



SPC/GEF-R2R/RPSC.2/12

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2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Programme Steering Committee Meeting for the GEF/SPC/UNDP Project Entitled: “Ridge to Reef – Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries”

Nuku’alofa, Tonga, 31<sup>st</sup> July – 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2017

***STATE OF THE COASTS - DIAGNOSTIC REPORT CONTENTS AND SCHEDULE FOR PREPARATION***

## 1. National State of the Coast - Diagnostic Reports

### 1.1. Background

A significant focus of the Regional IW R2R Project is the scaling-up of diagnostic reporting introduced in the IWRM project as National IWRM Diagnostic Reports. These reports assessed the status of water resources and environment in each country. The barriers to implementing an IWRM approach were identified, as were needs in areas of institutional policy and legislation, financing, and human capacity to implement IWRM.

The Regional IW R2R Project will develop an approach to guide identification of required R2R reforms and actions at priority sites identified through the diagnostic process and the outcome of the rapid coastal assessments. The developed diagnostic approach will be additionally applied at priority locations to produce diagnostic reports for approval by national Inter-Ministry Committees.

The State of the Coast (SoC) Diagnostic Reports will be produced using reliable scientific information as a basis for examining the state of the environment and the root causes of environmental degradation of coastal areas. The process will identify key environmental issues in a country and assess their significance at a national scale, and again at the priority sites. As a result, priority areas will be identified for key environmental action as an initial basis for developing detailed strategic action plans for ICM/IWRM.

### 1.2. An Anticipated Project Outcome

The overarching strategic results framework relates to the achievement of the following **outcome**:

***Outcome 1.2: National diagnostic analyses for ICM conducted for prioritizing and scaling-up key ICM/IWRM reforms and investments***

The related indicators and logframe targets are as follows:

**Indicator 1.2.1:** By end of the project, number of diagnostic analyses conducted for priority coastal areas

**Target 1.2.1:** 14 diagnostic analysis for ICM/IWRM and CCA investments conducted to inform priority areas for scaling-up in each of 14 participating PICs

**Indicator 1.2.2:** Number and quality of ICM-IWRM investments incorporating baseline environmental state and socio-cultural information for the prioritization of investment sites

**Target 1.2.2:** Up to 14 ICM-IWRM investments utilizing methodology and procedures for characterizing island coastal areas for ICM investment developed by the project

Additional to these directly related elements are the following outcome that the products of diagnostic reporting will contribute to:

***Outcome 3.1: National and regional strategic action frameworks for ICM/IWRM endorsed nationally and regionally***

### 1.3. The Process for Development of National SoC Diagnostic Reports

The process of developing the national State of the Coast Diagnostic Reports will be facilitated via a coordinated programme of activities focussing on national and regional consultation combined with targeted technical and coordination support. The whole methodology is highly participatory with national stakeholders and is intended to be conducted by national expert consultants and national Project Managers with support from the RPCU where required. Initially the series of workshops and information collection will be trialled in several countries in late 2017. Each iteration will bring adjustments and improvements before being scheduled to remaining countries. Below is a diagram of the development process and brief schematic of steps taken to date.

