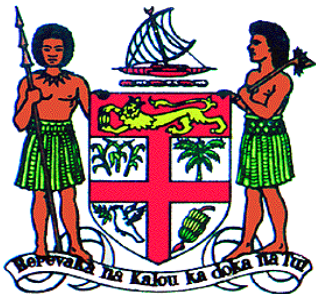


NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT REGIME FOR DSM ACTIVITIES

Tanoa International Hotel 9-14, 2013



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- 1.0 Overview of Fiji's Environment Guiding Policies
- 2.0 Environment Management Act and Key provisions
- 3.0 EIA process
- 4.0 Gaps
- 5.0 Needs

OVERVIEW OF FIJI'S ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

Guiding Policies

- **International Framework**
 - Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) - Nagoya Protocol and Cartagena Protocol
 - Convention of International Trade of Endangered and Protected Species (CITES)
 - Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
 - Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
- **National Legislations:** Environment Management Act 2005, Endangered and Protected Species Act 2002, and Ozone Depleting Substance Act.
- **National Policies:** National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Natural Resource Inventory, Solid Waste Management Strategy, Climate Change Policy, Draft State of Environment Report
- **National processes** under the EMA Act e.g. National Environment Council, PAC, ICMC, NBSAP Steering Committee, National Mangrove Management Committee, etc.
- **National and community-based projects** externally funded to assist in the implementation of Biodiversity conservation and waste management strategies.
- **Partnership** work is crucial in addressing our priorities (govt. sectors, NGOs, CROP, donors, other govts, communities)

ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT ACT 2005

Purpose:

- i. To apply the principles of sustainable use and development of natural resources ;
- ii. To identify matters of national importance for the Fiji Islands

