



## PROJECT

# SOUTH PACIFIC DATA AND INFORMATION NETWORK IN SUPPORT TO INTEGRATED COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT (SPINCAM)



## FINAL REPORT

**December 2011 – July 2012**

**PA/ Contract N° 4500120859  
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## **TECHNICAL-REGIONAL REPORT**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

In the scope of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), the Integrated Management of coastal zones has been a recurring item on the regional agenda, becoming an important thematic area and fundamental pillar for the activities of the Action Plan's "Environmental Management" component for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the Southeast Pacific, which promotion has been carried out for over 15 years.

The participation of the Action Plan's Executive Secretariat regarding initiatives on the integrated coastal management promoted by international organizations such as the IOC, UNEP, among others, has received the permanent support of the High Signing Parties to the Lima Agreement through its numerous Decisions and is also enshrined in the 2002 Santiago Charter of Ministers of Foreign Affairs that agreed to entrust the CPPS with the regional political coordination of oceanic topics, among others, "the actions of ordering, conservation and regional protection of the marine environment, and the integral management of marine coastal zones"

Due to the aforementioned, the Data and information network project for the South Pacific in support of an integrated management of coastal areas (SPINCAM) has been implemented as of July 2008 in the countries of the South Pacific (Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru). The project has been sponsored by the Government of Flanders through the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the UNESCO (IOC – UNESCO) and has the purpose of supporting the implementation and efficiency of the integrated coastal management through the improvement in the management of data and information, management capacity, knowledge, communication and networking at a national and regional level, as well as the delivery of information on the status of the coast.

This initiative has strengthened the Action Plan's technical and management capacity of member States for the protection of the marine environment and coastal areas of the Pacific, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru, within the context of coastal zone integrated management (CZIM), both at national and regional levels.

In the same way, the SPINCAM Project has supported the improvement of data and information management, facilitating communication through a national and regional Network. However, despite this progress it is imperative to continue with the development of dynamic and harmonic tools that will be used by decision-makers and the civil society involved in coastal management.



This report describes the activities of this regional coordination office during the December 2011 – July 2012 period. Lessons learned are included as a result of an analysis of the difficulties and challenges in the implementation of each Work Package in the first phase. Additionally, reports corresponding to workshops, meetings and conferences held in this period are annexed.

## **II. ACTIVITIES**

The Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) has fulfilled the activities established in the Memorandum of Understanding between CPPS – IOC in conformity with the Decisions of the Action Plan's General Authority for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the Southeast Pacific related to the project. The regional activities carried out are summarized as **Annex 1** and the final national reports submitted to this Executive Secretariat appear as **Annex 2**.

### **a) WP1- Project Coordination**

The CPPS's role as a Coordination office was based on facilitating and coordinating the execution of activities of the different Work Packages (WP) both at national and regional levels through the participation of meetings pertaining the management and development of the project, as well as the promotion of communication with National and Technical Focal Points to follow up on the commitments acquired.

The SPINCAM Project has been promoted in CPPS's institutional page as an important tool in the integrated coastal management of the Southeast Pacific region. Additionally, the virtual office managed by the IOC has been a useful tool to consolidate the technical workgroup involved in the development of the regional indicators.

Furthermore, the CPPS has been in charge of the organization of Steering Committee meetings, being the 5th Meeting of the Committee held after SPINCAM's Regional Conference, in July 1st in Lima, Peru, the last of the phase, and which purpose was to prepare the second SPINCAM Project phase. The full report of SPINCAM's 5th Steering Committee meeting is shown as **Annex 3**.

### **b) WP-2 Data and Information Management**

This Work Package promoted activities related to the improvement of data and information management both at national and regional levels. For this reason, CPPS assisted the five countries of the region in the identification of the IODE National Coordinator for data management and the National Data Center (NODC).



## **National Level**

Coordination meetings were held with national data centers and information management groups, resulting in the creation of Technical Work Groups that provide support in the preparation of national catalogs with the data available, and in the identification of the national metadata structure.

This coordination helped understand national institutions' status and capacity to provide data and information. In this way, the use of spatially referenced data was agreed at both a regional and national level, as well as the Geonetwork application for metadata. Additionally, the countries selected data and information sets that had a common format for an adequate comparison and processing.

Information management activities were partially accomplished in the region because there is scattered and un-digitized information; therefore it is necessary to have a standardized process for information and repositories in accordance with international standards, together with the advisory of national IODE coordinators for information management. It was evident that the metadata issue requires additional efforts; nonetheless, the work was started with the population of some bases.

With the purpose of establishing a regional and national metadata scheme, training activities and technical on-site and virtual meetings aimed towards the preparation of shapefiles for the development of the national and regional atlas were held.

## **Regional Level**

By mandate of the member States, the organization responsible for the regional Atlas's central node was the South Pacific Permanent Commission leading to a series of improvements in infrastructure and human capital.