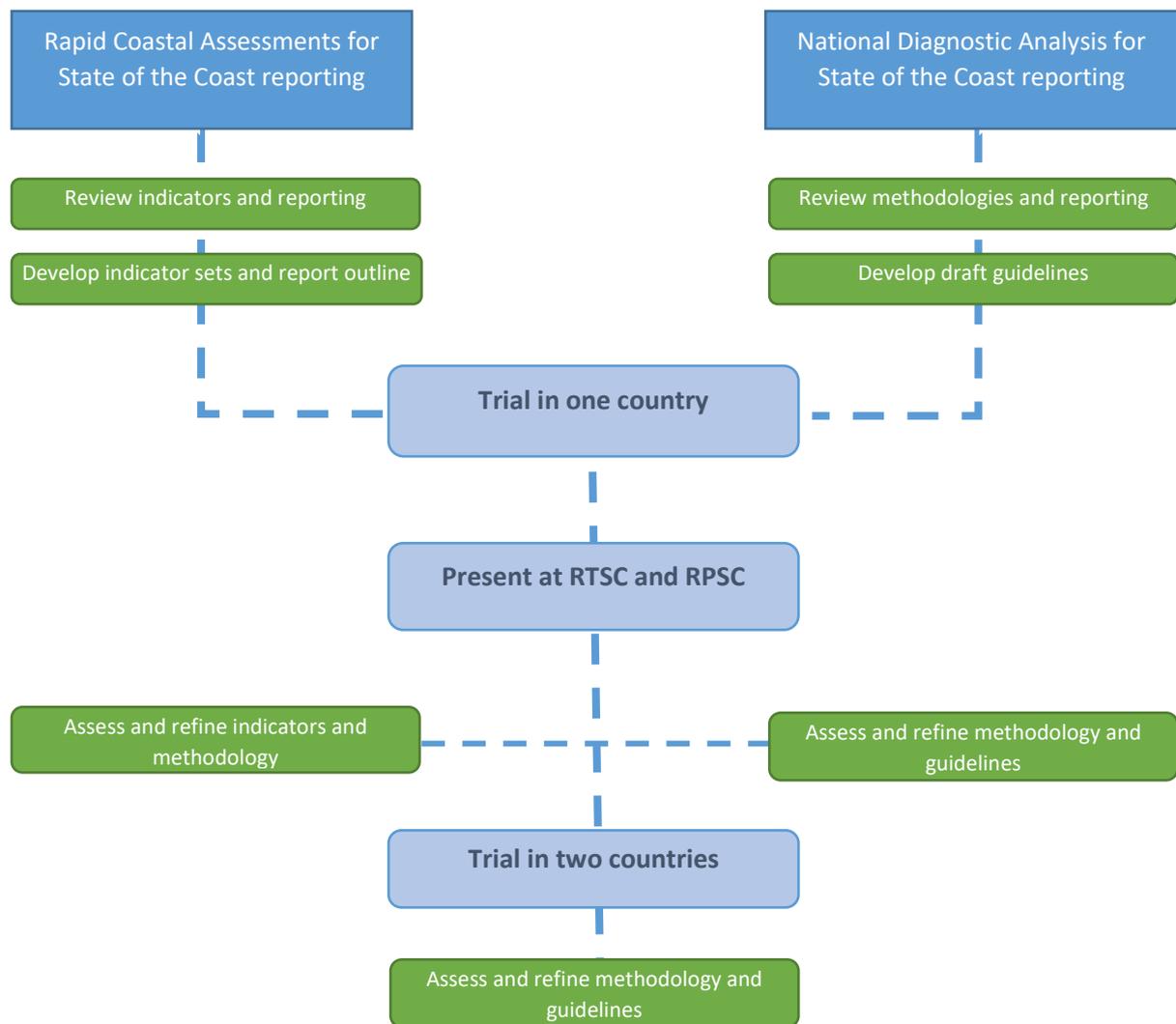


Figure 1: Diagram of development process for diagnostic report

## 2. Considering Diagnostic Analysis Examples

The Regional IW R2R Prodoc is specific about what key elements of the process should be and include:

- development of procedures for identification of environmental issues/problems;
- the conduct of social and economic evaluations of the environmental issues and problems (e.g., economic costs of environmental impacts, gender analysis of the issues and impacts, social costs of the issues such as adverse effects on human health and welfare);
- an initial prioritization of the problems, hazards and limitations to legitimate uses and activities;
- identification and characterization of immediate, secondary, and higher level causes up to the penultimate causes of identified issues/problems (causal chain analyses);
- identification and characterization of ultimate (root) causes of issues/problems;
- identification and characterization of options for reform and action;
- determination of comparative net benefit of options for reform and action; and
- identification of priority options for intervention.

To assist the RPCU in determining what should constitute the core components of the diagnostic analysis methodology a number of existing approaches were examined. These include examples from the GEF Pacific IWRM Project, the Global International Waters Assessment and other risk assessment and

diagnostic analysis for natural resource management. The review was conducted to confirm these as best practice and to identify potential criteria used for prioritisation activities. Two sets of criteria were identified for use in the national and subsequent priority site selection. During the trial of the methodology in Samoa these were further refined to improve ease of understanding and scoring. The criteria are included in Annex 1.

