

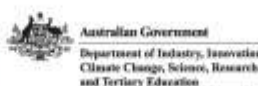


2013 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

Nadi, Fiji, 3-5 July

"Building Resilience to Climate Change through Collaboration"

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS



PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT

Acknowledgements

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) acknowledges with gratitude, the generous contributions from:

The Government of Fiji

The Government of Switzerland

The Government of Australia (through Australian Aid and the International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative)

Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Island States project funded by the European Union and implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community

The Government of Germany (through Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ)

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community

4th Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

3-5 July 2013, Nadi, Fiji

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

SESSION 1: OPENING CEREMONY

Welcome

1. The Fourth Pacific Climate Change Roundtable was held in Nadi, Fiji from 3 to 5 July 2013 at the Sheraton Fiji Resort. *The full list of participants (and all other documents presented during the meeting) is available in [the PCCR sub section](#) of the Pacific Climate Change Portal.*
2. The Reverend Savenaca Nakeke commenced the proceedings with a blessing and prayer.
3. David Sheppard, Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, welcomed delegates and thanked the hosts, the Government of Fiji. He stressed the importance of better and more efficient cooperation and partnerships for the benefit of Pacific communities and people. He referred to the PCCR as the premier forum for discussion on climate change in the Pacific islands region. *His speech is available on the PCCR site.*
4. The Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Fiji, Mr Amena Yauvoli, welcomed participants on behalf of the Government of Fiji.

Election of Chair

5. The outgoing Chair, Niue (Mr Richard Hipa) conveyed the gratitude of the government of Niue and said it was an honour and privilege to have hosted the last PCCR. He proposed the next Chair of the PCCR to be the host country, Fiji and this was endorsed by consensus.
6. Mr Esala Nayasi of Fiji took over the Chair and thanked the meeting for its confidence in giving him the task and thanked the outgoing Chair, Niue for his support to the PCCR over the past two years.

Overview of Agenda

7. The [Agenda](#) was adopted.

Open-ended Drafting Committee Selection (Report and Statement)

8. Australia, Red Cross, United States, Nauru, Pacific Council of Churches, Solomon Islands and Samoa volunteered to participate as core members of the open-ended drafting committee to be facilitated by the Secretariat.

SESSION 2: RECAP FROM 2011 – CHAIRED BY CHAIR PCCR 2013

Keynote Address: Recent Climate Change Science, Salesa Nihmei

9. Salesa Nihmei of SPREP presented an [outline of the current climate change science](#) and what this means in terms of likely climate scenarios. He referenced the PACCSAP Pacific Climate Change Assessments and the work that has been undertaken by the Australian funded programme to develop these scientific assessments.
10. *The Meeting noted the report.*

Report back on recommendations from the 2011 PCCR

11. Dr Netatua Pelesikoti of SPREP provided an outline of work conducted in response to recommendations from the 2011 PCCR. Points covered included: status of the Green Climate Fund; the Regional Technical Response Mechanism (RTSM); Data Sharing (Pacific Climate Change Portal and its links to DRM-net and CROP websites); development of the PACC Mainstreaming Guidelines with SPREP, SPC and PACC country coordinators; Joint Meeting of the PCCR and the DRM platform; and the Climate Change Communication Strategy (developed from country consultations at the 2011 PCCR). The [matrix of activities](#) provides full details.
12. The Meeting:
 - urged participants to give further consideration to the matrix and provide updates to the Secretariat as appropriate.

PCCR Working Group Coordinator Reports

The four working groups of the PCCR provided reports on the status of their activities since the 2011 meeting. The working groups and the PCCR steering committee are guided by the [terms of reference](#) developed at the 2011 PCCR.

Resources Working Group

13. Coral Pasisi, of PIFS and coordinator of the Resources Working Group outlined the activities of the resources WG, including its objective of securing adequate climate financing for PICs and the multi-tiered approach taken to addressing the Niue recommendations. She particularly acknowledged the role of Ambassador Feturi as part of the working group in providing the links between the finance negotiation within the UNFCCC, the GCF and the interests of the Pacific. Various climate finance products were highlighted and can be accessed at this [link](#).
The presentation of the Resources Working Group is [available here](#).

