

Development Partners for Climate Change Minute

Date: Wednesday, 16 November 2011

Venue: UNDP Conference Room

Time: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

1. Opening/ Welcome - Chairperson / Mr. Toily Kurbanov

Development Partners were welcomed and introductions around the table was done. The chairperson reiterated on the agenda for the Development Partners for Climate Change (DPCC) for this meeting.

a) Moving the Climate Change financing agenda forward (Leaders Outcomes, proposed way forward) - PIFS/ Ms. Coral Pasisi

Leaders stressed the critical and urgent need for adaptation finance to enable Forum Island Countries to respond to the adaptation needs of its people, in particular those already suffering, are displaced or are being displaced as a result of the detrimental impacts of climate change. They welcomed advice provided by Forum Economic Ministers on the options for accessing and managing climate change funding at their meeting in Apia in July 2011. To advance this process, Leaders tasked the Forum Secretariat to set out by the first quarter of 2012 the detail of how the national and regional options could work in practice for appropriate consideration at relevant regional meetings. In undertaking this work, the Forum Secretariat should assess the feasibility of the options and associated risks and benefits, taking into account as appropriate, the specific capacities and needs of respective countries and the potential in possible combinations of various national and regional options.

Leaders emphasized the need to secure appropriate governance arrangements, disbursement modalities and procedures which accommodate the particular constraints of Forum Island Countries in the development of the Green Climate Fund and in the operation of other financing opportunities. They recognized the unique capacity constraints facing Forum Island Countries, noting that capacity supplementation was critical to ensure they are able to effectively and sustainably respond to climate change. Leaders called on development partners, including global funds, to ensure that capacity funding for Forum Island Countries is flexible and ideally channeled through national systems to support capacity supplementation and institutional strengthening, in addition to traditional capacity building efforts.

Pacific Island Leaders reiterated the following:

1. The importance of adequate, sustainable and timely resources being made available to Forum Island Countries to address their needs to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
2. The proposals for climate change financing modalities building on experience from existing challenges and acknowledged that any modality be based on the principles of aid effectiveness.
3. That the varying circumstances of Forum Island Countries may necessitate different modalities for the effective delivery of climate change resources while recognizing the importance of national delivery, country led approaches and the use of national systems and processes where possible.
4. The acceleration in all member countries of efforts to effectively integrate climate change priorities into national plans and budgets underpinned by ongoing initiatives to strengthen public financial management systems.
5. The recommendation of direct budgetary support and sector budgetary support as the most effective modalities for the delivery of climate change resources that directly support national and/or sectoral plans, where systems are in place to effectively absorb and effectively manage those resources.
6. Agreed to consider the use of national trust fund arrangements as a possible modality for climate change resources to accrue over time and facilitate disbursement rates that are commensurate with the human, institutional and absorptive capacity of Forum Island Countries.

7. Noted that where a national trust fund may not be feasible, a sub-regional or a regional trust fund arrangement may present an alternative where it will contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of resource delivery.
8. Acknowledged the need to further assist Forum Island Countries to overcome barriers to accessing, managing and delivering climate change resources in support of their priorities and to work collectively to overcome these, taking into account guidance by the CROP Executive Sub Committee on Climate Change.
9. Agreed to further consider how ODA can assist with leveraging private sector adaptation financing.

b) Links between Development Effectiveness and climate change financing in lead up the HLF4 Busan – PIFS/ Alfred Schuster

Leaders agreed to showcase evidence and experience gathered during implementation of the Forum Compact as part of a coordinated regional position at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4) to be held in Busan, Republic of Korea from 29 November to 1 December 2011. The following items would be discussed at Busan:

1. Shaping the global agenda on Aid effectiveness
2. Climate financing & development effectiveness
3. Using aid effectiveness drivers
4. Involvement in the Asia Pacific – This will involve: a roadmap for country specifics; planning and budgetary processes; inclusiveness of CSOs; Having the absorptive capacity to implement Climate expenditures; and public finance management resources; & a case study in Nauru.

2. Teleconferencing: Adaptation Fund perspectives on climate finance in Pacific island countries - Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat/ Mr. Mikko Ollikainen

Background: The Adaptation Fund has been established by the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries that are Parties to the [Kyoto Protocol](#).

Accreditation: Among the [accreditation principles](#) established for the Adaptation Fund (Decision 5/CMP.2) is “sound financial management, including the use of international fiduciary standards.” Any organization that will implement Adaptation Fund projects must submit an application for accreditation providing documentation that it meets the fiduciary standards adopted by the Board. The applications are reviewed and assessed based on the fiduciary standards by the [Accreditation Panel](#). Applications for National Implementing Entities (NIEs) must also be endorsed by the [Designated Authority](#). The DA acts as the focal point for the Adaptation Fund that represents the Government. Currently there are 6 NIE’s - 3 from Africa; 3 from Latin America; none from Asia Pacific. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank are the other accredited organizations for the Adaptation Fund.