Experts of ODINCARSA and the Marine Research Institute of Colombia (INVEMAR) constituted an essential guide during the implementation of this node. Similarly, the relations between SPINCAM National and Technical Focal Points were strengthened through the development of virtual meetings that had the engagement of national technicians for the delivery of unified data, as well as the exchange of national experiences in the calculation of indicators and their spatial representation as their main objectives.

In May 2011, the course on map servers and cartographic viewers for the development of the Atlas served in the implementation of data presentation and metadata structure, as well as the strengthening of national and regional initiatives; activity that was reported to the IOC in July 2011 in a timely manner.



Comparing the difficulties posed by the five regional indicators, and upon analysis of the complexity of each one of them, the water Quality indicator was identified (led by Colombia) as the most difficult one to determine in the South Pacific. For this reason, this coordination office agreed to support the development of this indicator, and for this effect, during the XVIII Meeting of the General Authority of the Southeast Pacific Action Plan, held on March 1, 2012, the Action Plan's Executive Secretariat was urged to immediately hold a technical workshop with the main purpose of developing the capacities of member States for the development of the mathematical adjustment process and calculation of the water quality indicator. The workshop was held in April 2012, in Santa Marta, Colombia and had the advisory of technicians of the Marine Research Institute of Colombia (INVEMAR) and financial support from CPPS. The full report for this workshop can be found as **Annex 4**.

Since 2011, the CPPS started the development of the regional Atlas and has put a pilot version under way, which is undergoing an improvement phase. A demonstrative video has been made, where the principal advances of this tool can be observed; the video can be downloaded at the following link:

<http://cpps-int.org/spanish/planaccion/spincam.htm>

In accordance with the reports submitted, a table of activities corresponding to WP2 is included below:

WP2. DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT.	CL	CO	EC	PA	PE
1. Identify the SPINCAM institutional coordinator and the technical focal points (MD, MI) per country.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
2. Identify SPINCAM National Data Centers (NDC).	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
3. Data and Information Coordination Group Meetings.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
4. Prepare catalog of data available (For each associated institution).	No	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
5. Identification of the national data Structure.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
6. Participation in the creation of the Technical Work Group coordinated by ODINCARSA; this should include IODE national coordinators and qualified National experts in the process.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok, IODE National Coordinator in Process	Ok
7. Make sure that data and information management groups are operable and include the CNDO and IODE and PFNT coordinators.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
8. Make sure that countries use the Geonetwork application for the Atlas.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
9. Implementation of information management activities and close interaction with national IODE IM Coordinators.	No	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
10. Population of the national meta-database.	No	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
11. Select data sets adequate for processing (geographic scope and scale).	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
12. Establishment of the Ocean Data Portal in the nodes that provide national data.	No	Ok	No	No	No



13. Preparation of the electronic repository together with IODE IM coordinators.	No	Ok	Ok	No	In process
14. Data set and file processing based on IODE formats, best practices and standards.	No	Ok	No	In process	Ok
15. Preparation of national and regional/WMS shape files for the agreed indicators.	No	Ok	Ok regional, nationals in process	Ok	Ok
16. Agree on the national map technology.	No	Ok	No	No	Ok
17. Preparation of the National Atlas.	No	Ok	No	No	Ok
18. Delivery of products and communication to continue the development of Regional Atlas activities.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok

### c) WP3- ICAM National Indicator Framework

Considering that the majority of the countries had delays in the implementation of this package and consequently some activities were not developed in conformity with the work schedule, the CPPS notified the countries of the reallocation of the funds corresponding to the national technical and political conference to finance the participation of high level political representatives in SPINCAM's Regional Conference held in June 2012 in Lima, Peru.

In this sense, during SPINCAM's 5th Steering Committee Meeting, the countries of the region requested the donors to include the pending activities in SPINCAM II's work plan.

In accordance with the reports submitted, a table of activities corresponding to WP3 is included below:

<b>WP3. ICAM NATIONAL FRAMEWORK INDICATOR</b>	<b>CL</b>	<b>CO</b>	<b>EC</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>PE</b>
1. Define a common methodology and formats for the calculation of national and regional indicators.	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
2. Calculate the indicators.	No	Ok	Ok	Ok	Ok
3. Communicate indicator results to a vast public (not only specialists and receive comments).	No	Ok	No	No	Ok
4. Organize national workshops to define the Final indicator sheets and the report on the Status of the Coast together with those in charge of designing policies.	No	Ok	No	Ok	No
5. Production of indicator sheets and report on the Status of the Coast (along with the CNDO).	No	Ok	No	In Process	No
6. Design, produce and promote educational and dissemination material for the population.	No	Ok	No	Ok	No
7. Development of ICAM materials for the public.	No	Ok	No	Ok	No
8. Organize national workshops with local Participants and end users of SPINCAM Products.	No	Ok	No	No	Ok



#### d) WP4- Regional Indicators, dissemination and communication

The CPPS has continuously participated in international events, as well as through different dissemination materials, such as posters and fliers that have been developed to promote the dissemination of the project.



