



2nd Executive Board Meeting

2 – 4 September 2020

Agenda Item 8.3: Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based solutions for climate resilience

Purpose of paper

1. Update Members on the participation of SPREP in the *Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based solutions for climate resilience* programme.

Background

2. At the One Planet summit in December 2017, President of France Emmanuel Macron committed to launching a new multi-stakeholder international initiative designed to increase the capacities of 19 Pacific states and territories to adapt to the impact of climate change impacts; and to protect, restore, and enhance biodiversity to strengthen the resilience of their socio-ecological systems. At the second One Planet Summit, held in the margin of the 73rd UN General Assembly in 2018, France, the European Union, New Zealand and Australia announced the launch of the joint Pacific Initiative on Biodiversity, Climate Change and Resilience, with a joint endowment of over €21 million. In November 2018, Canada joined the Initiative, adding €6.6 million. The current total level of funding is now €30.69 million and in February 2020 the first Initiative steering committee meeting adopted the programme name *Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based solutions for climate resilience*. The Kiwa Initiative officially started on March 31 2020.
3. The programme aligns with the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific, PIF Leaders' Blue Pacific identity and the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020. It aims to contribute to enhancing resilience to climate change and disasters in ways that are embedded in sustainable development. It contributes directly to Sustainable Development Goals 13, 14 and 15, as well as the UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD. It will also promote gender equality and good governance.
4. During 2019 SPREP participated in planning meetings with the Agence Francaise de Development (AFD), SPC and IUCN to provide input to the programme development.

Implementation

5. The Kiwa Initiative is divided into three main components:
 - *Component A*: technical assistance and small-scale granting facility targeting nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation – managed and implemented by IUCN
 - *Component B*: technical and financial support for large projects targeting nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation:
 - Sub-Component B1: Technical support for project development – managed and implemented by SPREP and SPC
 - Sub-Component B2: Selection and financing of large national and regional projects
 - *Component C*: management and coordination of the Kiwa Initiative by the AFD Secretariat
6. SPREP and SPC are being awarded separate contracts to implement Sub-Component B1. Funding allocation for SPREP is €1,050,000 over three years and a half. The main expected results of Sub-Component B1 are:
 - Key Result Area 1 - Capacities of PICTs to integrate nature-based solutions consideration in response to climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation into their national and local policies are enhanced
 - Key Result Area 2 – Support for the development and implementation of large projects under Component B2 of the Kiwa Initiative is successfully provided
 - Key Result Area 3 –Kiwa Initiative components are fully integrated through the technical task force and within SPREP related-programmes and projects
7. SPREP submitted two proposals for funding under Sub-Component B2 to the first Kiwa Steering Committee meeting Noumea in February 2020: Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC) Phase 2 (€5 million) and Pacific Ecosystem Restoration through Invasive Species Management for Climate Change Adaptation (PERISM - €3.3 million). PEBACC Phase 2 was approved at lower funding of €4 million, but an additional funding request has been submitted to the French GEF for €1.8 million. PERISM was conditionally approved subject to submission and review of further information.

Recommendations

8. The Executive Board Meeting is invited to:
 1. **Note** the development and commencement of the Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based solutions for climate resilience and the funded implementation role of SPREP under Sub-Component B1; and
 2. **Note** the securing of €4 million under Sub-Component B2 for Phase 2 of the PEBACC project, and likely approval of the PERISM project once the project proposal is reviewed and resubmitted to the Kiwa Steering Committee.