



REVIEW OF LEGISLATION,  
POLICIES AND PLANS RELATING  
TO THE USE AND MANAGEMENT  
OF THE OCEAN

# VANUATU

SUMMARY REPORT



Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management  
in Pacific Island Countries

## SUMMARY REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF VANUATU

Supported by the Marine and Coastal Biodiversity  
Management in Pacific Island Countries (MACBIO) project

SOURCE: Muldoon J, Dovo A and L Fernandes (2015) Review of legislation, policies, strategies and plans relating to the use and management of Vanuatu's oceans. Report to the Government of Vanuatu. MACBIO (GIZ, IUCN, SPREP), Suva.

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Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management  
in Pacific Island Countries



On behalf of:  
Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,  
Building and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



## BACKGROUND

The Government of Vanuatu has decided to develop an oceans policy, which aligns with recommendations from the Commonwealth Secretariat.

This report summarises the main findings<sup>1</sup> of an analysis and assessment of 69 instruments of legislation and subordinate policies and plans that are relevant to management and use of Vanuatu's territorial waters and therefore relevant to the development of the national oceans policy. The review of Vanuatu's legislation, policies, strategies and plans relating to oceans management is part of the Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries (MACBIO) project.

The approach to the review involved an analytical framework comprising three components:

1. Individual analysis of legislation, policies, strategies and plans;
2. Integration of individual analyses into an assessment table for comparative analysis and assessment; and
3. A report which provides an assessment narrative based on the individual analyses and the information from the assessment table.

## DEVELOPING AN OCEANS POLICY

The review found that there was a sound legislative basis to support the preparation of an oceans policy and that there exists a matrix of national legislation and both national and regional policies and strategies that provide significant support for implementing an oceans policy even though there is no overarching legislation or policy that explicitly provides for a coordinated and integrated approach to oceans management. However, there are some gaps in some legislation that need to be addressed to effectively deal with matters that would have an impact on Vanuatu's oceans.

The Constitution of the Republic of Vanuatu 1980, being the sovereign law of Vanuatu, recognises the significant requirement to protect Vanuatu. The Constitution is binding on every Ni-Vanuatu person to safeguard the national wealth, resources and environment for current and future generations. This obligation underpins the management of the territorial waters of Vanuatu and consequently implies *de facto support for the development of a national oceans policy*.

### Environmental Management and Conservation Act No. 12 of 2002

The Environmental Management and Conservation Act, which is administered by the minister responsible for the environment, provides for the conservation, sustainable development and management of the environment of Vanuatu, and the regulation of related activities, including the development of national policies and plans.

### Maritime Zones Act of 2010

The Maritime Zones Act of 2010 is **highly relevant** to the development of an oceans policy as it provides for the delimitation of the maritime zones and for other related matters. The Act defines the maritime zones for Vanuatu and sets out the Vanuatu's rights in relation to its exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf, which in turn defines the extent of the area where a national oceans policy might apply.

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1 Muldoon J, Dovo A and L Fernandes (2016) Review of legislation, policies, strategies and plans relating to the use and management of Vanuatu's oceans. Report to the Government of Vanuatu. MACBIO (GIZ, IUCN, SPREP), Suva

# IMPLEMENTATION OF AN OCEANS POLICY

A range of national legislation and both national and regional policies and strategies provide support for the preparation and implementation of an oceans policy. The following are the most relevant instruments.

## National legislation

### Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 1992

The Act ratifies the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which deals with the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources, which is **highly relevant** to the development and implementation of a national oceans policy for Vanuatu. The Convention provides for development of national strategies, plans and programmes for conservation and sustainable use and the integration of conservation and sustainable use into relevant cross-sectoral plans, programs and policies.

### National Parks Act [CAP 224]

The National Parks Act provides for the declaration of national parks and nature reserves, for the protection and preservation of such areas, and for connected matters.

The National Parks Act is relevant to oceans management and use from the perspective that it provides for the creation of protected areas.

### Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014

The Fisheries Act makes provision for the management, development and regulation of fisheries (including protection of habitats) within Vanuatu waters, and for the control of fishing vessels entitled to fly the flag of Vanuatu outside of Vanuatu waters in a manner consistent with Vanuatu's international obligations, and for related matters. It also allows for the establishment of marine reserves and marine mammal sanctuaries. Consequently, it is **highly relevant** to the implementation of a national oceans policy for Vanuatu.

