secretary for Transport, as Chair of the Central Shipping Commission to present on Shipping Connectivity at PRIF Week; and to the RMI Government on other potential TA projects.</p>	<p>Discussions are ongoing with the RMI Government, who sought PRIF assistance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a National Sanitation and Hygiene Strategy – this will cover Majuro and other urban areas, and Outer Islands;</li> <li>• Develop a Manual on Fit-for-Purpose Sanitation Options – this manual will show designs, materials needed and instructions on how to build and use toilets depending on local situations;</li> <li>• Develop a Roadmap to achieve Sanitation for All – an action plan to address high rates of open defecation in some Outer Islands and provide a fit-for-purpose toilet in each household;</li> <li>• Fund the implementation of Roadmap;</li> <li>• Assist in developing a nationwide awareness-raising campaign on sanitation and hygiene.</li> </ul>

## SAMOA

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>In 2010, PRIF assisted the Government of Samoa prepare the Samoa National Infrastructure Strategic Plan (NISP), an integrated program of new investments and supporting initiatives reflecting the Government's aspirations for the economic infrastructure sector.</p> <p>In 2021, the Samoa Ministry of Finance requested PRIF assistance to strengthen its investment planning and management processes. PRIF developed a first draft Concept Note for discussion with the MOF in 2022.</p>	<p>The NISP involved an investment of around T\$430M in ongoing projects and T\$590M in new investments from 2011–2015, and an additional T\$130M in the period 2016–2020. It recommended the government to work with state-owned enterprises, the private sector, and development partners to put in place sustainable funding arrangements so that as many as possible of the priority initiatives can proceed over the 5-year period.</p> <p>The MOF is currently reviewing the first draft of the Concept Note for PRIF's support to strengthen Samoa's infrastructure investment planning processes. The activity is planned for 2022.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>The Samoa Ministry of Finance and Samoa Airways officials were consulted for the study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post-COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p>	<p>Samoa Airways is the state-owned national flag carrier of Samoa, which prior to COVID-19, was operating short-haul flights between Samoa and American Samoa, along with international flights to Australia and New Zealand. Samoa was also serviced by Air New Zealand, Fiji Airways, and Virgin Australia and was pursuing interlining and code-sharing partnerships with these carriers. Samoa is an important transit point for passengers travelling to and from Tokelau by boat.</p> <p>During the pandemic, Samoa Airways has been operating limited flights between Fitiuta and Ofu in American Samoa and repatriation flights to Pago Pago. Air New Zealand operates a weekly service to Auckland under the International Airfreight Capacity (IAFC) scheme. The airline has been actively planning all aspects of operational restart and has collaborated with PASO and NZ-CAA on any paperwork that can be completed remotely. The airline has an agreement with DFAT to service the Samoa – Tonga – Australia route under the Pacific Flight Subsidization Program when borders reopen.</p>
	<p><b>Diagnostic Study of Pacific Water and Wastewater Utilities (PWWA)</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to assist member utilities and their governments formulate policies and determine priorities for investments in water to meet the 2030 agenda for SDG 6; to prepare a framework for the PWWA to monitor the ability of utilities to provide universal access to water and sanitation; and to identify actions to enable the target utilities to be efficient and effective. The Samoa Water Authority (SWA) was one of five target utilities in the Pacific for the study.</p>	<p>A draft SDG-6 Report for Samoa was prepared and submitted to SWA in October 2021 for review. The SWOT analysis identified measures and actions to enhance access to adequate WSS services. Maintaining the current, relatively high, service levels is key to maintaining the relatively positive score of Samoa in realizing SDG 6 and puts it in a strong position to extend its operations into the independent water supply association (IWSA) service area. SWA's limited borrowing capacity is a major constraint in extending its service areas, which will, require additional investments in infrastructure. This is compounded by the diminishing support from development partners. The economic decline in Samoa because of the pandemic may cause a decline in SWA's collection rate, resulting in a reduced operating cost recovery ratio.</p> <p>Overall, the study suggested a defensive strategy for SWA to (i) maintain current service levels and operating cost recovery ratio, (ii) only expand into IWSA areas when this is compensated by an appropriate subsidy by means of a CSO contract with the government, (iii) work on improving its borrowing capacity by trying to obtain a capital injection from its shareholder, and (iv) work on disaster recovery plans and enhanced resilience of SWA infrastructure against extreme weather effects.</p>

