Key recommendations of the 2015 PCCR

The key recommendations below are arranged according to the themes of PIFACC including cross cutting goals such as climate finance, governance, COP 21, knowledge management and according to the sequence of the of overall programme of the PCCR. 'Loss and Damage', while not a theme of PIFACC, the recommendations from the Loss and Damage Working Group are included in the key recommendations relating to the draft SRDP. Recommendations from the other four PCCR Working Groups for PIFACC implementation namely Adaptation and Mainstreaming, Mitigation, Resource Mobilisation, and Education and Knowledge Management in relation to the transition to the draft SRDP are not included in the key recommendation as requested by the PCCR final plenary, but are included in the report proceedings.

1. Adaptation and mainstreaming

- **1.1** Environmental impact assessments of 'hard' adaptation measures should be undertaken to minimize risk of 'maladaptation'.
- **1.2** Gender assessments should be incorporated in all adaptation strategies for building resilience.
- **1.3** The design of adaptation measures should be informed by the latest and improved science of climate change projections.
- **1.4** More on-the-ground monitoring and analysis of the effectiveness of implemented adaptation measures is needed, particularly for coastal protection structures.
- **1.5** Multidisciplinary approaches that include social considerations should be used in the process of planning and implementation of adaptation measures that involve the relocation of communities.
- **1.6** The Whole of Island (WoI) approach, which coordinates efforts across multiple sectors, should be considered a useful means to integrate climate change, DRM and sustainable development objectives.
- **1.7** Government-community relationships should be supported, as positive outcomes are more likely when communities define their priorities.
- **1.8** National development plans that are informed by bottom-up approaches should be further encouraged and resourced.
- **1.9** Government, community and private sector partnership such as water subsidy schemes and 'food banks', which can strengthen ownership, and enable self-reliance should be further explored and supported.

¹Community agricultural production for sale as a means of community savings for use post-disasters

- **1.10** To ensure project sustainability, maintenance plans should provide for access to affordable and locally available spare parts for newly installed systems as well as tailored community maintenance guidelines.
- **1.11** Programs should recognize the underlying factors of community resilience. Evidence gathered from the aftermath of Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu suggests that traditional knowledge, knowledge co-production (traditional and modern) and inclusive community preparedness and coordination are crucial.
- **1.12** Climate change science should be appropriately communicated to communities to improve understanding of necessary adaptation measures (such coastal protection) asto generate community interest, involvement and ownership.
- **1.13** Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of climate change interventions should be undertaken in order to identify and make the necessary implementation changes (e.g. agency and staffing suitability; improving community ownership; developing trusting relations between partners) required for success.

2. Resource mobilization (Climate Finance)

- 2.1 The establishment of National Climate Change Trust Funds should be guided by a whole of country approach, including legislation development based on effective cooperation between financial and legal experts, and thorough national consultations.
- 2.2 Central Government Agencies, including Ministries of Finance, are essential actors in climate change financing and their involvement should be promoted and supported.
- 2.3 PICs are encouraged to apply for international funds accreditation as an opportune way of strengthening country systems and ownership and to enhance development partner confidence.
- 2.4 Countries and development partners are encouraged to strengthen the coordination and tracking of climate change finance.
- 2.5 Additional financial resources from the private banking sector, as well as foundations, should be encouraged.
- 2.6 Countries and Regional Organizations should continue to build national capacity for project design and proposal development, including logical framework analysis.

3. Knowledge Management

- 3.1 Inter-ministry and department buy-in for information and knowledge management tools should be sought through consultation and advocacy to facilitate a sense of ownership.
- 3.3 As computer and internet access in the Pacific is limited, work being done with the portals should be integrated with the social media, radio and other more accessible media sources.

- 3.4 Climate, climate change and disaster data, information and services, and knowledge accessibility continues to be a foundational need for climate change and disaster resilience, and should be resourced.
- 3.5 A robust monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management and communications plan should be developed and resourced.