### Framework Convention on Climate Change (Ratification) Act [CAP 218]

The Act ratifies the Framework Convention on Climate Change so is **highly relevant** to development of a national oceans policy as it deals with the effects of climate change through a variety of management instruments developed and implemented by signatories to the Convention, including Vanuatu.

### Maritime Conventions Act [CAP 155]

The Act gives effect to international Conventions to which Vanuatu is a signatory and provides that these Conventions have full force of law in Vanuatu. Those Conventions most relevant to Vanuatu's oceans are the Conventions dealing with pollution at sea and the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program 1998.

### Shipping Act [CAP 53]

The Shipping Act provides for the control and safety of Vanuatu registered vessels. The Act deals with the safe passage of vessels through the waters of Vanuatu and addresses the issue of protecting Vanuatu waters from pollution.

## Mines and Minerals Act [CAP 190]

The Act makes provision for mining to be carried out seaward of the land so is **highly relevant** to oceans management and therefore to the development of a national oceans policy. The Act does not provide for other uses in the oceanic environment and nor does it contain provisions for environmental impact assessment or environmental protection.

## Legislative review with regard to deep-sea mining in Vanuatu (2013)

A review of Vanuatu's legislation was conducted in 2013 to identify:

- The extent to which national regulation of deep-sea mineral activities is already covered by existing legislation; and
- Where there may be a need for further legislation or regulations to be enacted by Vanuatu to comply with international law standards and requirements.

There are some gaps in the regulatory regime for deep seabed mineral activities, most notably:

- Environmental management requirements for mineral activities conducted at sea; and
- Fiscal arrangements tailored for seabed mineral activities.

The review recommended that further legislation be adopted to ensure gaps are adequately covered and that a competitive deep-sea minerals management regime for mineral prospecting, exploration and recovery activities of Vanuatu be established.

## Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act [CAP 227]

The Act is **highly relevant** to a future oceans policy as it defines both a potential use and potential suite of impacts, and provides for a means of spatial planning which raises the issue of potential conflicting policies and legislation with conservation provisions. However, this also provides an opportunity to engage with the relevant department(s) to ensure that environmental protection and other desirable policy outcomes are incorporated into licence conditions.

## Custom Land Management Act No.33 of 2013

This Act extends to the waters within the outer edge of any reef adjacent to custom land including all fringing reefs, and the land below those waters to the extent that they are considered to belong to custom owners under the custom of that custom area.

This Act is **moderately relevant** to oceans management because it defines the seaward extent of customary tenure in the ocean, as well as providing a dispute resolution mechanism for related disputes.

## Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Program Ratification Act No. 21 of 2005

The purposes of the South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) are to promote cooperation in the South Pacific region, and to provide assistance to protect and improve the region's environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations. These purposes are achieved through an action plan adopted from time to time by the SPREP Meeting, setting the strategies and objectives of SPREP. The Agreement is **highly relevant** to oceans use and management from the perspective that it provides regional programs and initiatives that are/may be carried out within Vanuatu's maritime boundaries.

## National policies

### National Environment Policy (draft dated 26 July 2013)

The (draft) National Environment Policy is potentially **highly relevant** to the development of an oceans policy in that it provides policy settings for many of the uses of Vanuatu's oceans. The draft policy states that it will create a framework that links already existing environment-related policies, while at the same time providing a roadmap for Vanuatu's long-term environmental objectives and actions. This is consistent with the general intent of the national oceans policy.

### Tuna Management Plan 2009

The Tuna Management Plan is **highly relevant** to oceans management and use as it deals specifically with the use of fishery resources. The plan is a working document that provides specific direction and guidance to managers and policy-makers while being linked to a clear set of objectives and principles.

### Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy 2010

This strategy is **highly relevant** to development and implementation of an oceans policy. Many of the issues identified and strategic arrangements developed for managing the coastal zone will apply equally validly to the oceans of Vanuatu.

### Climate Change Policy (draft dated 30 January 2015)

This (draft) policy is **potentially highly relevant** to oceans management and use and the development of a national oceans policy. Many of the predicted climate change impacts and impacts from any natural disasters have the potential to significantly impact on coastal and marine resources.

## Regional policies

### Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (2010)

This document is **highly relevant** to a national oceans policy as it provides a regional context for implementation, in particular, through the Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy 2009.

### Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy 2009

This regional policy is intended to promote the Pacific region as an ocean environment in support of sustainable development. It is not a legal document, but its guiding principles are founded on international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other international and regional agreements.

### A new song for coastal fisheries: pathways to change

This is a Secretariat of the Pacific Community workshop report from a workshop held in Noumea 3–6 March 2015. It recommends development of a strategy for community-based ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.