## SOLOMON ISLANDS

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>The first Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan (SINIIP) 2013–2023 was developed with PRIF assistance in 2013.</p> <p>In March 2019, the Government, through the Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination, initiated the development of a high-priority infrastructure investment pipeline, where 55 out of 72 project submissions from 17 Government agencies were prioritized. By August 2019, 24 of these 55 projects had identified funding and seven of the 10 high-priority projects were selected for implementation. The Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination requested PRIF support to help update the 2019 pipeline and produce a Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Investment Plan for 2020–2030 (SINIP 2020).</p>	<p>The Solomon Islands Priority Infrastructure Investment Pipeline 2021 contained a total of 59 prioritized infrastructure projects (38 new and 21 upgrade or rehabilitation projects). The first 25 high-priority projects comprise investments totaling \$3.1 billion across nine industry sectors, with more than 60% of projects targeting the rural areas of Solomon Islands. These projects are very important for post-COVID-19 economic recovery of Solomon Islands and the creation of both short- and long-term job opportunities.</p> <p>Discussions are progressing to develop a full-fledged NIIP rather than a pipeline, which will feed into the Australian Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Post-COVID-19 Pacific Short-term Aviation Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>The Solomon Islands Government and the Solomon Airlines were consulted for the study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post-COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p> <p><b>Diagnostic Study of PWWA Water Utilities</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to assist member utilities and their governments formulate policies and determine priorities for investments in water to meet the 2030 agenda for SDG 6; to prepare a framework for the PWWA to monitor the ability of utilities to provide universal access to water and sanitation; and to identify actions to enable the target utilities to be efficient and effective. Solomon Water was one of five target utilities in the Pacific for the Study.</p>	<p>The Honiara International Airport serves as the domestic and international base for the country's national carrier, Solomon Airlines; and Munda Airport is the second international airport. With COVID-19, Solomon Airlines halted all international passenger flights (except limited repatriation flights to Auckland and Brisbane) and reverted to cargo flights, and 50% of domestic flights with 60% load factor. For recovery, a separate Solomon Airlines Study in 2021 recommended that the Government support a regional airline solution consisting of commercial partnerships, code sharing, and pooling and sharing of resources, as well as undertaking a feasibility study on the use of seaplanes and seaports as an alternative domestic air access solution.</p> <p>A draft SDG-6 Assessment Report on Solomon Islands was submitted to Solomon Water for review. A SWOT analysis for the formulation of the Diagnostic Framework was conducted where Solomon Water was able to identify its strategic priorities. They were then assisted in the preparation of a Strategic Action Plan to enhance its contribution to achieving SDG 6 in Solomon Islands.</p> <p>The study found that WSS service levels in Honiara have been steadily improving over the past decade and Solomon Water has been able to maintain standards and cover its operational costs. Issues such as the high level of non-revenue water (NRW) and the high costs of energy will need to be addressed and substantial reductions in NRW are occurring in 2021. Investments needed to satisfy the fast-growing demand for WSS services in Honiara and selected other small towns over the coming 20 years are being implemented over the coming years. Along with these existing inefficiencies will be reduced. These investments will require all of Solomon Water's limited management and operational capacity. The logical next step for Solomon Water would be to extend its services to other provincial capitals and urban centers and to start planning for that now. Additional resources are needed to finance future investments in the form of increased equity of Solomon Water's shareholder and additional loans and grants from development partners. Measures need to be taken to introduce an adequate mechanism to establish the annual tariffs for Solomon Water, including the recovery of operation and maintenance costs of WSS services in provincial urban centers.</p>

