



Government of the Cook Islands

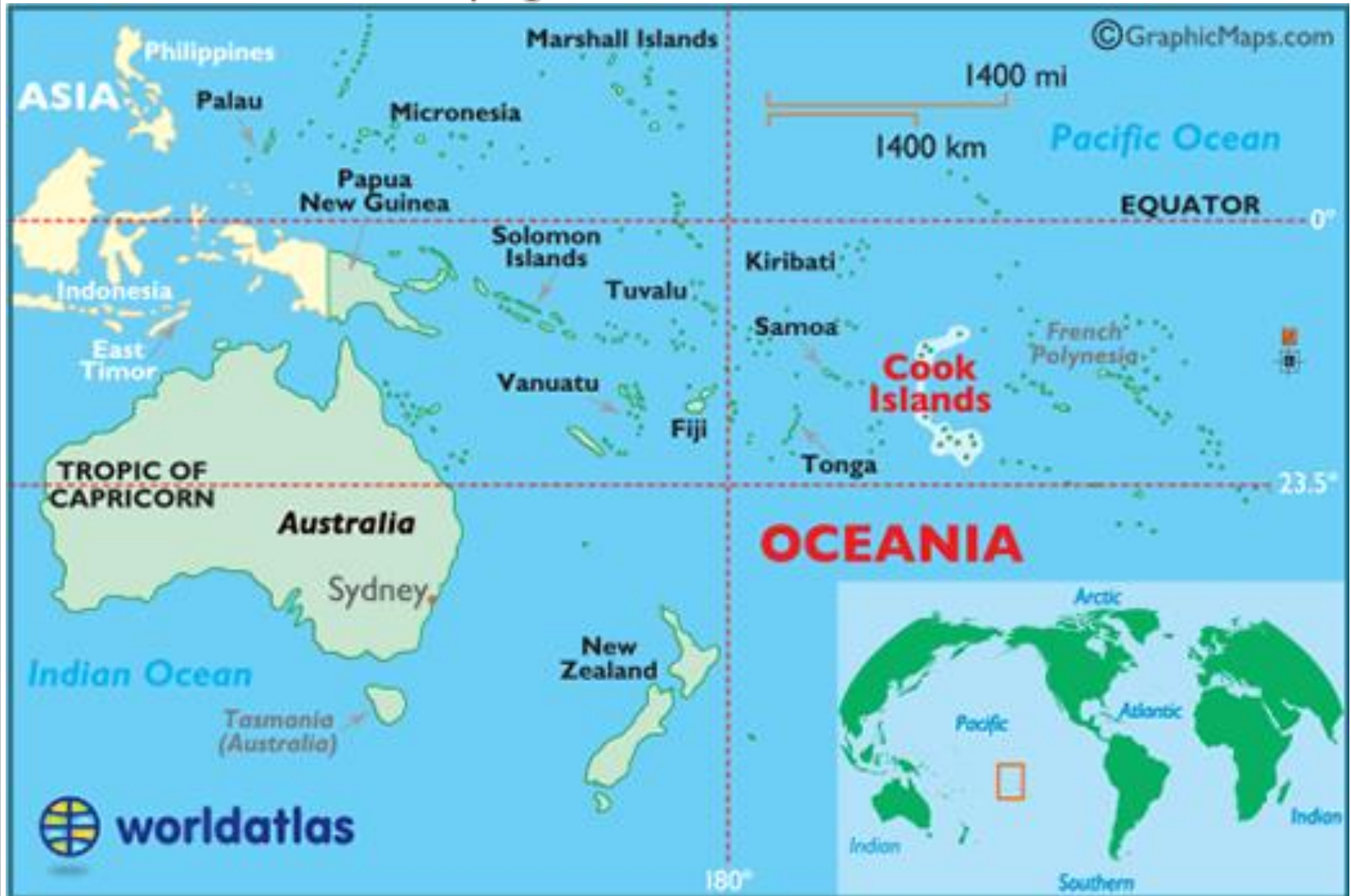
The Office of the Prime Minister - Central Policy & Planning Office

