



2nd Executive Board Meeting

2 – 4 September 2020

Agenda Item 8.1: Pacific Climate Change Centre

Purpose of paper

1. To update members on progress in the operations of the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC)

Background

2. Pacific Island Leaders have prioritised climate change as the biggest single threat facing the Pacific region. The 2012 SPREP Meeting endorsed a Secretariat proposal to seek support from the Government of Japan in partnership with SPREP's host Government Samoa, for construction of the PCCC.
3. The Government of Japan generously committed to provide support for construction of the PCCC at PALM 7 in 2015. Japanese support includes a capacity building programme at the PCCC to enable PICTs to address their climate change challenges.
4. In 2018 the first SPREP Executive Board endorsed the business plan and governance structure for the PCCC, and on 5 September 2019 Hon. Tuilaepa Lufesolai Sialele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister of the Independent State of Samoa, officially opened the PCCC during the 29th SPREP Meeting.
5. The PCCC is a partnership between the Government of Japan and the Government of Samoa, hosted by SPREP. Additional financial support is generously provided by the Government of New Zealand for funding key positions at the PCCC including the Manager, a Readiness Adviser, and two technical advisors. As the regional centre of excellence on climate action, the PCCC will be a hub for climate change information, research, and innovation and will provide practical tools, knowledge, support, and training to address the adaptation and mitigation priorities of Pacific island peoples.

Progress

6. The PCCC Advisory Board is in place and meeting regularly. At the time of drafting, recruitment of the Manager for the PCCC and Readiness Advisor roles is being finalised.

7. The Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific in partnership with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Government of Samoa and SPREP, targeting government officials and practitioners is now operating from the PCCC. Launched in November 2019 with a module on remote sensing technology and hazard and risk assessment of adaptation actions, the second module on climate science will be delivered virtually on 16-25 September, followed by courses on adaptation, access to finance and mitigation. Altogether 12 modules will be delivered over the 3-year life of the project.
8. The Centre's monitoring and evaluation framework and risk register will be presented to the Advisory Board at its next meeting.
9. Since its opening, the PCCC has hosted regional workshops, meetings, and the first training module, altogether bringing over 500 participants to the PCCC, The Centre also provided the venue for the SPREP Webinar series in June 2020.

Recommendations

10. The Executive Board Meeting is invited to:
 1. **note** the progress and key achievements of the Pacific Climate Change Centre.

31 July 2020