## SOLOMON ISLANDS (continued)

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>Technical Assistance</b> (continued)	<p><b>Improving Procurement Practice and Local Participation in Pacific Infrastructure Delivery</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to improve procurement practice and local participation in infrastructure delivery in PICs based on a regional stocktake and in-depth studies and consultative workshops in the Solomon Islands and Tonga.</p> <p><b>Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a demand analysis and stocktake of the Pacific energy landscape with specific attention to energy end use by residential consumers, potential for distributed energy resources and energy efficiency with the end view of determining prospects for retail lending through national development banks with targeted distributed energy resources and energy efficiency financial products for poor and female-headed households, and future support programs to PICs by PRIF partners. The Solomon Islands was one of five countries profiled to gain deeper understanding of market drivers and barriers for the upscaling of renewable energy products and energy-efficient appliances.</p>	<p>According to the Study, from 2018–2020 the Solomon Islands Government awarded 183 infrastructure-related contracts to 109 local contractors with a total value of approximately \$44.2M (average contract value of appx. \$170K or \$235K per contractor). The Government has no list of accredited/approved contractors/consultants. The report will be finalized in March 2022.</p> <p>Nearly all grid-connected power is generated by diesel from imported fuel as the country has no natural sources of fossil fuel (although there is potential to use coconut oil to replace diesel). Based on the country's renewable energy roadmap, mini/micro-hydro development and solar photovoltaic electricity generation will be developed by 2030.</p> <p>Hybrid solar systems are popular in the outer islands, but most communities remain reliant on diesel generators. Solomon Power encourages the use of energy efficient appliances; however, the population has low awareness of star energy labelling in appliances. Challenges to accessing a loan are eligibility for loans, restricted lending to women, and lack of formal adoption of energy standards.</p>
<b>Other Engagement</b>	<p>The Chairman of the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce was a presenter and discussion panel member representing local contractors and the private sector in a discussion on local participation in procurement during PRIF Week in October 2021.</p>	

## TONGA

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>The first Tonga NIIP 2010 was developed with PRIF assistance and full participation of and consultation with internal stakeholders and private sector representatives. It listed 12 high-priority proposed projects for the next 5 years, totaling TOP146 million; and identified different financing sources for priority new investments, maintenance, and complementary activities.</p> <p>The second Tonga NIIP 2013–2023, also developed with PRIF assistance, contained 13 high-priority projects for the next 5 years, totaling TOP170 million. NIIP2 focused on improved asset management, climate change adaptation and disaster risk management. The Government also proposed a full update of the NIIP by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning every 4 to 5 years.</p> <p>In February 2020, the Prime Minister’s Office requested an update of NIIP2 including an upgrade of the NIIP tools and templates for project proposals and prioritization methodology; and in August 2020, endorsed the Concept Note for the preparation of Tonga NIIP 2020–2030 (Tonga NIIP3), with focus on mainstreaming processes and strengthening Government ministries and state-owned enterprise coordination and linkages.</p>	<p>NIIP3 started with more government active staff engagement and leadership of the process. The first report reviewed the two past NIIP exercises and identified eight key findings and recommended modifications based on the lessons learned.</p> <p>149 priority projects were identified in 2020, which, after undergoing robust multicriteria analysis, economic, climate/disaster risk assessment and sensitivity analyses, were grouped as follows: Group 1 (with funding, 28 projects), Group 2 (requires fund source, 26), and Group 3 (not urgent, 3 projects) for a total cost of TOP933 million over the next 5 years.</p> <p>NIIP 3 was approved by the Tongan Cabinet on 19 August 2021. It is complemented by a NIIP Guidance Manual, which contains the templates, tools, and processes for applying the mainstreamed approach.</p> <p>PRIF offered support to the Prime Minister’s Office after Tonga was hit by the volcanic eruption in January 2021. Due to the devastating impact on infrastructure, a NIIP3 post-disaster prioritization addendum is being discussed.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a demand analysis and stocktake of the Pacific energy landscape with specific attention to energy end use by residential consumers, potential for distributed energy resources and energy efficiency with the end view of determining prospects for retail lending through national development banks with targeted distributed energy resources and energy efficiency financial products for poor and female-headed households, and future support programs to PICs by PRIF partners. Tonga is one of five countries profiled for this study.</p>	<p>Tonga’s energy resources are very limited, and heavily reliant on imported fossil fuel for electricity generation and transportation. Tonga Power Limited is the sole provider of electricity services, and the country has high access to electricity supply, both rural and urban. Renewable energy generation accounted for 12.78% of the total production capacity for the year 2019/2020 and overall fuel displacement value of 14.5%. Fiscal incentives are available to energy consumers in the form of tax reductions, grants, and subsidies to support various energy activities of households and businesses. There is limited access to finance available in the banking sector in Tonga so lending agencies service the microfinance market and those ineligible for bank loans.</p>
	<p><b>Improving Procurement Practice and Local Participation in Pacific Infrastructure Delivery</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a study to improve procurement practice and local participation in infrastructure delivery in Pacific island countries based on a regional stocktake and in-depth studies and consultative workshops in the Solomon Islands and Tonga.</p>	<p>According to the Study, Tonga’s procurement is governed by the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and the Public Procurement Regulations (Amendment) 2019.; and there is a registration system of supplier or contractors maintained by the Ministry of Labour, with criteria for debarment. A 2020 audit of the country’s procurement process concluded that it lacked a strategic approach and recommended better planning and monitoring of procurement outcomes. The report will be finalized in March 2022.</p>