### Framework for Pacific Regionalism - Forum Leaders Statement 2014

This is a statement by the Pacific Island Forum Ministers about the Framework for Pacific Regionalism replacing the Pacific Plan. This statement is **highly relevant** to an oceans policy for Vanuatu as it is a political commitment to a regional framework for cooperation among member countries.

## Palau Declaration on 'The Ocean: Life and Future' Charting a course to sustainability

The Declaration calls on regional and global partners, including civil society and the private sector to work with members and the Forum Fisheries Agency to evaluate and implement appropriate solutions to address Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing and associated significant loss of fisheries earnings to Pacific Island countries. This is a significant political commitment by Pacific Island Forum leaders to the sustainable management, development and conservation of the ocean and is therefore **highly relevant** as a political statement of support for an oceans policy.

## Roadmap for inshore fisheries management and sustainable development 2014-2023 (draft 1 January 2015)

The leaders of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) countries agreed in March 2012 to develop a roadmap for the protection of inshore fisheries. This document represents that management framework and regional roadmap for sustainable inshore fisheries. This is **moderately relevant** to an oceans policy in that it potentially provides a framework for regional inshore fisheries management and a basis for developing collaborative and synergistic plans and strategies with neighbouring countries.

## Vava'u Declaration (2007) (The Vava'u Declaration on Pacific Fisheries 'Our Fish, our Future'. Forum Communiqué, Thirty-eighth Pacific Islands Forum, Nuku'alofa, Tonga, 16-17 October 2007)

The Declaration reaffirms the importance of fisheries to the economies of all Pacific Forum countries and commits countries to promoting domestic fisheries, developing and managing coastal/inshore fisheries, maintaining regional solidarity in managing tuna stocks, strengthening support for the Fisheries Forum Agency and upholding and strengthening protection measures for the regions fishery resources. This statement is **highly relevant** because it is a strong political commitment by Vanuatu, as a member of the Pacific Islands Forum, to fisheries management in the region.

A range of other national legislation and both national and regional policies and strategies provide a moderate level of support for implementation of an oceans policy. They are discussed in the full report.

Other documents analysed were either of **low relevance** or **not relevant** to the development of a national oceans policy. They were included in the analysis to ensure completeness of the review and are listed in the full report.

## FINAL COMMENTS

The review of national legislation and regional and national policies and strategies found a number of options that provide the necessary policy settings for developing an oceans policy for Vanuatu and that a wide range of legislation policies and strategies exist to support implementation of the oceans policy. There is no overarching legislation or policy that provides the necessary mechanism for integrating and/or ocean management or use related legislation or policies.

Section 4.1 summarises the scope of issues that an oceans policy is likely to address and whether the legislation, policies and strategies analysed are relevant to these issues (instruments are not in priority order). Section 4.2 summarises the list of legislation and policies reviewed.

# Scope of issues

ISSUE	LEGISLATIVE INSTRUMENT	REGIONAL AND NATIONAL POLICY AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS
Ability to develop a national oceans policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constitution</li> <li>▪ Environmental Protection and Conservation Act [CAP 283]</li> <li>▪ Maritime Zones Act No. 6 of 2010</li> <li>▪ Custom Land Management Act No.33 of 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010</li> <li>▪ Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (2010)</li> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ Forty-Fifth Pacific Islands Forum Communiqué (Koror, Republic of Palau 29–31 July 2014) and the Pacific Plan</li> </ul>
Conservation of biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ International Trade (Flora and Fauna) Act [CAP 210]</li> <li>▪ Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 1992</li> <li>▪ Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014</li> <li>▪ Environmental Protection and Conservation Act [CAP 283]</li> <li>▪ National Parks Act [CAP 224]</li> <li>▪ Animal Importation and Quarantine Act [CAP 201]</li> <li>▪ Forestry Act 2001 [CAP 276] (providing it covers mangroves)</li> <li>▪ Plant Protection Act [CAP 239]</li> <li>▪ Wild Bird Protection Act [CAP 30]</li> <li>▪ Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 7 of 2014</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999</li> <li>▪ Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010</li> <li>▪ Tuna Management Plan 2014</li> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ SPC SOPAC Strategic Plan 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ SPC Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Strategic Plan, 2013–2016</li> <li>▪ Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy &amp; Strategic Actions, 2008–2013</li> <li>▪ National Adaptation Programme for Action</li> <li>▪ National Bio Safety Framework Project</li> </ul>
Sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Protection and Conservation Act [CAP 283]</li> <li>▪ Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) (Act No. 23 of 1992)</li> <li>▪ Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014</li> <li>▪ Mines and Minerals Act [CAP 190]</li> <li>▪ Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act [CAP 227]</li> <li>▪ Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) (Ratification) Act No. 21 of 2005</li> <li>▪ Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Ratification) Act No. 4 of 2012</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999</li> <li>▪ Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010</li> <li>▪ Tuna Management Plan 2014</li> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ SPC SOPAC Strategic Plan 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ SPC Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Strategic Plan, 2013–2016</li> <li>▪ Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy &amp; Strategic Actions, 2008–2013</li> <li>▪ Priorities and Action Agenda 2006–2015</li> <li>▪ National Adaptation Programme for Action</li> <li>▪ Framework for Pacific Regionalism – Forum Leaders Statement 2014</li> </ul>
Establishment of marine and coastal protected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Protection and Conservation Act [CAP 283]</li> <li>▪ Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014</li> <li>▪ National Parks Act [CAP 224]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010</li> </ul>
Offshore petroleum and mineral prospecting and production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mines and Minerals Act [CAP 190]</li> <li>▪ Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act [CAP 227]</li> </ul>	
Shipping including discharge of ballast water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shipping Act [CAP 53]</li> <li>▪ Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Ratification) Act No. 4 of 2012</li> <li>▪ Maritime Act [CAP 131]</li> <li>▪ Ports Act [CAP 26]</li> </ul>	