14. Participants commended the progress of the Resources Working Group in delivering on the requests of the Pacific Island Forum Leaders and the PCCR in Niue, and recognised the role of other bodies (Executive Committee, Working Arm on Climate Change) established by CROP agencies to advance work in areas such as establishing the Regional Technical Support Mechanism being established.
15. Discussion emphasised that the term “climate finance” generally applies to the source of financing as being earmarked for both climate and disaster risk management. It was also highlighted that delivery needs to be mainstreamed into development agenda and policy and fiscal frameworks at the national level.
16. Updates were provided on the status of Green Climate Fund following the recent meeting in South Korea. These included the appointment of the Executive Director; policy decisions around use of resources; and the roles of regional and national entities. They noted the GCF has not yet finalised all of its procedures and processes. Some partners such as Republic of Korea have pledged resources for capacity building support to enable SIDS and others to access the fund.
17. Participants agreed that, while access to finance has improved, there remain several questions about individual country levels of readiness, absorptive capacity and partner willingness to contribute to the various modalities for climate financing. The workshops held recently and studies being conducted by CROP, partners and individual countries were mentioned, including the recommendation to further roll-out national specific assessments to collectively help assess readiness and strengthen countries abilities to manage their own CC finance.
18. There was discussion around the issue of donor ability to contribute to preferred national mechanisms such as trust funds and budget support, which would enable predictability as well as absorption in a time frame commensurate with in-country capacity. It was suggested that differentiation of climate adaptation funds from official development assistance (ODA) needs to be made to ensure the resources do not get diverted from development sectors such as health and education. It was also noted that partners traditionally prefer not to set aside resources that could be used now for education and health etc, and that some (eg. EU) have legislation preventing the use of funds for trust fund arrangements.
19. Several examples were provided of innovative financial mechanisms the RWG has looked at, but it was stressed that developing these requires significant time and effort. Some ideas suggested included debt swap for adaptation as well as consideration of the role of private sector finance in the unique context of the Pacific region.
20. The important role of NGO and Civil Society was acknowledged in implementing on ground work and for leveraging partnerships in addition to potentially providing a complementary role to the RWG to look in more detail at financial flows, access and accountability at sub-national level.

21. Espen Ronneberg (SPREP) presented the report of the mitigation working group on behalf of Solomone Fifita (SPC) on progress since the 2011 roundtable. He noted the drive towards more implementation of activities; and significant gains in terms of soft part of mitigation (plans etc). In terms of resourcing and partnerships a number of opportunities have been discussed by the MWG.
22. He elaborated on the SIDSDOCK programme started by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5C) and SPREP to bring energy efficiency and renewable energy (RE) programmes into countries, freeing up resources previously used by fossil fuel procurement for other climate change work especially for adaptation.
23. It was noted that the Pacific Energy Summit held in early 2013, brought together respective governments and the MWG representatives facilitated linkages. More than NZD600 million was pledged, with approximately half from ADB in the form of loans. *Details of the Mitigation Working Group activities are outlined in the paper prepared by Solomone Fifita available in the [PCCR folder](#).*
24. In answer to a question on carbon market opportunities, it was suggested it may be better for the PIC region to pursue renewable energy and efficiency for economic reasons rather than the carbon market, given the costs of monitoring and verification.
25. On the UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), the meeting was advised that [guidelines](#) have been developed by SPREP and tested in Cook Islands and a region wide initiative (potentially with UK/Germany) is being explored. RMI suggested some discussion take place at this session of why countries in the region other than the Cook Islands have not yet submitted NAMAs and that if the reason is capacity based then there is a need to seek ways of overcoming this as well. The possibility was raised of encouraging countries to reflect their targets and plans as NAMAs through this year's Pacific Islands Forum with the theme *Marshalling the Pacific Response to the Climate Challenge* in September. A detailed presentation is available [here](#).
26. In terms of REDD+, a Regional Strategy has been developed and a number of national policies are currently under consideration (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and PNG).
27. Several island specific technologies being considered for the near future were highlighted, including Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) in RMI; biodigesters in Samoa; biodiesel, using an alternative production method from coconuts. The application of true and tested approaches such as wind and PV will continue in PICs.
28. There was some discussion of incentives used to make RE and EE interventions more sustainable beyond the lifetime of projects and consideration of the role of Governments in sustaining these initiatives. The MWG speaker pointed out that this had been the subject of PIGGAREP studies

