

UNITED
NATIONS

E



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED
E/CONF.92/BP.14
13 April 2000

ENGLISH ONLY

FIFTEENTH UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL
CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE FOR ASIA
AND THE PACIFIC

Kuala Lumpur, 11-14 April 2000
Item 9 of the provisional agenda*

GIS DEVELOPMENT IN PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS

* E/CONF.92/INF/1

GIS Development in Pacific Island Nations

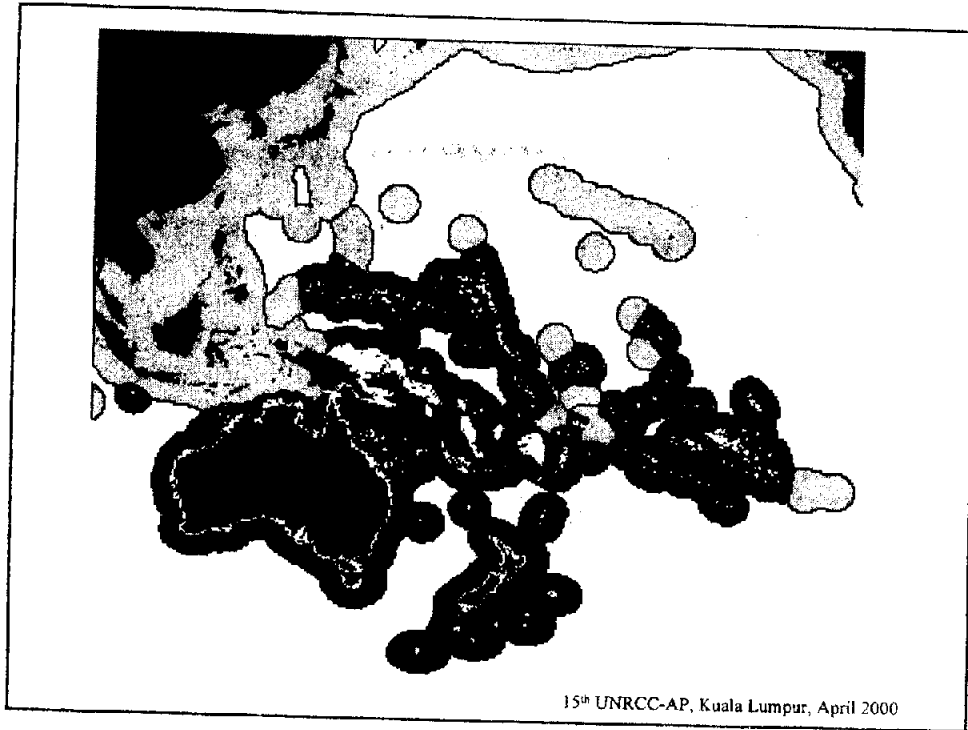
Keu Mataroa
(Cook Islands)
Chair, PCGIAP Pacific Group

Pacific Islands Profile

<u>Characteristic</u>	<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Cook Is</u>
Population:	2,000 - 800,000	20,000
Land area:	26km ² - 28k km ²	237km ²
EEZ area:	120k km ² - 3.5m km ²	1.8m km ²
GNP (US\$):	\$12m - \$2b	\$80m
GNP/person:	\$800 - \$5,000	\$4,200
Aid % GDP:	2% - 67%	13%

Countries profiled: Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

Source: ADB, 1988; AusAid, 1998; most data 1994 - 1997.



GIS Development Issues

- Funding
- Technology
- Power supply
- Skilled labour
- Communications
- Logistics
- Natural disasters

PCGIAP Pacific Workshop

- Suva, 22-25 March 1999
- Hosted by Fiji
- Sponsored by Australia
- 15 countries (from 19 invitations)
- Presentations on PCGIAP, GIS, geodesy
- Technical visits to Fiji & regional agencies
- Discussions on development needs

15th UNRCC-AP, Kuala Lumpur, April 2000

PCGIAP Pacific Group

- Formed to represent interests of 19 members
- Recognised at 5th PCGIAP (Beijing)
- Chair and Vice-Chair by annual rotation
- SOPAC to provide secretariat
 - Communications
 - Work plan
 - Coordination and logistics
 - Obtain funding for projects

15th UNRCC-AP, Kuala Lumpur, April 2000

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

- Independent, intergovernmental, regional
- Based in Suva
- 54 staff
- \$10 million p.a. (members & supporters)
- Managed by representative Council
- Projects include environmental science, disaster management, energy, water supply

15th UNRCC-AP, Kuala Lumpur, April 2000

Pacific Group Priorities

1. Institutional Strengthening
2. Regional Geodesy
3. Remote Sensing Data Library

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Institutional Strengthening

- Undertake a comprehensive survey of GIS development needs
- Design a major regional capacity building program
- Seek funding to implement the program !

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Regional Geodesy

- Extend APRGP to include all Pacific members (multiple islands per country)
- Sea level (vertical datum) a special interest

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Remote Sensing Data Library

- Identify existing imagery
- Develop a Pacific data library
- Negotiate update arrangements

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