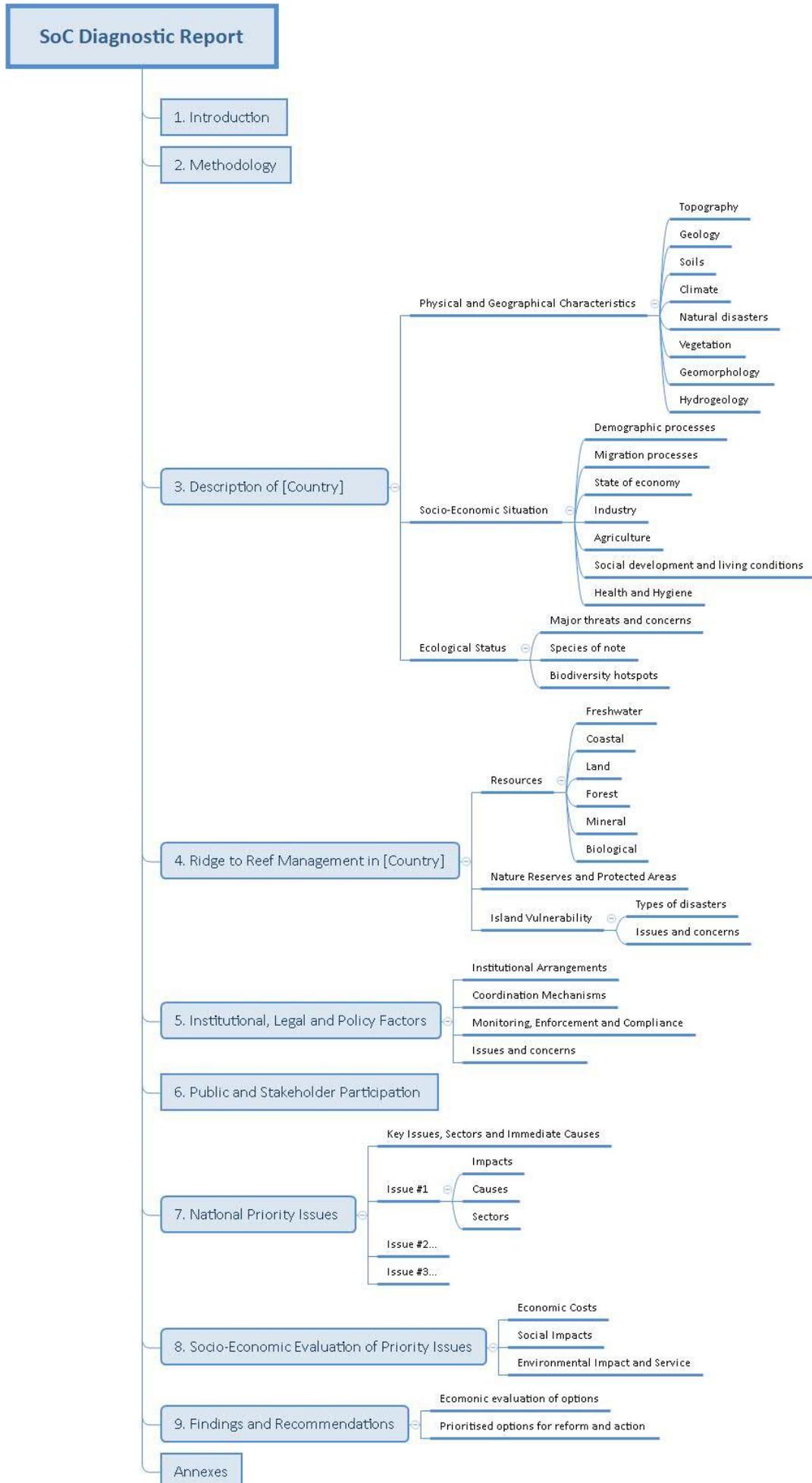
Some common characteristics of diagnostic reports and risk assessments include:

1. **Description of the country:** including details of physical and geographical characteristics, socio-economic situation and the state of the environment
2. **Description of current state of management:** includes detailed description of the current state of the natural resource system under consideration.
3. **National Priority Issues:** results of the national participatory diagnostic analysis workshops to identify environmental R2R issues, their root causes, socio-economic consequences and potential options for reform.
4. **Public and Stakeholder Participation:** details of areas where NGO;s and CSO's operate and the structure of public environmental organisations
5. **Institutional, Legal and Policy Factors:** description of the governance arrangements for environmental management
6. **Findings:** includes suggestions for options for reform and national action plans.

### 3. Diagnostic Report Structure

In its first iteration the diagnostic report will contain six main sections as outlined in the table of contents diagram below. Information for sections 1-6 will come from review of the National IWRM Diagnostic Reports, national document review, and data collected through the rapid coastal assessments and existing data sources. Sections 7-9 will be the outcome and evaluation of national consultation workshops. This will be collected and compiled by the national consultant and national IW R2R Project Manager.