(which covered barriers provision of incentives), and highlighted the issues and complexities within countries, such as cost benefit analysis differentials between different stakeholders eg utilities, finance/treasury, and environment.

Knowledge Management Working Group

29. The coordinator of this working Group, Tagaloa Cooper, emphasised the importance of partnerships and collaboration for information sharing. She provided an overview of some of the outcomes of the working group, including a demonstration of the Pacific Climate Change Portal (www.pacificclimatechange.net) and emphasised that the information on the portal is publicly available and approved by governments before uploading. Other knowledge management outcomes include the Mailing List; Pacific Climate Change Information Network and its email discussion forum; Climate Change Matters Newsletter; and the MOU between SPREP and Pacific Solutions Exchange to contribute to the discussions.
30. Challenges in terms of capacity building, sustainable financing and content building around the region were highlighted with some proposed solutions including an online training module to reduce costs and exploring ways to development agreements on content, etc. *The full presentation is available in the [PCCR Folder](#).*
31. The usefulness of the portal and the SPREP Climate Change Matters newsletter was acknowledged by the meeting but it was noted that the challenge will be keeping the portal information updated. In particular, the project database will only be useful if current. A real gap is in the area of information for climate early warning especially for slower onset events like coral bleaching. The KMWG going forward will look at scientific information and how to manage it. The joint meeting of CC and DRM offers an opportunity to explore harmonising this with the Pacific Disaster Net to ensure complementarity.
32. Country participants proposed support being provided to national website development which will help avoid duplication of effort (eg in developing country profiles) and enhance country ownership in sharing information. It would also address potential Intellectual Property Rights issues and ensure that content is appropriately acknowledged.
33. SPREP indicated they have contacted national focal points to endorse and appoint one person to be the gateway for what ultimately is linked to the portal. Sub-regional trainings over the past year targeted potential updaters from each country, with the aim that countries will populate the portal themselves.

34. Espen Ronneberg (SPREP) presented the report of the AWG, on behalf of the coordinators (Diane McFadzien and Dr Padma Lal). He advised that, in the interim, the AWG would be coordinated by Dr Netatua Pelesikoti (SPREP) and Mark Borg (IUCN). The presentation is available...
35. Coordination had improved significantly at national and regional level through mechanisms such as co-location of project management units, joint steering committees, use of same national structures, and regional processes like the CROP CEO Working Arm on Climate Change (WACC), Pacific Climate Change Portal and facilitating regular contact between projects eg through joint training workshops. In terms of resource mobilisation, the AWG noted that globally most funding is still going to mitigation and less to adaptation. . On this issue, the AWG contributed to a joint message and support with the RWG to the PICs representative in the GCF.
36. Looking ahead, the AWG noted the need to further improve cooperation, especially with NGO projects and in private sector, ways to bring in more natural solutions and win-win activities such as ecosystem based adaptation, waste management, incorporating gender issues (PACC assessment, gender toolkit), and the work programme on loss and damage from slow-onset climate change impacts and extreme events, building on the SPC and World Bank project PCRAFI funded by Australia and Japan and supported by other partners, as well as other regional work on human dimensions of CC (displacement etc).
37. Four key issues were discussed by the meeting. The first issue considered was the possibility of the establishment of a Working Group on Loss and Damage matters. It was recognised that there was interest in creating the space to discuss what slow onset events are and to consider the science and technical input that could inform Loss and Damage discussion.
38. Key points highlighted included slow-onset impacts, short term disasters and the relationship and with DRR, impacts, risks, vulnerabilities and adaptation. The AWG recommended the establishment of a Loss and Damage working group.
39. The second issue was the need for the AWG to better help countries to prioritise their adaptation response needs. PIFS highlighted that, among other things, this will help countries to improve access to and effective management of climate change finance. It was highlighted that efforts to improve prioritisation of adaptation responses could be achieved through the National Adaptation Planning process.
40. The third issue related to efforts made so far to promote links between education institutions such as USP and knowledge generated from climate change field work experience. It was noted that feedback loops between education institutions and practitioners are an aspiration of many climate change projects such as the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project, but that in practice there are often difficulties that limit this integration. For example, there is often a mismatch of teaching semesters and timelines for on-the-ground project assessments. UNDP