ISSUE	LEGISLATIVE INSTRUMENT	REGIONAL AND NATIONAL POLICY AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS
Depletion of marine resources e.g. overfishing, destructive fishing practices, illegal foreign fishing vessels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 1992</li> <li>▪ Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014</li> <li>▪ Agreement on strengthening Implementation on the Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries surveillance and Law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No. 2 of 2014</li> <li>▪ Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance and law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No.10 of 1993</li> <li>▪ Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 2013</li> <li>▪ Convention on the Conservation and Management of Tuna Stocks and other Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Ratification) Act No. 17 of 2005</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tuna Management Plan 2014</li> <li>▪ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999</li> <li>▪ Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010</li> <li>▪ Priorities and Action Agenda 2006–2015</li> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–015</li> <li>▪ SPC Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Strategic Plan, 2013–2016</li> <li>▪ SPC SOPAC Strategic Plan 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy &amp; Strategic Actions, 2008–2013</li> <li>▪ Palau Declaration on 'The Ocean: Life and Future' Charting a course to sustainability</li> <li>▪ A new song for coastal fisheries: Pathways to change (SPC workshop report 2015)</li> <li>▪ Roadmap for inshore fisheries management and sustainable development 2014–2023 (draft 1 January 2015)</li> <li>▪ The Vava'u Declaration on Pacific Fisheries 'Our Fish, our Future'. Forum Communiqué, Thirty-eighth Pacific Islands Forum, Nuku'alofa, Tonga, 16–17 October 2007.</li> </ul>
Coastal erosion and increased sedimentation from development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Physical Planning Act [CAP 193]</li> <li>▪ Foreshore Development Act [CAP 90]</li> <li>▪ Quarries Act No 9 of 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999</li> <li>▪ Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010</li> </ul>
Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Framework Convention on Climate Change (Ratification) Act [CAP 218]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Climate Change Policy (draft 30 January 2015)</li> <li>▪ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999</li> <li>▪ National Adaptation Programme for Action</li> <li>▪ Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (2010)</li> <li>▪ Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy 2009 (PIROP)</li> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015</li> </ul>
Pollution and waste management e.g. oil spills, hazardous waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maritime Conventions Act [CAP 155]</li> <li>▪ Shipping Act [CAP 53]</li> <li>▪ Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Ratification) Act No. 4 of 2012</li> <li>▪ The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Ratification) Act No. 12 of 2005</li> <li>▪ Pollution (Control) Act No. 10 of 2013</li> <li>▪ Waigani Convention (Ratification) Act No. 16 of 2007</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Persistent Organic Pollutants Policy</li> </ul>
Introduced marine pests and invasive species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Animal Importation and Quarantine Act [CAP 201]</li> <li>▪ Plant Protection Act [CAP 239]</li> </ul>	
Trans-boundary Issues e.g. overfishing, pollution, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 1992</li> <li>▪ Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Ratification) Act No. 4 of 2012</li> <li>▪ Agreement on strengthening Implementation on the Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries surveillance and Law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No. 2 of 2014</li> </ul> <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance and law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No.10 of 1993</li> <li>▪ Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 2013</li> <li>▪ Convention on the Conservation and Management of Tuna Stocks and other Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Ratification) Act No. 17 of 2005</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (2010)</li> <li>▪ Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy 2009 (PIROP)</li> <li>▪ Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ SPC SOPAC Strategic Plan 2011–2015</li> <li>▪ SPC Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Strategic Plan, 2013–2016</li> <li>▪ Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy &amp; Strategic Actions, 2008–2013</li> </ul>

