

International environmental agreements are crucial to ameliorating the worst effects of environmental degradation and supporting our planet's biological diversity and human wellbeing. The forums and processes required to achieve these outcomes often have a unique language – combining international policy, law and careful diplomacy.

This handbook has been designed to provide negotiators with comprehensive and practical advice on handling the complexities of international environmental governance.

The handbook, designed specifically for the Pacific region, was prepared by the New Zealand Centre for Environment Law (NZCEL), University of Auckland, in association with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). For more information, please visit www.sprep.org/ mea handbook















## The Pacific environment – sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

The islands of the Pacific are spread over approximately 30 million square kilometres of the world's largest ocean. Thousands of unique land and marine species live in the region, and our islands support more rare and endangered species per capita than anywhere else in the world.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is the lead regional inter-governmental organisation charged with protection, management and sustainable development of the Pacific islands environment.

Based in Apia, Samoa we work closely with our 26 member countries and territories, and other partners, to address environmental challenges of our Pacific island members under four strategic priorities. These are: biodiversity and ecosystem management; climate change; environmental monitoring and governance; and waste management and pollution control.



## **OUR MEMBERS:**

American Samoa, Australia, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna.

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