

PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT AND NIUE

SUPPORT TO PIFS TO BUILD CAPACITY FOR MAINSTREAMING TRADE POLICY FRAMEWORKS (TPFS) AND OVERALL TRADE AGENDA IN THE PACIFIC REGION, AND TO NIUE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS TPF

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

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Overall the programme implementation has progressed very well so far. Alongside the completion of other outstanding activities in the regional and national components, work began in July on organising the Regional Workshop on Trade Policy Mainstreaming.

At this point, the regional (PIFS-based) component is at an advanced stage, with a review of literature and materials, including a 2016 PIFS Survey on TPF Mainstreaming, leading to the development of a draft Regional Manual on Trade Policy Mainstreaming.

In terms of the work of the project on reforms to Niue's customs legislation, a detailed article-by-article desk review of Niue's recently drafted Customs Bill was completed and a draft was submitted to Niue authorities. A comprehensive programme of consultations has been conducted with customs and other stakeholders playing a role in air freight and sea freight clearance, focused on increasing awareness of the new legislation and the changes it is likely to bring, as well as identification of capacity building and technical assistance required to comply with new draft Customs Bill by the two sets of stakeholders identified. Work on a report with recommendations for amendment of customs legislation to improve trade facilitation was also submitted to the Beneficiary.

With respect to the national (Niue) component, policy work on the TPF and Implementation Matrix has been completed. Training and capacity building activities have also been completed. Support to conduct a meeting of the NTC has been provided and the NTC meeting was held. In terms of the work on customs, a comprehensive review of Niue's customs legislation has been carried out and submitted to Niue authorities and consultations with stakeholders has been carried out.