Joint Session 2: Evaluation Challenges in Small Island Development States



The Cook Islands

A Small Island Developing State

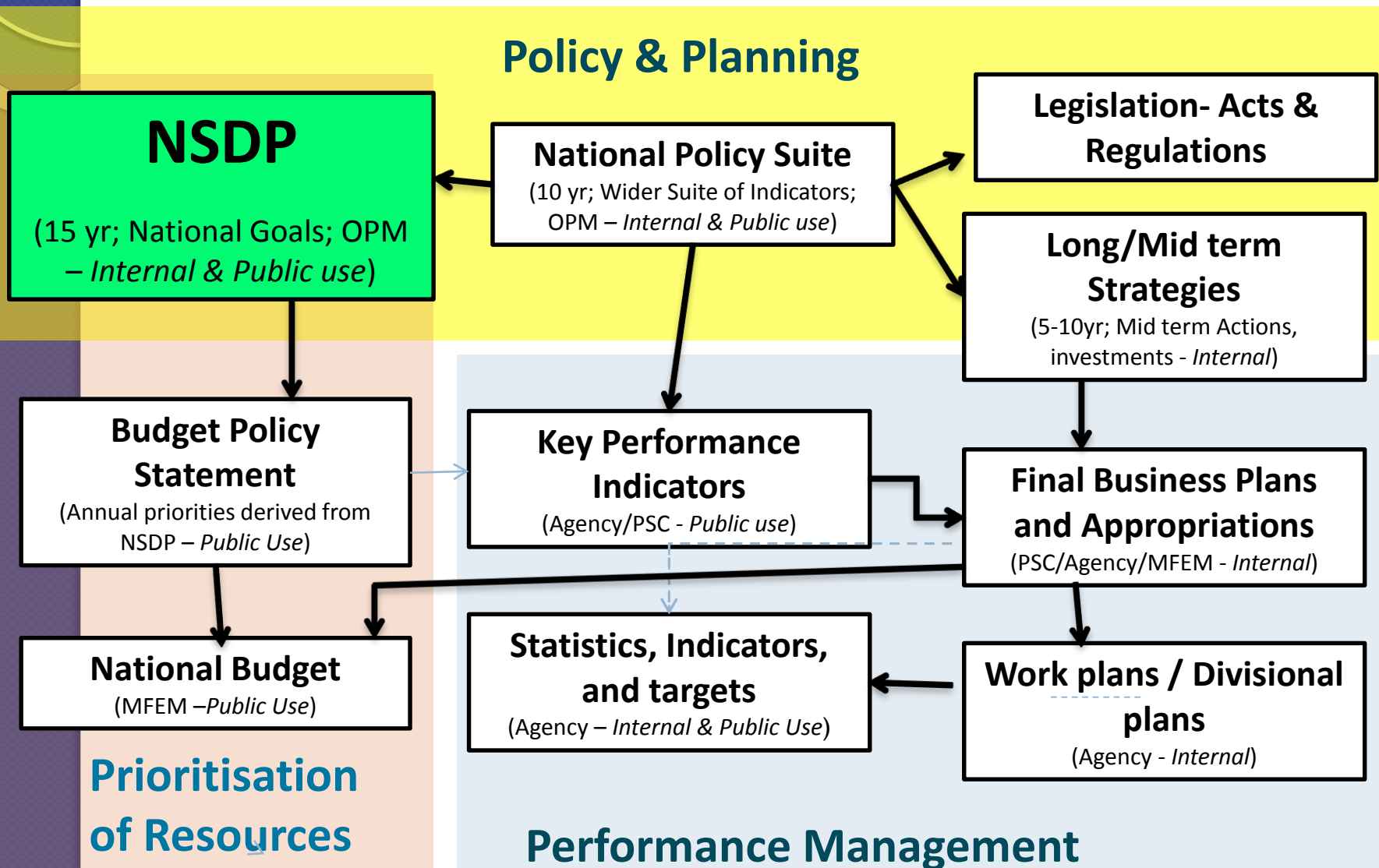


The Cook Islands Context

Sustainable development challenges

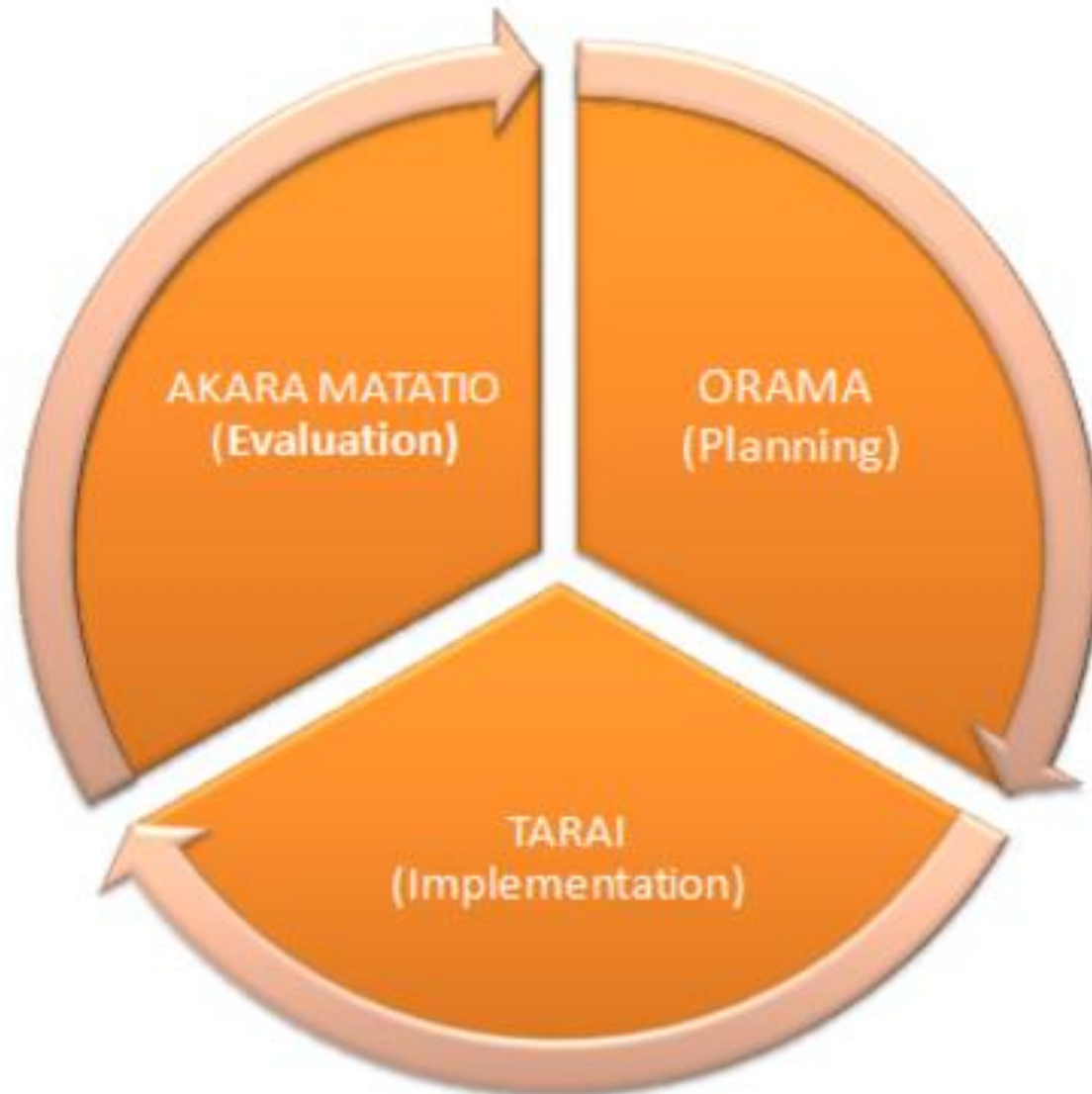
- Geographic – isolated, dispersed
- Economy – Service based, Tourism, (70%GDP) Offshore banking, pearls, agriculture
- Social - Aging Population, declining youth population, outward migration (prompted by public sector reforms in 1996)
- History – free association with NZ, 2015 celebrating 50 years of self governing
- Policy - National Sustainable development plan 2011-2020