advised that a strategic and collaborative cost-benefit analysis initiative is currently under development which, among other things, specifically aims to strengthen interactions between USP and Government climate change practitioners. The proposed cost-benefit analysis initiative also aims to help countries prioritise adaptation responses.

41. The fourth issue was the need to expand the extent to which the AWG has promoted the use of science to inform climate change adaptation work was highlighted. Improved use of science has been identified as a priority area for next steps of the AWG.
42. The Meeting:
 - noted the reports of the 4 working groups;
 - and agreed to the establishment of a working group to address loss and damage.

SESSION 3: INNOVATIVE TOOLS FOR ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION

This session was chaired by Professor John Hay of the University of the South Pacific. A series of presentations were made, followed by discussion.

[Tropical cyclone risk assessment in the Pacific region \(PACCSAP\) – Craig Arthur, GeoScience Australia](#)

43. The presentation outlined a regional risk assessment to evaluate the potential level of threat by tropical cyclones in the longer term and then to assess the actual cost of damage to infrastructure. Analysis had been done on tropical cyclone (TC) hazard risk for buildings, infrastructure and crop assets in 14 PICs and East Timor.
44. A point was made that an understanding of actual units of analysis used in the model would help inform planning.
45. It was observed that according to the results of the study, the predicted increases in annual average loss from TC's in the region is 1% by 2050 and 3.9% by 2100. The speaker explained that this model did not account for changes in the level of exposure (eg. increases in population or development) and that if this were to be included, the costs would be greater.
46. A further observation was that the model did not allow for slow onset changes and also did not take into account non-economic losses (a challenge that was acknowledged by the speaker).

Role of climate science in informing integrated climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management in the western tropical Pacific – Brad Murphy, PACCSAP

47. Brad Murphy of the PACCSAP project presented a paper to outline a number of tools developed under PACCSAP. He explained that recent extreme events (such as the Tuvalu drought) have indicated that the models such as the seasonal forecasting tool do work.
48. He noted that the scientific products of PCCSP are being used to inform various policy and community level adaptation work. Dr Murphy outlined the range of work that has been done under PACCSAP – new science, communication products, tools development, capacity building. He further highlighted the importance of communicating the science in the PACCSAP work but added that this outreach needs to extend beyond National Meteorological Services. Various climate information portals from PACCSAP are available at www.pacificclimatechangescience.org
49. Countries commented that more links between meteorological services and community groups are needed and that outreach from meteorological services requires support and appropriate science communication/education resources. It was acknowledged that the PACCSAP material is world-leading and very valuable for the Pacific.

Adaptive Tools and methods in the light of climate change; enhancing early warning systems for adaptation and resilience (UNESCO), Denis Chang-Seng

50. Dr Chang-Seng presented a paper that explored how DRR might inform CCA strategies and tools. He pointed out that these DRR methods and tools need to be adapted, improved and strengthened to foster effective synergies between DRR and CCA. He drew on an example showing how Early Warning Systems can be enhanced in order to deal with climate change challenges.
51. The Meeting noted the papers.