The Adaptation Fund Board (AFB): The AFB was established as the operating entity of the Adaptation Fund with the mandate to supervise and manage the Adaptation Fund under the authority and guidance of the CMP. The Board is composed of 16 members and 16 alternate members representing Parties, formally elected at a session of the CMP on the Adaptation Fund as follows (for both member and alternate): Two representatives from each of the five UN regional groups; One representative of the small island developing states; One representative of the least developed country Parties; Two other representatives from Annex I Parties; and Two other representatives from non-Annex I parties. The members and alternates shall each serve for a term of two calendar years and shall be eligible to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Resources: \$250M minus funding decisions from several Annex 1 countries with \$70M allocated to 11 projects.

By end of next year \$370M should be replenished. In this sector of funding arrangements there are a lot of uncertainty as well.

UNFCC workshops: There have been a few workshops already held for the following regions: Africa – Senegal; South America – Panama; Asia (March) – Manila, Philippines; Pacific - To be Confirmed. Emphasis was made for a workshop to be held in the Pacific in 2012 along with the grant for this to take place.

3. Launch of the Pacific Solution Exchange: Climate Change and Development Effectiveness Community of Practice - UNDP/ Ms. Jennifer Namgyal

The Pacific Solution Exchange connects people who share similar concerns and interests, and brings them together virtually and face-to-face towards the common objective of problem-solving. Members come from a wide range of backgrounds, including government offices, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), development partner organizations, private sector companies, academics and research institutions. The Pacific Solution Exchange helps: Find a wide range of solutions; Connect people with common interests; Practitioners to gain recognition; and Increase development effectiveness.

UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) in partnership with PIFS (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat), USP (University of South Pacific) and ADB (Asian Development Bank), SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme) and other partners are working together to establish the Pacific Solution Exchange by initially offering an email based “e-Discussion”/Consolidated Reply service for knowledge sharing over a trial period till December 2011. The PSE team is set to launch a new ‘Community of Practice’ for Climate Change and Development (CCD) offering members four services (Query / response, discussion, consultation and collaboration) via email, and sharing a consolidated reply – a synthesis of all responses and additional resources for each exercise/issue.

This aims to: Leverage and expand the expertise pool on Climate Change and Development effectiveness presently diffused across the Pacific; Bridge the knowledge gap by facilitating knowledge sharing with other networks; Enhance south-south and small island state cooperation; Broaden the dialogue around Pacific issues to inform decision-making; and Nurture establishment of communities of practice in the region.

4. Discussion

5. Teleconferencing: SPC & Climate Change updates - SPC/ Mr. Brian Dawson

SPC’s mission to help Pacific Island people position themselves to respond effectively to the climate change challenges they face and make informed decisions about their future. These are based on issues relating to land based resources such as agriculture, land and forestry and is working in partnership with GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) in the development of the first phase of the Adaptation to Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region (ACCPIR) project.

The [SPC-GIZ Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region](#) (CCCPIR) project: It extends the work of ACCPIR to include the sectors of energy, tourism and education. The new project also serves an expanded set of member countries: Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Samoa. SPC/GIZ ‘Coping with climate change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR)’ programme aims to strengthen the capacities of Pacific member countries and regional organisations to cope with the impacts of climate change. Changing rainfall patterns, longer drought periods, increased cyclone intensity and rising sea levels are likely to affect all communities and key economic sectors such as agriculture,

forestry, fisheries and tourism.

At the regional level, the programme aligns with the Pacific Island Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015 (PIFACC). The programme will support countries in implementing key strategic priorities in the area of climate change including, where relevant, their National Adaptation Programmes for Action (NAPA), National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and other relevant national strategies, policies and plans.

The programme has six overall components: C1: Strengthening regional advisory and management capacity; C2: Mainstreaming climate considerations and adaptations strategies; C3: Implementing adaptation and mitigation measures; C4: Sustainable tourism and climate change; C5: Sustainable energy management; C6: Climate change education.

6. ADB's Climate Change strategy & updates - ADB/ Mr. Marc Overmars

The Pacific Climate Change Program (PCCP): It was developed under ADB's *Regional Capacity Development Technical Assistance (R-CDTA) 7394: Strengthening the Capacity of Pacific Developing Member Countries to Respond to Climate Change*. The main objective of PCCP is to ensure the continued economic growth of Pacific DMCs in the face of global climate change, by reducing their vulnerability to its risks and impacts.

During 2008–2009, ADB developed the CCIP for the Pacific in close consultation with Pacific island country leaders to address their identified adaptation and mitigation needs. The key recommendation of the CCIP is to mainstream climate change issues into ADB operations in the Pacific region, as well as in the individual Pacific DMCs, by ensuring that (i) climate-related risks and vulnerabilities are adequately reflected in the country partnership strategies of Pacific DMCs, (ii) all projects in the ADB pipeline are screened in relation to climate-related risks, and (iii) all infrastructure and other relevant projects are climate proofed. The PCCP will serve as the main vehicle to implement the CCIP in the Pacific.

