



# USAID CLIMATE READY

## PACIFIC ISLANDS: BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Pacific Island countries are experiencing the negative impacts of climate change such as rising sea level, increasing drought and storm frequency and intensity, ocean acidification, and consequent damage to coral reefs and fisheries. Preparing for and responding to climate change impacts places additional pressures on existing funding sources and government structures. Many governments within the Pacific region seek support to address these negative impacts. USAID's Climate Ready project will help Pacific Island countries to become more climate resilient and to better protect the lives and livelihoods of their citizens.

Climate Ready will work with Pacific island governments and regional stakeholders to: (1) draft and implement policies to achieve national adaptation goals; (2) access and utilize international sources of climate financing; and (3) improve systems and expertise to better manage and monitor adaptation projects. It will build on and leverage similar work that is already underway. The outcome of Climate Ready will help countries develop in accordance their national adaptation strategies.

## CLIMATE READY WILL ASSIST GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS:

Climate Ready will work with governments to prioritize areas of support that align with their climate adaptation plans and goals. Illustrative examples include:

- Assist governments to draft or update climate change laws, policies, regulations etc.
- Promote peer-to-peer sharing of best practices among governments in the region.
- Strengthen financial management, data collection, performance monitoring and reporting systems.
- Develop tools and techniques to ensure vulnerable groups are considered in policy development and project planning.
- Increase project management capacity for government staff and project implementers.
- Increase awareness of objectives and requirements of international climate change funds.
- Support country readiness goals for accessing increased amounts of climate change funds.
- Provide technical assistance to plan, design and draft funding proposals that address adaptation priorities and account for vulnerable groups.
- Develop and deliver training/certification programs for civil society and private sector entities who will manage adaptation projects.

## PROJECT DETAILS:

USAID's \$24 million Climate Ready project is implemented by AECOM, a U.S.-based institutional contractor. The regional program will operate in: The Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The project's headquarters will be located in Suva, and satellite offices will be established in Pohnpei and Port Moresby. Climate Ready will develop local partnerships and tap international expertise to carry out three objectives.

### OBJECTIVE 1

#### ASSIST COUNTRIES TO INCORPORATE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION GOALS INTO NATIONAL POLICY AND SUPPORT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Climate Ready will support counterparts to improve climate adaptation policies and implement reforms. This work will be linked to existing initiatives and regional efforts by the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) agencies.

#### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Assist at least 40 agencies to develop/implement adaptation policies or projects that are sensitive to the needs of vulnerable groups.
- Assist national governments to advance at least 15 adaptation policies, laws, and regulations.
- Create at least 15 peer-to-peer partnerships among Pacific island country partners.

### OBJECTIVE 2

#### INCREASE ACCESS TO CLIMATE FINANCE

Climate Ready will provide technical assistance and capacity building to help countries access climate change adaptation funding through national accreditation, and/or through regional or multilateral accreditation.

#### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Facilitate access to at least US\$500 million in climate change funding.
- Assist countries to obtain national implementing entity accreditation.
- Assist with the design and/or management of 40 climate change projects in partnership with governments.
- Partner with CROP agencies to support regional accreditation and project management.

### OBJECTIVE 3

#### BUILD CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT ADAPTATION PROJECTS

Climate Ready will support the public and private sector and civil society to implement climate change adaptation projects after funding is received.

#### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Strengthened government project management and data collection systems.
- Strengthened management systems for project implementers through certification programs.
- Partnerships developed between international and Pacific organizations for knowledge transfer.
- Online tools and e-learning platforms that make it easier to access technical and project management information developed.

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