SPINCAM's Regional Conference was held in late May in Lima, Peru; event that was organized in response to the completion of the first SPINCAM phase. Its objective was to show the results of the Project in support to the management of the coastal zone at a national and regional level, and establish a dialogue with decision-makers on how to strengthen cooperation and investment in marine-coastal evaluation systems in support of national and regional policies. The Conference's full report is found in **Annex 5**.

Additionally, all meeting reports and publications are available on the CPPS's website. In the same way, the information of the activities is periodically updated in the institutional website:

(<http://www.cppsint.org/español/planaccion/spincam.htm>).

### III. LESSONS LEARNED

#### a) WP1- Regional Project Coordination

- The need for the institutions that are involved in the project to clearly recognize their role and facilitate administrative aspects was evidenced, such as the receiving of funds and legalizing of contracts.

- Constant communication and institutional and inter-institutional coordination is important in order to follow up on tasks.



- It is of essence to optimize coordination by performing biannual surveys to determine difficulties or needs in the implementation of tasks.

b) WP2- Data and Information Management

Some flaws and different information processing levels within the countries of the region were evidenced during the implementation, thus it is considered that:

- It is necessary to put together and consolidate workgroups or technical networks for the exchange of experience in the management of data and information.

- It is imperative to continue strengthening capacities of the professionals of the region and promote the use of software open to those involved in topics of data/metadata management and validation. Priority educational topics have been identified, among which we have: training in OceanDocs, courses pertaining to the management of satellite images/data, workshops on the development of the marine-coastal Atlas and generation of indices, geomath basic and advanced seminars.

- Considering key technical personnel turnover in the institutions, it is important to create procedures manual for the development of indicators and ensure a permanent and updated exchange of data and information.

- To comply with the operation and maintenance of the Regional Atlas, it is important to strengthen the regional node (CPPS), in knowledge as well as in infrastructure.

- It is indispensable to know the applicability of the Geoportal in the field, therefore it would be convenient to involve potential users and make the necessary adjustments to this tool.

c) WP3- ICAM National Indicator Framework

It was evidenced that the countries of the region have a different level with regards to data and information processing, generating delays in the fulfillment of the work plan: therefore it is necessary for the work plans to be developed based on national realities.

d) WP4- Development of regional indicators, dissemination and communication

Recognizing that communication is essential for the exchange of experiences, it is of extreme importance to develop effective strategies. In this sense, we consider it opportune to develop a video on the scope and benefits of an



integrated coastal management in the region of the Southeast Pacific so this didactic material can be used by coastal communities with the purpose of sensitizing the population and decision-makers on this topic.

Tools, such as videoconferences and handouts are also used in order to promote dissemination and communication.

#### IV. OTHER MATTERS

- Preparation of SPINCAM II

Together with the IOC, the CPPS has coordinated the preparation of documents, such as a warranty letter, appointment/ratification of SPINCAM's National and Technical Focal Points, co-funding table, and national work plan for the 2012-2015 period. The SPINCAM II proposal will be consistent with the results of the first phase, and the work plan format has been developed based on the comments by member States of having equality in national and regional activities.

SPINCAM II information provided by each country is found in **Annex 6**.

#### V. REFERENCES

1. Chile's final Technical Report
2. Colombia's final Technical Report
3. Ecuador's final Technical Report
4. Panama's final Technical Report
5. Peru's final Technical Report

#### VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

The summary of expenditures made by the CPPS from December 2011 to July 2012 is shown in the following table. The complete financial report is attached to this report as **Annex 8**.

ITEM	TOTAL US\$
1. Coordination	
Transfer to Panama for WP2 activities (according to CPPS – IOC Addendum).	13.500,00
Transfer of balance to Colombia for WP3 activities (according to CPPS - IOC Addendum).	2.550,00
2. Regional SPINCAM Conference and the 5th SPINCAM Steering Committee Meeting.	40.808,78
3. Dissemination material, development of the regional poster.	46,74
4. Additional costs for bank transfers.	188,48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57.094,00</b>



## **VII. ANNEXES**

- Annex 1:** Summary of activities carried out from December 2011 to July 2012.
- Annex 2:** Final national technical reports (Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, and Peru).
- Annex 3:** 5th SPINCAM Steering Committee Meeting Report.
- Annex 4:** Report on the Workshop for the revision of the methodology for the calculation of the regional water quality indicator and its representation in the Regional Atlas.
- Annex 5:** Regional SPINCAM Conference Report.
- Annex 6:** Country commitments for SPINCAM II.
- Annex 7:** Financial report.