

Twenty Fourth SPREP Meeting

17th-19th September 2013
Apia, Samoa

AGENDA ITEM 9.2.5: Up scaling the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) and The Pacific Island Greenhouse Gas Abatement for Renewal Energy (PIGGAREP) project

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to update Members on the progress of PACC and PIGGAREP¹ and to invite donors and partners to work with SPREP to ensure these projects can continue and be upscaled.

Background

2. The PACC and PIGGAREP projects are in their fourth and sixth years of implementation, respectively. They are both funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and AusAID both through UNDP. The AusAID support is geared towards scaling up project activities. The PACC project focuses on three critical sectors: water, coastal management and food security and on "mainstreaming" of climate change into all Government sectors.
3. The PIGGAREP project has also received additional funding from the SIDS DOCK which will support implementation of renewable energy "hardware" projects in 6 Pacific countries. PIGGAREP currently supports renewable energy "soft options" such as feasibility studies, resource assessments, awareness and training programmes, surveys and installations and design of hardware options. It does not include the procurement of hardware equipment. However, in order to complete these initiatives and to realise any impacts, hardware components must be implemented.

Progress to date

4. The PACC and PIGGAREP projects have contributed significantly to the development of adaptation and mitigation actions at the national and community level of 14 Pacific countries² and 11 Pacific Countries³ respectively. Project Management Units are established and human resource capacity of Coordinators, Assistants and Core Teams⁴ had been developed through project administration and technical trainings on climate change adaptation.

¹ The main focus of the current PIGGAREP project is to fund barrier removal activities and not hardware implementation.

² PACC countries are: Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

³ PIGGAREP countries are: Cook islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

⁴ Core Teams consist of an integrated government and civil society actors that assist the PACC PMU implement the PACC project.

5. With the PACC project support focusing on three critical sectors, water, coastal and food security - tangible on the ground activities have been implemented, such as in the case of Tuvalu where the PACC project supported in collaboration with the Government of Tuvalu a 700,000 litres water cistern at Lofeagai community in Funafuti.

6. In the coastal sector, integrated coastal management programmes that incorporated soft and structural solutions had been demonstrated in Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia. In the food security sector, permaculture and agroforestry including the trialling of salt tolerant varieties had been demonstrated to deal with the inundation in low lying countries.

7. PIGGAREP in its support has provided baseline information for potential renewable energy options for participating pacific countries.. It has created partnerships with other agencies that have funding for renewable energy hardware options such as Pacific Energy Community (PEC) Fund and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). PIGGAREP has conducted a number of feasibility studies and resource assessments to confirm the viability of renewable energy options.

Scaling Up funding for complimentary and new activities

8. PACC and PIGGAREP participating countries have requested these two projects be up-scaled and replicated. All countries have noted a strong wish that the projects continue after the GEF funding runs out at the end of 2014.

9. For the PIGGAREP project, a number of feasibility studies have been supported under PIGGAREP and proposals are now available, however funding for these renewable energy viable options are required to realise immediate impacts and improved community livelihoods in addition to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

10. For the PACC project, many Pacific countries have requested further support. For example, the Ministry of Public Works Tuvalu had requested SPREP to seek further funding to provide a shelter for the Water Cistern which will also be used as a catchment for the cistern, a community house for women and a shelter during disasters. These activities are not funded under the current funding arrangements under PACC and PACC+. They would contribute to reducing vulnerability and building resilience.

11. Scaling Up project activities would ensure that we reach out systematically to those communities and sectors not covered and continue to build on experiences, adapting technological, institutional and other innovations, and ensuring sustainability of results.

Recommendations

12. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the progress to date of PACC and PIGGAREP; and
- **invite** SPREP Metropolitan Members and donors to **discuss** and **consider** options for continuing support for the PACC and PIGGAREP activities so that these projects can be upscaled and replicated and become a key element of SPREP's climate change work.