## TONGA (continued)

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>Technical Assistance</b> (continued)	<p><b>Post-COVID-19 Aviation Sector Short-term Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>The Government of Tonga through the Ministry of Finance, Civil Aviation Tonga and Tonga Airports Ltd were consulted for the study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post-COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p>	<p>Real Tonga (“REALtonga”) was the domestic service provider up to the pandemic, with Tonga relying on foreign carriers to provide international services. REALtonga collapsed in May 2020, leaving the outer islands with no regular air links (except occasional charter flights). Air New Zealand operates weekly cargo to Tonga using its Airbus A320 under the Maintaining International Air Connectivity scheme, and charter services from Australia contracted to Qantas under the DFAT air route subsidy scheme.</p> <p>In September 2020, the Government secured a locally issued domestic Air Operator Certificate for the fully government owned Lulutai Airlines to restore services in the domestic market. However, by November 2021, the Government has reached an in-principle agreement to sell Lulutai Airlines to privately owned Fly Niu airline in early 2022.</p>
<b>Other Engagement</b>	<p>There was good engagement with Tonga’s various infrastructure agencies during PRIF Week - Planning Department, Ministry of Finance, Tonga Waste Authority on recycling, and the Ministry of Meteorology, Information, Energy, Climate Change, Communication.</p>	