Program Strategy: The PCCP will adopt the following three-pronged strategy to respond to Pacific DMCs' climate change–related needs:

- 1) Give immediate attention to fast tracking and scaling up climate change adaptation and mitigation investment involving
 - climate proofing ongoing and planned infrastructure projects of ADB and contributing development partners;
 - promoting renewable energy through new technology and research and development; and
 - working with partners to manage land, water, forests, and coastal and marine resources, through programs such as the REDD-plus (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation).
- 2) Build capacity to strengthen the knowledge, skills, and practices of sector agencies and communities in various climate change–related fields to enable integration of climate change into the development plans and programs of Pacific DMCs.
- 3) Promote more effective development partner responses by coordinating and harmonizing their responses, sharing best practices, and helping Pacific DMCs access funding from other global financing facilities.

Priority Areas: In view of the diverse climate change–related adaptation needs of Pacific countries, ADB will adopt an integrated approach, addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation, facilitated by financing, knowledge generation, and partnerships. Along this line, the PCCP will focus on the following priority sectors:

1. Natural resource management, including agriculture and rural development, with emphasis on (i) coastal and marine resources protection and management; (ii) integrated watershed management including sustainable forestry management and wildlife management; (iii) building synergy between adaptation

and mitigation; and (iv) pursuing proactive measures in anticipation of climate change (e.g., improved soil and water management, diversification and intensification of food and plantation crop production, developing approaches to intensive commercial agriculture, and strengthening land use planning for production of key commercial and subsistence crops).

2. Water, focusing on (i) flood control; (ii) drainage and sanitation; (iii) rural and urban water supply; and (iv) integrated water management, including improved catchment management (reforestation, soil conservation, wetland protection and management, and land use management) and reducing disaster risks from flooding by regulating development on floodplains and promoting flood-proof building design.

3. Energy, mainly by investing in emissions reduction solutions that can include (i) energy conservation and efficiency; (ii) renewable energy deployment; and (iii) reduction of GHG emissions from transport, solid waste and wastewater systems, and land use.

4. Transport, consisting primarily of (i) climate proofing of roads, ports, and airports; (ii) reduction of GHG emissions from transport through the use of clean energy in vehicles; and (iii) limited investments in alternative and cleaner fuels (for example, biofuels development).

7. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA's), [Natural disasters and climate change](#) updates: JICA/ Mr. Hashimoto

JICA's 'Strengthening Community-Based Disaster Risk Management Project in the Pacific Region' project aims to establish an early Flood warning system at the project pilot area of Ba River Basin and to strengthen the national disaster management capacities to improve the overall disaster preparedness and evacuation system. This is a regional project which will also be implemented in Solomon Islands. The project duration is for three years from November 2010 till November 2013 with a budget of US\$3.4 million for two countries.

JICA funded the construction of the Fiji Meteorological Center in 1998 from Japan's ODA, continuing its commitment towards ensuring maximum reliability and accuracy from the Meteorological Authorities in the Pacific region, in providing information to general public and relevant authorities. JICA together with the Meteorological Service Department of Fiji signed the Record of Discussions for the three years training course from in early August, 2010. Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) will take up the lead role in this project in order to conduct the Training once a year for three weeks for three years supported by JICA with its technical expertise.

This is a regional training course facilitated by FMS and JICA for eleven (11) member countries such as Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Fiji. The Government of Japan will dispatch Lecturers and will also invite lecturers from World Meteorological Organization (WMO) who will give advice to FMS and deliver lectures as and when seen necessary.

JICA's work implementation of these programs serve as essential learning tools for disasters in Japan and provides early warning systems for major urban centers in the Pacific and the training of its technical personnel to ensure the delivery of efficient and quality services.

8. Discussions

9. Any Other Business (AOB)

Several organizations were noted for presentations at the next Development Partners for Climate Change (DPCC) meeting in 2012. These included the following:

1. JICA – to make a presentation on Tuvalu's beach nourishment project;
2. IUCN Oceania – to make presentation for Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) at the next DPCC meeting;

3. UK High Commission – to make a presentation.

Next DPCC meeting:

At this event, it was noted that the next DPCC meeting be held in USP and for students with date set for late February. The following will be organized with USP's PACE department.

Participants

1. Adaptation Fund Board - Mr. Mikko Ollikainen (Washington D.C)
2. Asian Development Bank (ADB) – Mr. Marc Overmars, Ms. Alitia Temo
3. Australian Aid (AusAid) – Mr. Ryan Medrana
4. British High Commission – Ms. Rebecca Davies
5. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) – Ms. Marita Marley
6. European Union – Ms. Annick Villarosa
7. International Union of the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Oceania – Mr. Bernard O'Callaghan
8. Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) – Ms. Coral Pasisi, Mr. Alfred Schuster
9. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) – Mr. Brian Dawson (Australia)
10. United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) – Ms. Angelika Planitz
11. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Mr. Toily Kurbanov, Mr. Laiakini Waqanisau, Mr. Ashok Malhotra, Ms. Mio Kato
12. University of the South Pacific - Prof M. Lal (PACE)

Apologies

1. Embassy of the United States of America
2. South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)