# List of instruments and documents reviewed

## Legislation

1. Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) (Ratification) Act No. 21 of 2005
2. Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 2013
3. Agreement on strengthening Implementation on the Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries surveillance and Law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No. 2 of 2014 / Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance and law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No.10 of 1993
4. Animal Importation and Quarantine Act [CAP 201]
5. Constitution of the Republic of Vanuatu
6. Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 23 of 1992
7. Convention on the Conservation and Management of Tuna Stocks and other Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Ratification) Act No. 17 of 2005
8. Custom Land Management Act No 33 of 2013
9. Decentralisation Act [CAP 230]
10. 1DSM Legislative Review Vanuatu 2013
11. Environmental Protection and Conservation Act [CAP 283]
12. Fisheries Act No.10 of 2014
13. Foreshore Development Act [CAP 90]
14. Forestry Act [CAP 276]
15. Forestry Rights Registration and Timber Rights Harvest Guarantee Act [CAP 265]
16. Framework Convention on Climate Change (Ratification) Act [CAP 218]
17. International Trade (Flora and Fauna) Act [CAP 210]
18. Maritime Act [CAP 131]
19. Maritime Conventions Act [CAP 155]
20. Maritime Zones Act No. 6 of 2010
21. Mines and Minerals Act [CAP 190]
22. Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries Amendments (Ratification) Act No. 12 2007
23. Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries and Related Amendments (Ratification) Act No. 16 of 2005
24. Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No. 7 of 2014
25. National Disasters Act [CAP 267]
26. National Parks Act [CAP 224]
27. Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act [CAP 227]
28. Physical Planning Act [CAP 193]
29. Plant Protection Act 1997
30. Pollution (Control) Act No. 10 of 2013
31. Ports Act [CAP 26]
32. Preservation of Sites and Artefacts [CAP 234]
33. Public Health Act [CAP 234]
34. Quarries Act No 9 of 2013
35. Shipping Act [CAP 53]
36. The Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (Ratification) Act No. 4 of 2012
37. The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Ratification) Act No. 12 of 2005
38. Waigani Convention (Ratification) Act No. 16 of 2007
39. Water Resources Management Act [CAP 281]
40. Wild Bird Protection Act [CAP 30]
41. Custom Land Management Act NO. 33 OF 2013

## Other instruments

### *International Conventions etc*

#### 42. Aichi Targets

### *Regional agreements/strategies etc*

43. Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (2010)
44. Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy 2005
45. Pacific Regional Environment Program Strategic Plan, 2011–2015
46. SPC SOPAC Strategic Plan 2011–2015
47. SPC Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Strategic Plan, 2013–2016
48. Pacific Islands Regional Coastal Fisheries Management Policy & Strategic Actions, 2008–2013
49. Roadmap for inshore fisheries management and sustainable development 2014–2023
50. A new song for coastal fisheries: Pathways to change
51. Forty-Fifth Pacific Islands Forum Communiqué Koror, Republic of Palau 29–31 July 2014
52. Framework for Pacific Regionalism – Forum Leaders Statement
53. Palau Declaration on The Ocean Life and Future: Charting a course to sustainability
54. Vavau Declaration

### *National policies, strategies and plans*

55. Priorities and Action Agenda 2006–2015
56. National Environment Policy
57. National Bio Safety Framework Project
58. Persistent Organic Pollutants Policy
59. Tuna Management Plan 2014
60. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Bio-security Corporate Plan, 2014–2018 (according to the Department's website the Corporate Plan is yet to be developed)
61. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999
62. National Adaptation Programme for Action
63. Integrated Coastal Management Framework and Implementation Strategy, 2010
64. National Strategy for Spatial and Physical planning (not found)
65. National Conservation Strategy 1988 (unclear if this was replaced by the NBSAP)
66. Plan of Works on Protected Areas (not submitted yet according to CBD website)
67. Climate Change Policy draft 30 January 2015

### *Community Plans*

68. SANMA Provincial Government Council Annual Business Plan, 2014
69. Marou Community Declaration Adaptive Management Plan (undated)



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