



**“Accelerating actions for a resilient Blue Pacific”**

7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021, Virtual Platforms  
12:00pm – 5:00pm Samoa Standard Time

**Agenda item 8.1: Overview of Regional Goal 1 – Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change**

**Purpose of paper**

1. To provide the Meeting with an overview of key priorities to support the implementation and achievement of Regional Goal 1 for the biennial period 2022 - 2023.

**Introduction**

2. For the biennial period 2022-2023, SPREP will continue to support Members to achieve their goals for and towards building a Pacific that is resilient to climate change. This working paper provides an overview of the key activities and initiatives to be implemented by SPREP for the next biennium.

**Key Areas of Work for 2022-23:**

**RO1.1: Strengthen the capacity of Pacific Island members to lead, prioritise, and manage national climate change adaptation (CCA), mitigation (NDCs) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) in fulfilment of their national environment and development goals and their voluntary and legal obligations under regional and international agreements.**

3. SPREP will support members in implementing key activities related to the review and development of climate change policies, mainstreaming of climate change at operational level and strengthening of knowledge management through the *EDF11 Intra ACP PACRES* project.
  - Countries that will be supported in mainstreaming of climate change resilience including the development of mainstreaming decision support tool includes Kiribati and Niue.
  - Countries that will be supported in strengthening knowledge management including climate change portals are FSM, Tonga and Tuvalu.
  - The Pacific Climate Change Portal will be strengthened to improve information sharing and knowledge brokerage.
4. SPREP will support members in implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions through the NDC Hub and SPREP’s pipeline. We are also exploring ways to redeploy the Regional Technical Support Mechanism.

5. Members will be supported in implementing their national adaptation programmes through national projects where SPREP is the Implementing Agency such as the FSM Adaptation Fund project and the NAP projects funded by the GCF NAP funding for Tuvalu, Niue, FSM, and Nauru.
6. SPREP will continue to support member countries that are parties to the UNFCCC in the lead up, during and after UNFCCC COPs through the provision of technical advice, advocacy and communication and capacity building.

**RO1.2: Minimise multiple pressures on vulnerable Pacific Island ecosystems by implementing ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation, including responses to ocean acidification and sea level rise, to sustain biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services that support livelihoods and sustainable development.**

7. SPREP will support the incorporation of EbA initiatives into NAPs for Tuvalu, Nauru, Niue and FSM through NAP projects through the GCF NAP funding. PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu will be supported in implementing EbA pilots through the EDF11 Intra ACP PACRES project and MEBACC project funded by Monaco. Training on EbA approaches and planning tools will be developed and delivered through the PCCC online training platform.

**RO1.3: Enhance National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) capacity in weather forecasting, early warning systems, long-term projections, and improved climate services to support members' decision-making and coordination through the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC)**

8. SPREP through the Pacific Meteorological Desk will support the Pacific Meteorological Council to coordinate the implementation of PMC outcomes including convening of regular meetings of six PMC panels and alignment of projects and partners to implement outcomes of the PMC.
9. SPREP will continue to work with partners to coordinate support for NMHSs to develop or review legislations, policies, and strategies and strengthen hydro-meteorological and early warning systems in the Pacific through the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS 2.0) project and the EU Intra ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA).
10. SPREP will continue to develop traditional knowledge (TK) programmes and upscale support to 3 PICTs including the development of training on collection, storage, monitoring of weather and climate TK indicators, integration to TK into climate forecasts and warnings and development of TK communication products for communities through the COSPPac, ClimSA and CREWS 2.0.

11. SPREP will continue to provide support for the development of NMHS Communication Strategies and virtual courses on communication via the PCCC online training platform and websites for NMHS for effective delivery of climate and weather information services to communities and stakeholders through the COSPPac project.
12. SPREP will continue to provide support for the implementation of the WMO RA-V Pacific Regional Climate Centre (RCC) Network Implementation Plan, support sectors through the roll out of the Pacific Island Climate Outlook Forums (PICOFs) twice a year and facilitation of National Climate Outlook Forums (NCOFs) and sector-focused climate sessions, development of sector-focused case studies demonstrating the use and value of climate-science for decision making and implementation of Knowledge Brokerage mapping to inform tailored information based on end-user needs through the ClimSA project.

**RO1.4: Support Pacific Island Members to access and manage climate change finances and their national accreditation processes.**

13. SPREP will continue to support PICs in developing and / or reviewing relevant institutional and governance arrangements for enabling access to climate finance including development of readiness project proposals and implementation.
14. SPREP will continue to support members to enhance capacity through the delivery of climate finance executive courses through the PCCC online learning platform.
15. SPREP will provide technical assistance to at least 4 PICs to strengthen their national planning processes and systems for enabling access to bilateral and multi-lateral climate finance.

**RO1.5: Support Pacific Island Members to develop policy responses to issues of loss and damage, and climate change and disaster induced population mobility.**

16. SPREP will implement phase 2 of Pacific Islands Climate Change Insurance Facility (PICCIF) and support members through the development and implementation of climate security workstream under the CCR Programme including the launch of climate security executive course through the PCCC online platform, implementation of national and regional climate security dialogues, research, and knowledge brokerage.

**Challenges and Opportunities**

17. The major challenge with the implementation of Regional Goal 1 programmes and activities is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Border lockdowns and travel bans across the region have severely affected travel to and from and within PICTs resulting in delays and deceleration of in-country and regional activities implementation. Most major donor-funded programmes (e.g. GCF, EU, AF) have received and or are seeking no-cost extensions. Although some activities can be

implemented remotely and through the engagement of local consultants with remote support from SPREP, it is critically important for SPREP and international experts to be in-country to deliver activities. The travel bans across the region is expected to continue into 2022.

18. There is a growing interest across the region in engaging SPREP as the Accredited Entity to access the GCF and AF. The current pipeline of GCF general readiness support programmes and NAPs as well as regional and national mitigation, adaptation and climate services projects will provide more opportunities to strengthen Members' capacity to access climate finance and scale up implementation of adaptation, mitigation and meteorological, hydrological, and climate services. Additional funding for these CCR focal areas through bilateral arrangements with the EU, New Zealand, Australia, Irish Aid, and GIZ to name a few is expected to continue into 2022/2023. The Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment, the addition of climate security as a workstream under CCR and the PCCC are expected to attract new funding in the future.

### **Recommendation**

19. The Meeting is invited to:

- 1) **endorse** the key strategic priorities and activities to support the implementation and achievement of Regional Goal 1 for the biennial period 2022 to 2023.

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14 July 2021