The State of Coast Diagnostic Report gives a broad overview of the current state of coastal, water and land resources, governance and management in a country. It is an update of national IWRM Diagnostic Reports with additional elements of integrated coastal management addressed. It also presents perceived national environmental problems and their priority areas with environmental and socio-economic evaluation to confirm the findings.



## 4. Schedule of Preparation for Diagnostic Reporting

The RPCU will conduct several trials of the diagnostic reporting methodology before extending out to the remaining R2R countries. For the 12 months to mid-term evaluation it is intended that 3-4 countries will be completed. In the trial the RPCU will take the lead on compiling information and data for the report and conducting national workshops, with the close assistance of the national IW R2R Project Manager of those countries. It is during these trials that criteria will be refined for prioritising environmental issues and for the options for reform and action.

### 4.1. National Preparation

The preparation of the national Diagnostic Reports will be conducted by national expert consultants and national Project Managers with support from the RPCU where required. Each country will establish a Diagnostic Analysis Development Team, it is intended that the inter-ministerial committee will make the bulk of the development team. Further guidance will be provided in the Diagnostic Analysis guidelines. Nationally, the preparation involves the following steps:

- Information and data gathering
- National consultation workshops
- Evaluation of workshop outputs
- Final compilation of all information and data

A draft of the report sections 1-6 will be made available to the Diagnostic Analysis Development Team prior to national diagnostic analysis workshops. Sections 7-8 will be the outcome and evaluations from national diagnostic analysis workshops and may vary in structure according to the needs of each country. A draft of section 7-8 will be made available to the Diagnostic Analysis Development Team prior to national workshops for identification of options and reforms. Section 9 will be the outcome and evaluations of these workshops. This is presented in the diagram below.

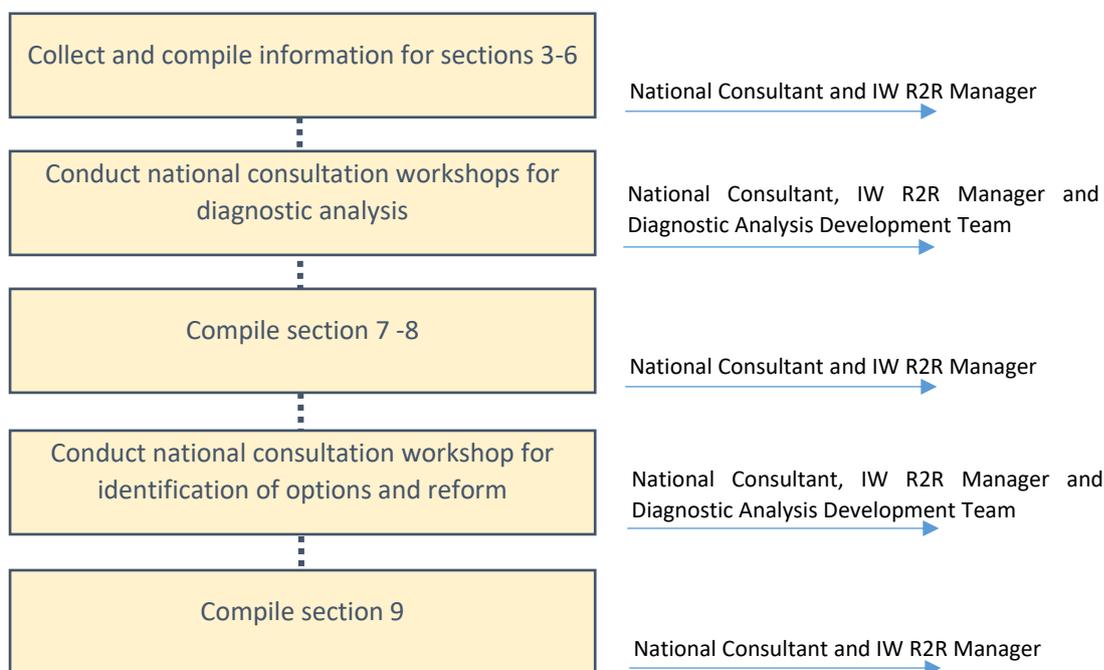


Figure 2: Diagram of national preparation for SoC Diagnostic Reports