## TUVALU

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>PRIF first assisted the Government of Tuvalu prepare the Tuvalu Infrastructure Strategy and Investment Plan (TISIP) in 2011.</p> <p>TISIP 2016–2025, also prepared with PRIF assistance, represented a total investment of approximately A\$213 million over a 10-year period. The Plan was endorsed and adopted by the Tuvalu Cabinet on 7 December 2016 as a guide to infrastructure investment over the next 10 years and was linked to the Tuvalu Asset Management Framework.</p> <p>In late 2019, the Tuvalu Ministry of Finance requested PRIF assistance to update TISIP 2016–2025 in a 10-page document using Government Staff resources. PRIF CO assisted the Government in preparing project profile and conducting prioritization.</p>	<p>The Tuvalu Priority Infrastructure Investment Plan (TPIIP) 2020–2025 consists of a high-priority study of A\$5 million and 15 high-priority projects totaling A\$246.7 million over the next 5 years. The report was approved by the Tuvalu Cabinet in December 2020. The Government of Tuvalu is using the TPIIP to improve coordination in planning and financing of economic infrastructure among national stakeholders and international development partners. It is being monitored by the National Development Committee and the Planning and Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.</p> <p>In 2021, the World Bank commenced feasibility and scoping studies on transport priority projects in the TPIIP, specifically, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a domestic air service while at the same time build a new international airport freeing up the existing airfield for other demanding infrastructural target activities; and</li> <li>• Improve international air and shipping services to ensure reliability of service and lower transport cost.</li> </ul> <p>The next step would be to update the Tuvalu asset register and develop 10-year maintenance plans for public assets and to inform and budget the Tuvalu Maintenance Fund.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<b>Tuvalu Country Waste Audit</b>	
	<p>Country waste audits will provide crucial and important data to scope a tailored regional waste management and recycling hub by providing the quantity and quality of recycling materials available in the region. The information and data gathered will be used by countries in the Pacific to support the development and monitoring of waste and resource recovery projects and recommend the infrastructure and policy interventions required.</p> <p>Using the Waste Audit Methodology earlier developed by PRIF, a waste audit and institutional assessment in Funafuti and Vaitupu, Tuvalu was undertaken from 197 households, 25 commercial establishments, and one landfill site.</p>	<p>Eight people from Tuvalu were trained in how to conduct a waste audit.</p> <p>Almost 1,642 tons and 7,000 m<sup>3</sup> of materials of interest are generated in Tuvalu each year. Between 6–10 m<sup>3</sup> of household waste and 750–1,000 m<sup>3</sup> of non-household waste enter the landfill every day. In addition, 96% of end-of-life vehicles, 40% of electronic (e)-waste, and 86% of lead acid batteries are generated annually by Funafuti. Recyclable materials not currently considered in any recycling or recovery scheme account for almost 30% of the country's waste stream. Future projects involving recovery of cardboard offer the highest savings in landfill space and more than 20% diversion from landfill.</p> <p>Tuvalu is ready and will be able to fully contribute to the operation of a regional recycling network because it has: (i) a legislative framework to recover recyclable materials; (ii) capable staff committed to better waste management outcomes and/or be trained to participate in recycling network activities; and (iii) a framework of infrastructure reforms currently underway that will allow for the collection and compaction of materials effectively.</p> <p>The Tuvalu Waste Audit Report was published in August 2021 and is being used for country planning and monitoring. Data from the audit was handed over to the Regional Waste Management Database and shared with the consulting firm conducting the Regional Recycling Hub Scoping Study.</p>
<b>Other Engagement</b>	The Tuvalu Minister for Finance and Climate Change spoke during the resilience session of PRIF Week. The Ministries of Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works, and the Ministry of Communication also participated actively during PRIF Week.	

