



### Pacific Maritime Boundaries Programme

The Ocean & Islands Programme of the SPC, SOPAC Division also implements the Pacific Islands Regional Maritime Boundaries Programme ('MBP') which provides Pacific Island States with ongoing capacity building, legal and technical support, and training for maritime boundary mapping, delimitation and declaration solutions, and extended Continental Shelf claims. The MBP coordinates a consortium of international partners (Geoscience Australia, UNEP GRID Shelf Programme, Commonwealth Secretariat, Australian Attorney General's Office and the Forum Fisheries Agency) who combine resources and expert capacity to work in 14 Pacific Islands Countries delivering technical and legal assistance.

In 2012, following intensive and sustained efforts by the MBP and partners in building capacity within 14 Pacific Islands Countries.:

- the total extended continental shelf area under claim by Pacific Islands Countries stood at approximately 2 million square kilometres; and
- 7 bilateral treaties and 1 trilateral treaty were signed by Pacific Island Leaders bringing legal and geospatial certainty to these previously undefined boundaries.

[394 words]