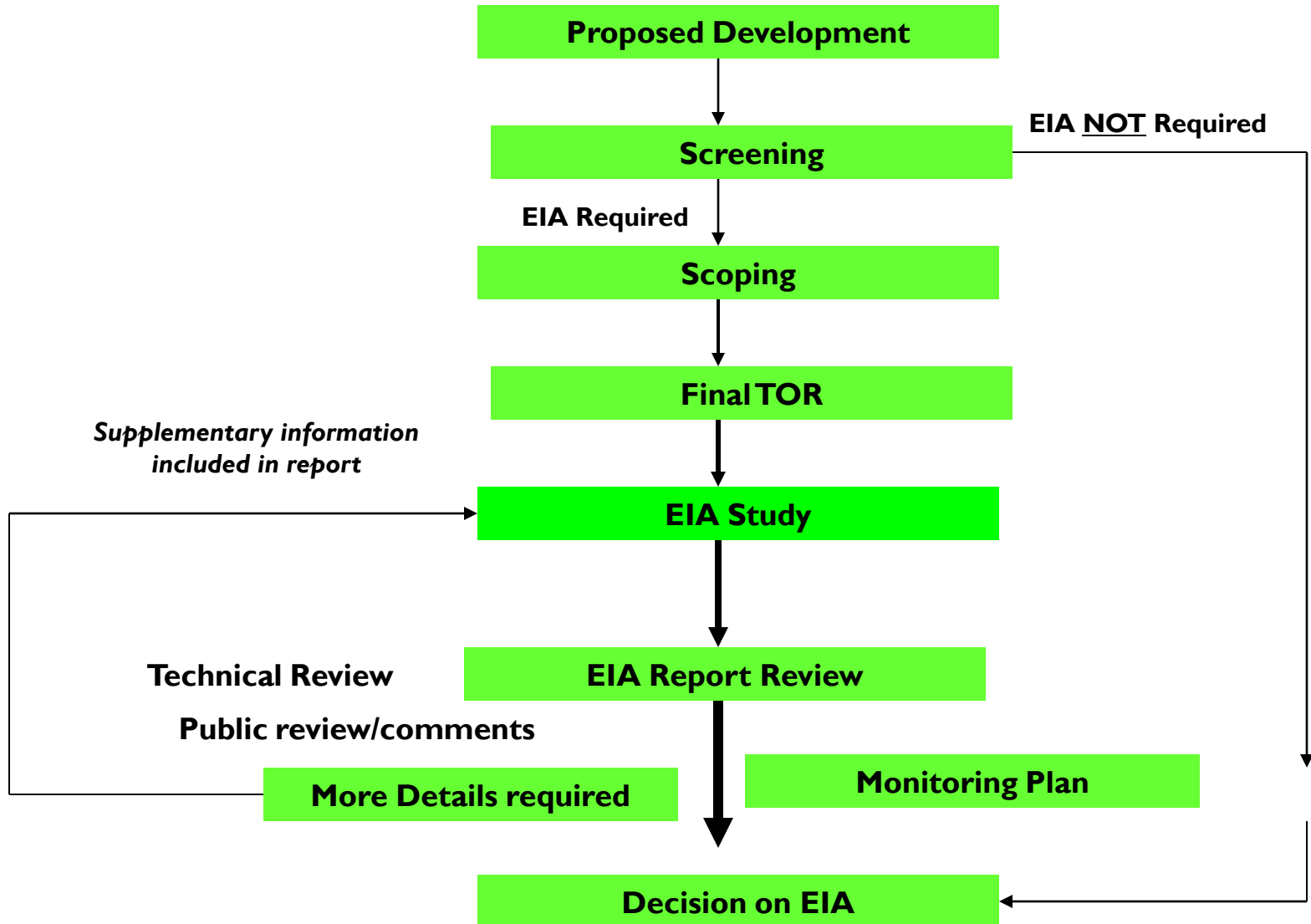
Development proposal or undertaking

- Means any activity or undertaking likely to alter the physical nature of the land in any way, and includes the construction of buildings or works, the deposit of wastes or other material from outfalls, vessels or by other means, the removal of sand, coral, shells, natural vegetation, sea grass or other substances, dredging, filling, land reclamation, mining or drilling for minerals, but does not include **fishing**

Environment Management (EIA Process) Regulation 2007 and Environment Management (Waste Recycling and Disposal) Regulation 2007

- Key provisions under EMA include: Categories of development, Registration of Consultants, setting up of Environment Management Unit/committees within approving authorities, setting up of the review committee, EIA Administrator, Waste Administrator, consultation process, waste categories, standards, permitting systems.

ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS



GAPS

1. **EIA Regulation** - Environment Management (EIA Process) Regulation 2007
- no specification on DSM
2. **EIA Guideline (Generic)** – not tailored for Specific Developments
 - a. Improvement of Terms of References (TORs)
 - b. Challenges in registering Consultants for DSM activities
 - c. Lack of a Review Committee
3. **Lack of Resources** - Funding mechanism, capacity, expertise
4. **Lack guidelines on how to mobilize resources** for DSM Technical Support and advisory role, Monitoring Equipments, Scholarships
5. **Lack of science** to support decision-making and advisory roles of DOE
6. **Lack of Information** – on past and current DSM work
7. **Unclear roles and uncoordinated approach** between DOE and MRD and the developer/proponent
8. **Lack of public consultation** and understanding where and when its needed
9. Overlap and unclear **regulatory roles within government** e.g. EMU vs EIA admin.

NEEDS

1. Review or formulation of the EIA regulation and guidelines to address DSM
2. Clear strategy or guideline to help countries in mobilising resources for DSM
3. Improve information access and exchange for decision-making process and advisory roles
4. Engage NGOs, CROP and academic institutions to support long-term scientific assessment for the region
5. Region to have a stronger voice and presence in international arena on DSM
6. Formation of national technical and review committees to support work on DSM
7. Innovative and transparent communication approaches to stakeholders and resource owners to build better understanding and support
8. Investment in capacity building and trainings in environment authorities at national level
9. Engage at sub-regional for lessons learnt from our neighbouring countries

Vinaka Vakalevu