## VANUATU

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
<b>National Infrastructure Investment Planning</b>	<p>The Vanuatu Infrastructure Strategic Investment Plan (VISIP) 2015 published by the Government of Vanuatu with PRIF was approved by the Council of Ministers on 16 April 2015. It outlines Vanuatu's priorities and plans for major economic and social infrastructure up to 2024.</p> <p>In April 2020, PRIF initiated discussions with the Vanuatu Government through the Prime Minister's Office to update the VISIP. A draft TA Concept Note was developed and shared with the Government for review.</p>	<p>VISIP 2015 grouped priority investments into three categories: (i) a list of 18 high-priority public infrastructure projects with an investment value of Vt21.10 billion requiring development partner support for implementation; (ii) a list of seven bundled rural sector projects with an investment value of Vt6.81 billion; and (iii) a privately funded public infrastructure project under public-private partnership arrangements with a potential Vt10.08 billion investment value.</p> <p>In February 2021, the Ministry of Finance agreed with the inclusion of international consultants in the VISIP update and verbally endorsed the Concept Note. PRIF is awaiting formal endorsement to initiate this activity, which is scheduled for 2022.</p>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<p><b>Sanitation Options for Pacific Island Countries – Vanuatu and RMI</b></p> <p>With the aim of improving public health and hygiene in the Pacific, PRIF investigated the feasibility, risks, and opportunities of technological options for improving on-site sanitation in peri-urban and remote locations. With Vanuatu and RMI as the study areas, the study was completed in September 2019. PRIF sought clearance and endorsement from respective governments to publish the report for public dissemination and in late 2021, re-engaged the study authors to make presentations on the findings and recommendations of the study and provide expert opinion in the consultation meetings with key officials and agencies in RMI and Vanuatu.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health is responsible for sanitation and hygiene in Vanuatu. There is a National Sanitation and Hygiene Policy but a practical Sanitation and Hygiene Strategy and Action Plan that defines the current status of accessibility to improved facilities for each province and sets out achievable targets for 2030 is recommended to be developed. The study also proposed the establishment of provincial sanitation task forces; development of a coordinated knowledge management and learning culture in the sector and pilot testing of Sanitation Model Village and a Menstrual Hygiene Program; and development of a management information system to monitor national and provincial progress, and to share progress and lessons learned.</p> <p>The study highlights will be presented in the next Vanuatu WATSAN Coordination Meeting in late-February/early March 2022 to seek confirmation from the government prior to publishing the report.</p>
	<p><b>Pacific Clean Energy Financing Potential</b></p> <p>PRIF undertook a demand analysis and stocktake of the Pacific energy landscape with specific attention to energy end use by residential consumers, potential for distributed energy resources and energy efficiency with the end view of determining prospects for retail lending through national development banks with targeted distributed energy resources and energy efficiency financial products for poor and female-headed households, and future support programs to PICs by PRIF partners. Vanuatu is one of five countries profiled for this study.</p>	<p>Vanuatu has no indigenous resources of fossil fuels and has some potential for hydropower development and solar photovoltaics for electricity generation. The energy sector faces the following challenges: lower-than-average quality of the grid and generation ratios, low energy access and quality, vulnerability to fuel prices, and limited private sector participation. The Energy Efficiency Act of 2017 established technical standards for refrigeration, air conditioning, and lighting equipment and products commercialized in Vanuatu; and the population has good awareness of energy efficiency.</p> <p>The country has a National Green Energy Fund with a budget of Vt500 million from 2020–2025, to mobilize and channel revolving financial resources through loans to households, communities and businesses to access renewable energy and energy efficient products. Challenges to clean energy loan products are eligibility to loan and the low income of the population and community institutions.</p>

## VANUATU (continued)

PRIF Activity	Initiative and Background	Achievements and Status
	<p><b>Post-COVID-19 Aviation Sector Short-term Strategy Study and 2021 Updating</b></p> <p>The Vanuatu Government and Airports Vanuatu Ltd were consulted for the study that reviewed the Pacific aviation landscape at the time of COVID-19; identified priority short-term post-COVID-19 recovery scenarios; and identified immediate and short-term priority areas of support including indicative financing instruments and costs. The study is currently being updated as an input to the upcoming RAMM, to be hosted by Cook Islands in 2022.</p>	<p>Aviation is vital to the socio-economic development of Vanuatu especially travel and tourism, providing critical domestic, regional, and international connectivity. Air Vanuatu is the national carrier operating direct flights to Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, and Fiji and uses several codeshare agreements for other international destinations.</p> <p>During the pandemic, the government provided Vt400 million in financial support to Air Vanuatu and Airports Vanuatu Ltd. The airline continued to operate domestic flights at reduced frequency and international operations are limited to repatriation flights and cargo only flights to the region.</p> <p>In September 2021, Port Vila’s Baurfield International Airport received certification under the Airport Council International’s Airport Health Accreditation program and the Government provided Vt94 million to upgrade the airport ventilation system and construct an exterior building to ensure segregation of arriving passengers from higher risk areas. The Government proposed a 3-phase Approach to safe border reopening.</p>



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