



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*Twenty-Second SPREP Meeting*

Apia, Samoa

13 – 15 September 2011



**Information Paper 7:**

**Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project (PACC) 1  
Progress and Strategic Partnerships**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this paper is two fold; to provide a summary of progress on the project and to report on new partnerships for the PACC project.

**The PACC Project Strategic foci**

2. PACC is financed from the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), managed by the Global Environmental Facility, and implemented through UNDP in partnership with SPREP, as part of the GEF-Pacific Alliance for Sustainability Programme. The goal of the PACC project is to reduce vulnerability and increase adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change in key development sectors identified by 13 participating countries in the Pacific. These sectors are infrastructure and coastal management, food security and water. The project aims at providing a substantive contribution to integrate longer-term climate change risks into development and resource management planning in the Pacific through:

- focusing on enhancing the resilience of current development activities to long term climate change – this also allows the participating countries to utilize that current activity as their 75% co-financing as required by the SCCF;
- incorporating adaptation to climate-change risks and related vulnerabilities into existing institutional and decision-making processes ("mainstreaming"), at both the community level and the national planning level;
- recognizing the role of gender-sensitive approaches in enhancing communities' resilience, through community-based ("bottom-up") vulnerability assessment and participatory adaptation planning approaches;
- promoting real community engagement in the processes of improving capacity to deal with climate-related risks;
- delivering tangible adaptation measures through practical demonstration at selected pilot sites; and
- Setting a foundation for a strategic approach to replicate and upscale adaptation at the Pacific regional level.



### Progress to date

3. **Project Management:** The project has progressed beyond establishment of National PACC Project Management Units (NPMU) at the national level in 2010. The PACC Project Management Unit (RPMU) at SPREP and UNDP have been progressively addressing operational and administrative capacities in managing a complex project, through a combination of in-country support missions and a regional technical training workshop on operational project management. As a result, significant progress has been made in the operational and administrative aspects of the project. An overall Multi Year Work Plan (MYWP) has been established and subsequently rolled out at national level through direct support to countries. As a result of that support, all the 13 PACC countries now have national MYWPs which serve as the basis for annual and quarterly work planning.
4. **Mainstreaming & Technical backstopping:** There have been advances made in the policy mainstreaming, demonstration implementation, capacity building and communication outcomes and outputs of the project at the regional and national levels. Technical support in the various areas have been pursued through a partnership approach, by synchronizing activities and programmes of different partners involved and consolidating a regional backstopping mechanism involving technical experts of CROP agencies and development partners. This is an ongoing and iterative process, and not without challenges given the broad regional and cross-sectoral scope of the PACC project.
5. Mainstreaming support at the national level for the PACC project is delivered through a partnership approach between SPREP, SOPAC, and the Pacific Adaptation Strategic Assistance Programme (PASAP) and UNDP. As a result of that support, three countries now have Climate Change Policies (Niue, Marshall Islands with Tuvalu under development) and most countries have started consultations and assessments to integrate climate change into their corresponding sectoral or national policy frameworks.
6. **Capacity building:** Three sub-regional training on Socioeconomic Assessments were carried out for the three PACC sectors; i. Coastal - Kosrae in the Federated States of Micronesia, ii. Food Security - Palau and iii. Water in the Marshall Islands). The process of learning to integrate socioeconomic data and information ensures that adaptation projects benefit communities and facilitates the implementation of “no harm” and “no regrets” adaptation measures with associated livelihood support benefits to communities.
7. At the pilot site level, all countries are progressing with detailed assessments that will be contributing to actual implementation. Some countries like Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae) are already carrying out on the ground implementation of activities. Details of some of the countries progress were presented at the Niue Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (March, 2011) and that information is available at the PACC website<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.sprep.org/climate\\_change/pacc](http://www.sprep.org/climate_change/pacc)

8. **Communications:** Progress is also made in the area of communication whereby videos (e.g. Kivori, PNG video) have been produced and posted at the PACC websites. Knowledge management and sharing of PACC experiences are also being provided through links with existing global mechanisms, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Nairobi Work Programme (UNFCCC NWP) and the Adaptation Learning Mechanism (a global adaptation knowledge management platform).

#### **A platform to deliver adaptation action**

9. SPREP and UNDP are proactively engaging with donors in order to harness further funding through PACC in an effort to upscale and replicate concrete adaptation measures at the community level and further strengthen institutional capacities in vulnerable sectors. Following the preparation of a concept by SPREP and UNDP, an agreement has been signed in June 2011 between AusAID and UNDP for an additional contribution of AUD7.3 million by the Australian Government as amendment to the original PACC project, in order to support the replication of on-the-ground adaptation measures in various Pacific countries.

10. SPREP is also seeking to secure USAID funding in the near future to provide additional support to the PACC project. The UNITAR C3D+ ("Capacity Development for Adaptation to Climate Change and GHG Mitigation") project has also channelled funding support to the PACC project for capacity support in the area of integrating climate change into the school curriculum and human resources support at SPREP and meteorology. Recent consultations with the SPC/GIZ project 'Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Islands Region' have also been encouraged to collaborate with PACC.

#### **Recommendations:**

11. The meeting is invited to:

- **note** the progress made by the PACC project, its 13 participating countries and its regional partner; and
- **note** the progress made in securing additional resources for further implementation/replication of PACC priorities.

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20 July 2011