

## **Development Partners for Climate Change minutes**

Date: Thursday, 18 August 2011

Venue: UNDP Conference Room

Time: 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

### **1. Opening Welcome – Chairperson/Mr. Toily Kurbanov, UNDP**

Chairperson welcomes and sets the agenda for the DPCC meeting on August 2011 and introductions around the table are made.

### **2. Increasing climate resilience of Pacific Small Islands State Project - SPC/ Ms. Patricia Sachs**

The signing of the US Grant Agreement pertaining to climate change. The project is titled Vegetation and land cover mapping and improving food security for building resilience to a changing climate in Pacific island communities and will cover a 3 year implementation period. The total value of the project is US 4.0mln.

The goal of the project is to evaluate and implement innovative techniques and management approaches to increasing the climate change resilience of terrestrial food production systems for communities in selected PICTS (Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu). The project will do this through the introduction of integrated agricultural production systems based on assessments of the climate resilience of existing systems at selected sites. This will be supported by improved land-system data and analysis tools, such as vegetation and land use mapping and the application of GIS. It will build the capacity of participating countries to utilise GIS tools and techniques to help identify key areas of food supply vulnerability, monitor vegetation and land cover change overtime. These assessments will be based on the most up-to-date country level climate change projections available. The project outputs will also be used to help inform the development and national and agriculture sector climate change adaptation response strategies in the recipient countries and other PICTs.

### **3. Knowledge Products for Climate Change Adaptation - ADB/ Mr. Marc Overmars – Specialist consultant & Louise Patterson – ADB consultant**

ADB undertook to compile a Catalog of Climate Change Knowledge Products as part of ADB's contribution to the Adaptation and Mainstreaming Working Group following the PCCR meeting in Niue (14-18 March 2011). A draft version of the Catalog has been shared with DPCC Partners to obtain further feedback, inputs, edits and additions from other working group members, as well as all agencies and organizations working on Climate Change in the Pacific. The publications in this catalog consist mainly of manuals, guidelines, policies/strategies on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, relevant to Pacific Island Countries. They are listed alphabetically according to agencies and organizations. In future, this information can be maintained as a function of developing and existing web-based sharing mechanisms such as the Pacific Climate Change Portal and Pacific Disaster Net and improvements can be considered as appropriate. DPCC Partners were encouraged to actively exchange

available information as to optimize the use of lessons learned in future programs and build on successful experiences and approaches. Links with other platforms such as the Adaptation Learning Mechanism (ALM), the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia (Adaptation Knowledge Platform), and the Asia and the Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) can be established through respective members of the DPCC.

It was noted that quite a few guidelines and manuals are available with a focus on "mainstreaming" climate adaptation and risk reduction but that implementation on the ground as well as general understanding of mainstreaming concepts at various levels, required further efforts. The potential use of the Pacific Solutions Exchange network to advance discussions around mainstreaming was raised and can be considered in the future. In addition, a focus on mainstreaming in future DPCC meetings was raised as an option and can be explored by DPCC partners.

#### **4. Asia – Pacific Reduction Portal, UNISDR/ Ms. Angelika Plantiz – DRR**

The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Project Portal aims to collect information on all multi-country and national level DRR projects and initiatives in Asia and the Pacific implemented since 2005. By facilitating information sharing in Asia and the Pacific, the Portal aims to advance the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) strategic goals.

The Portal: 1) Helps effective planning, programming, cooperation, and collaboration of DRR projects and programmes in the region by facilitating project analysis to identify gaps and overlaps; 2) Is essential for governments, organisations and donors involved in implementing and supporting DRR projects and programmes in the region; 3) Is a useful resource for academics, students and the media for obtaining an overview of DRR projects being implemented in the region.

The DRR Projects Portal is building on in the Pacific, and adding to, existing initiatives such as the Pacific Disaster Net, which has been developed and maintained in SOPAC under a partnership with the United Nations Development Programme Pacific Centre, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; and the SOPAC Disaster Risk Programme's Projects and Capacities Portal for the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network, which hosts project information relating to the Pacific.