National Policy, Planning, Performance and Budgeting Framework



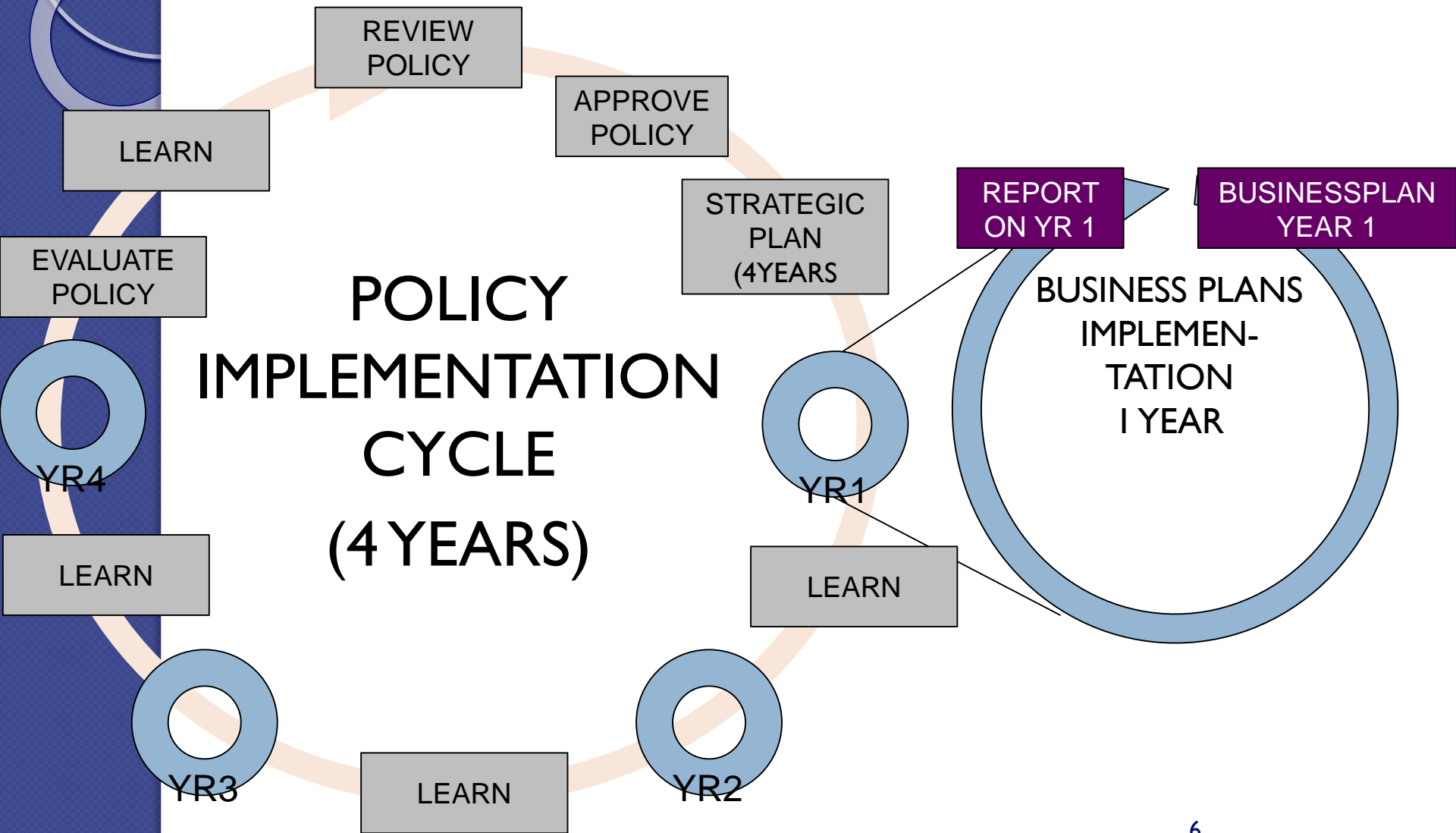
National Policy Development Cycle

Evidence based decision making; Planning for Monitoring & Evaluation



Policy & Planning Cycles

How we integrate evaluation practice into the short/medium term planning cycle



Monitoring and Evaluating our Development Progress

- Self –Evaluation. No National Independent Evaluation Entity
- Peer Review Report (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat)
- Official Development Assistance Policy (Reviewed 2015)
- “Te Tarai Vaka” National System: Culturally relevant model for integrating learning into project and program management
- Central Policy & Planning Office
 - Core mandate is to Monitor and Evaluate the implementation of the NSDP - policy priorities
 - Measuring our progress; Annual Indicator Reports
 - Building capacity; Policy & Planning development workshops
 - Learning Resources; Policy Development Toolkit
 - Review the Policy and Planning Framework (2014 Report)
- Strengthening Statistical Capacity and National Statistical Systems to improve monitoring and evaluation
 - 2015 Cook Islands Strategy for the Development of Statistics
 - Development of National Priority Indicators linked to the National Development Goals

2007-2011 NDGs

What does this mean? (The National Goals)
1. A vibrant Cook Islands economy
2. Infrastructure for economic growth, sustainable livelihoods & resilience
3. Security
4. Opportunity for all people who reside in the Cook Islands
5. Resilient & Sustainable Communities
6. Environment for living
7. Good Governance
8. Safe, secure just & stable society

2016-2020 NDGs

National Development Goals

Reduce inequity and eliminate forms of economic hardship

Promote economic opportunities and productive employment to ensure decent work for all

Sustainable management of water and sanitation and solid waste management