SESSION 4: CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCING

52. This session was chaired by Coral Pasisi of PIFS. The following presentations were made:
[Capacity building for resilient development in the Pacific, improving the use of Cost Benefit Analysis](#) (Aaron Buncle SPREP)
[Climate public expenditure and institutional reviews](#) (Kevin Petrini, UNDP)
[Nauru case study \(PIFS\)](#)
[SPREP experience with the adaptation fund \(SPREP\)](#)
53. Aaron Buncle of SPREP spoke on work done through the PACC project to improve the use of cost benefit analysis (CBA) in PICs to inform project design and as evidence to donors. He observed that there has been increased interest in CBA as evidenced by requests for in-country training

from PICs (eg Kiribati, Tuvalu, Vanuatu). The presentation outlined specific training and other activities conducted in this area and presented a new initiative that will provide strategic comprehensive effort to enhance national capacity through two work streams - (1) capacity enhancement in CBA at project level - this is focus of initiative; and (2) sectoral economic assessments for adaptation. Interested parties were invited to submit an EOI, or discuss with P-CBA Working Group. Initial feedback showed that countries has a strong preference for in-country training and on-going mentoring support with key sectors identified as agriculture, fisheries, tourism, water and energy.

54. The meeting commended the work, noting that CBA is an integral part of the project preparatory process. The limitations of CBA were also acknowledged; for example, that a small-scale project will not benefit as much from use of CBA as opposed to a large infrastructure-based project. The challenge of valuing the environment and the tool needing to be “all encompassing” was also noted.
55. Kevin Petrini of UNDP provided background, key findings and recommendations for Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR). Some reasons to undertake a CPEIR are to manage scaled-up finance, monitor climate expenditure and improve budget processes vis-à-vis climate change. The methodology is country driven with an expert group stating and measuring against their policies using a high, medium, low scale. He further shared information about the status of CPEIRs in the Pacific.
56. Ryan Medrana presented the Pacific Climate Change Finance Assessment and the Nauru Case Study noting that a lot of work has been done previously on CC financing. Development of the PCCFA framework was to help further knowledge in this area. The framework provides detailed guidance to countries and development partners to determine their approach in accessing CC financing. It can also be used by decision makers and junior officials in designing policies and programmes and by donors and international agencies and CSOs. The Nauru case study builds on existing global and regional tools – the CPEIRs, NIE Assessments, PEFA Assessments contribute to improving access to resources.
57. The case study shows that the majority of CC related expenditure is accessed from bilateral sources and a series of related recommendations are made in the report. These include updating all policies and plans to include CC and an analysis of rules, organisations and social norms that affect action on CC.
58. The importance of ensuring climate financing meets the needs of communities and of identifying and addressing obstacles in this regard was acknowledged by the meeting. The efforts of CSOs, including Oxfam International, were also acknowledged.
59. An analysis of funding sources and in-country presence of development partners was recommended.

60. Espen Ronneberg presented on SPREP's experience in applying for Regional Implementing Entity (RIE) status with the Adaptation Fund (AF). He advised on the rationale for the application highlighting that currently there was no national implementing entity in the region and that CROP has agreed that, if successful, SPREP would be the regional implementing entity. The application was at the directive of members. He noted the many challenges of the process as well as the benefits that have been reaped as a result of the process, in particular the necessitation of highly robust, transparent financial mechanisms in the organisation. The lessons are being documented with intent to share with countries to assist them in the process should they choose to apply to become a national implementing entity (NIE), which is particularly important given the AF cap on projects from MIEs and RIEs.
61. It was noted that Samoa and Cook Islands have applications in progress (for NIE). Samoa added that their experience has been the same as that of SPREP in that there have been several consultations, each time with additional requests for clarity on processes. Samoa has been requested to include the Ministry of Finance in the process. In the absence of NIE, PICs are still able to utilise the services of multi-lateral implementing entities (MIEs) such as the UNDP, however, it was noted that a 50% cap has been put on MIEs. .
62. UNDP advised that it has supported various countries in the region to access resources from the Adaptation Fund early on when it became operational, e.g. Solomon Islands was globally amongst the first countries to submit a concept and later to start implementation. The initially submitted concepts were relatively brief, but in subsequent submission rounds became rather complex responding to reviews, resulting in some cases skipping concept stage and preparing straight full proposal.
- .
63. USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific advised of a climate change adaptation finance project working in 13 countries in Asia and currently looking at partnerships in the Pacific. There is possibility of working with USP and other institutions to build capacity for accessing climate finances at the global level through training courses. Niche support has been provided in Tuvalu and Samoa.