#### **5. Teleconference - Improving access to climate financing for the Pacific Islands – A presentation on the findings of this paper: <http://www.lowyinstitute.org/Publication.asp?pid=1644> -Mr. Nic McLellan, Australian researcher**

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) commits developed countries to provide assistance to 'developing country parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to meet the costs of adaptation.' Despite recent commitments of 'fast start' climate funding from donors, Pacific Island governments face significant obstacles in accessing sufficient

resources to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, water supply, coastal management and public health. Greater international coordination is required to increase access to climate finance for small island states. Without this coordination, efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 could be set back, due to the diversion of long-term development funding to disaster response and rebuilding.

Donor countries can help strengthen Pacific access to climate finance and improve outcomes for vulnerable communities through strengthening existing measures and developing more innovative approaches. This is important not only to help Pacific Island countries but also to ensure donors meet their own global funding commitments. Australia alone requires a tenfold increase in current climate financing to meet its fair share of the global funding pledge of US\$100 billion each year by 2020. Better approaches include international lobbying for special access mechanisms for Small Island Developing States in financial mechanisms like the new Green Climate Fund; renewed efforts to build the capacity of national government institutions; programs and structures to improve donor coordination; development of national climate trust funds and a Pacific Regional Climate Change Fund; and, above all, more targeted action on the ground to assist the most vulnerable communities with concrete adaptation programs, especially through civil society organizations.

## 6. Discussions

- **Australian Aid updates** - Ryan Medrana, Program Manager
  - AusAid hosted a workshop in May on 'Lessons for future actions' which was held in Samoa. Over 120 participants attended and discussion focused on implementation of Adaptation activities. These documents will be circulated by AusAID later.
  - Climate Change Adaptation initiatives were held in June. Its core focus was on Community adaptation initiatives and these were being done through WWF in Fiji. In Nauru AusAid funded rainwater harvesting measures. In the Solomon Islands, AusAid and ADB funded the climate proofing of this transport project. In Tonga consultations were held to set a secretariat to support their JNAP with the Ministry of Environment. The Kingdom of Tonga will be recruiting personnel for technical advisor for these initiatives.
  
- **GIZ updates** - Marita Marley
  - Recent planning meetings undertaken in June/July. Documents from the meetings will be on the website shortly
  - A new component on education will have an inception meeting in September - with SPREP, SPC and USP
  - A new advisor on climate change and education started recently and a further staff member will start in SPREP shortly
  
- **ADB updates** - Marc Overmars
  - ADB can report on various climate change adaptation capacity building programs as follows:
  - Strengthening the Capacity of Pacific DMCs to Respond to Climate Change under RETA7394 inclusive of: Adaptation preparation in selected Pacific island countries (Fiji Islands, RMI, Palau, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste) and various climate change adaptation studies (Economics of climate change in

the Pacific; Economic analysis of climate proofing investment; Impacts of climate change on food security; Climate resilience and urban development).

- Strengthening Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle of the Pacific (Fiji Islands, PNG, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu) under RETA7753 including the following outputs: Capabilities of national and local institutions strengthened in sustainable coastal and marine resources management; Coastal communities experienced in applying best practices in ecosystem-based management and climate change adaptation; and Resilience of coastal ecosystems to climate change enhanced.
- The Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR) as part of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) with the objective to pilot and demonstrate ways in which climate risk resilience may be integrated into development planning and implementation. The PPCR is implemented in the Pacific in PNG, Samoa and Tonga complemented by a regional component with various CROP agencies, ADB and the World Bank.

### **Participants**

1. Asian Development Bank (ADB) – Mr. Marc Overmars, Ms. Louise Patterson
2. Australian Aid (AusAid) – Mr. Ryan Medrana
3. Australian Researcher – Mr. Nic McClenan
4. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) – Ms. Marita Marley
5. Embassy of France – Ms. Adey
6. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) – Ms. Patricia Sachs, Mr. Jonathan Bower
7. United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) – Ms. Angelika Planitz
8. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Mr Toily Kurbanov, Mr. Laiakini Waqaisau

### **Apologies**

1. European Union (E.U)
2. Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)
3. South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)