4. Mitigation

- 4.1 The PICs are encouraged to improve national GHG inventories and systems, and to build the necessary capacity.
- 4.2 An enabling environment should be created, including appropriate regulations and legislation, to encourage private sector to take advantage of the greater opportunities for climate change financing, including for renewable energy.
- 4.5 The Pacific Regional Data Repository (PRDR) is a regional effort that has potential for enhancing and supporting national capacity. Hence, inventories, baseline studies, BAU projections support could be important functions for the PRDR.
- 4.6 Inter-sessional discussions on mitigation should be encouraged to utilize opportunities through existing mechanisms, projects and Ministerial meetings, among others.
- 4.7 Recognise and promote REDD projects in a way that strengthen existing forest management systems.
- 4.8 Transport should be given adequate attention as a sector with mitigation potential, with particular emphasis on sea and land transport.

5. Loss and damage

- 5.1 As loss and damage is a critical issue for the Pacific Islands Region, dedicated work should be undertaken in this area.
- 5.2 While there are clear benefits in measures that address both climate change and disaster risk management on the ground, consideration should also be accorded to the different UNFCCC and DRM contexts, as the former process addresses anthropogenic emissions, and the latter natural hazards.
- 5.3 A regional risk transfer scheme to address loss and damage should be explored based on lessons learned from the development of risk transfer schemes in other regions.
- 5.4 Developments on loss and damage under the UNFCCC should either be referenced and addressed explicitly in the SRDP, or a placeholder should be embedded in the SRDP referring to UNFCCC developments including the establishment of the Warsaw International Mechanism, with a separate process established to take forward work in this area.

6. Strategic Program for Climate Resilience [SPCR] for the Pacific Region

- 6.1 All Climate Change and Disaster Risk Related experts are encouraged to register on the Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) mechanism to further enhance the current consolidated pool of expertise to assist Pacific island countries as envisaged by Pacific Island leaders.
- 6.2 Countries are encouraged to access and utilize the Rapid Response Fund (RRF) that is now operational for technical assistance requests.
- 6.3 All interested parties and development partners are invited to contribute funding for the sustainability of the RTSM/RRF that has been funded in its initial phase by the ADB Strategic Fund.

7. Climate Science (analytical frameworks, models and tools)

- 7.1 The SRDP should be based on sound science and there is a critical need for continued investment in human and technical capacity and adequate resourcing in this area.
- 7.2 Traditional and contemporary knowledge should be considered jointly to design analytical frameworks, models and tools.
- 7.3 Invest in the capacity of meteorological services by building on MET office data collection capacities to deliver targeted climate services for adaptation planning.

8. Education, Training and Awareness

- 8.1 Youth participation in climate change discussions, decision-making and activities should continue to be encouraged.
- 8.2 Climate change education should have a more prominent role in climate change adaptation discussions.
- 8.3 National education stakeholders can and should lead education initiatives to ensure ownership and sustainability.
- 8.4 Developing the capacity of primary and secondary students in the Pacific to engage with their local communities to address climate change risks should continue to be encouraged.
- 8.5 Sustainable resourcing and capacity development for Pacific media is needed to support their vital role in education and awareness.
- 8.6 Pacific media should make a concerted effort to raise the profile of Pacific issues internationally.

9. Preparation for the COP21

- 9.1 A coordinated preparation for COP21 is essential.
- 9.2 A platform at COP21 is needed to get Pacific Island Country Leaders' message of vulnerability, urgency and the special circumstances of Pacific SIDS across to the world.
- 9.3 Sustainable and long-term financial support to enable Pacific countries and island countries everywhere to adapt to CC is needed.
- 9.4 Pacific Island Countries have been facing difficulties in accessing climate finance and welcomes progress made by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), acknowledging substantive funds dedicated to small island states and LDCs and for readiness support.
- 9.5 As an accredited RIE to the GCF and Adaptation Fund (AF), SPREP should capitalize on this opportunity and submit proposals from the region before the Paris COP.
- 9.6 Pacific Island Countries who are parties to the UNFCCC should work diligently to submit their INDCs by the October 2015 deadline.