Build resilient infrastructure and ICT to improve the standard of living for all

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls,

Ensure the preservation and development of Cook Islands Maori culture, traditional & local knowledge, and history and language

Ensure a sustainable population promoting development by Cook Islanders for Cook Islanders

Achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

Strengthen resilience to combat the impacts climate change and natural disasters

Minimise and manage waste sustainably

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Protect, restore and promote sustainable land use of, management of terrestrial ecosystems, and halt biodiversity loss

Promote peaceful and just society for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



Challenges to Monitoring and Evaluation

- Weak/fragmented national statistical systems
 - Operational /Agency level
- National Evaluation Systems
 - Weak documentation/sharing/communication of evaluation
 - Need to improve capacity
 - People; analytical/evaluation
 - Information Systems; fragmented databases
 - Processes; collect, store, access, process data for timely, reliable, accurate information and reporting on indicators to measure progress
 - Limited resources
 - Competing priorities

To conclude

- Processes for policy, planning and M&E are suitable to our unique context
 - Strong ownership, participatory approach, culturally relevant, within our legislative framework, 'business as usual'
 - Ensuring systems, processes , reporting requirements are not a burden
- Capacity building, technical assistance, south-south co-operations
- Organizational Culture of Learning & Leadership
- Progress over time



Meitaki Maata! (Thank you!)

Email: cppo@cookislands.gov.ck

Website: <http://www.pmooffice.gov.ck>

Cook Islands Government Resources

<http://www.mfem.gov.ck/statistics>

<http://www.mfem.gov.ck/our-national-systems>

<http://www.mfem.gov.ck/treasury>