SESSION 5: INCREASED RESILIENCY AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND DISASTER RISKS

A series of papers were presented to highlight good practices and experiences in the region. The key points raised during discussions under each presentation are outlined here.

[Building community and ecological resilience to climate change in Solomon Islands \(UNDP SI/University of Queensland\), Dr. Simon Albert, University of Queensland](#)

64. Solomon Islands extended appreciation to all development partners for their assistance in the Choiseul initiative, in particular to the Australian Government and the University of Queensland. He acknowledged the importance of involving the community who are ultimately affected by climate change and added that the project helped with long term planning. Mr Iroi also acknowledged the importance of unity and cohesion and requested consideration on how this can be sustained, noting that expectations that are not achieved will undermine unity.
65. Tonga noted the usefulness of the visual mapping tool and added that a similar process was currently being used for development planning in Tonga (such as the preparation of their forestry inventory and utility providers planning for laying of cables etc.).
66. The issue of sustainability was raised and it was noted that this project was driven by a local community organisation which is made up of local chiefs and community members who drove the coordination of partners and project activities. There is thus, a self sustaining mechanism in the local community.
67. In response to a question on measuring community cohesiveness and bringing issues such as gender equality (etc) into the discussions, it was clarified that the climate change adaptation process had produced a local community resilient plan. The indicator for success is derived from the implementation of this plan.
68. A team of social scientists are working with the community to rank the success and cohesiveness of the local governance. There are variations in the levels of cohesion among the 25 community groups that were assessed. The range is between strong cohesiveness to no coordination at all - especially around land issues and logging rights. Governance underpins the vulnerability matrix. This is an important indicator for driving success.
69. The meeting also highlighted the need for practical integration of traditional knowledge into climate change planning; maintaining the momentum; and stressed the importance of documenting and disseminating lessons learned across the Pacific Region.

Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Programme (GIZ, SPREP, SPC) – Dr Wulf Killman

70. Chanel Iroi observed that in the past, development partners have traditionally focused on supporting a single sector. The Solomon Island Government is now viewing the EBA model as a way of bringing together multiple development partners targeting multi-sectors. The intention is to replicate the success of this multi-sector approach with multiple partners to tackle the issue of climate change across the country and more importantly working with community. In response to a series of questions, Dr Killman outlined the selection criteria for the project, noting that the decision was made by the Solomon Islands Government. Choiseul was the preferred choice due to certain homogeneity - only 2 languages, Luru and i-Kiribati. Other provinces are more complicated. The Solomon Island Government wanted to trial this new approach on a community that would be relatively easy to work with.
71. On the issue of project sustainability, it was clarified that the project is providing technical assistance and not budget support – thus, the issue of sustainability rests with the Solomon Island Government and its development partners.
72. Dr Killman noted that replication is the way forward and that this approach will eliminate competition among development partners and provide the impetus for strengthening coordination for joint programming. He added that if partners do not coordinate their work together, they can pose more of a burden to PICs than climate change.
73. UNDP Fiji mentioned that the GEF 5 for the Pacific is targeting the ridge to reef approach. The Ridge to Reef Programme provides another opportunity to bring everyone together. UNDP will send out invitations to partners in the Ridge to Reef Programme in the development of countries' project documents.

Ecosystem Based Adaptation - Stuart Chape, SPREP

74. Comments from the floor identified the need for management to be decentralised at the lower level to have the necessary impact. Further, the issue of detrimental impacts around coral bleaching and invasive species gives impetus for thinking about ecosystem management for the long term. It was suggested that ecosystems must be managed within their limits and that EBA may be used as an approach to identify ecosystem limits and its implications on policy planning. Stuart Chape noted natural limits would depend on what the ecosystem is. He added that there would need to be a landscape approach to identify areas that will be affected by Climate Change. It also depends on the island type and other factors.
75. The use of EBA in participatory data monitoring work in Vanuatu was described. This 3D work adds value to participatory community work; applying 3D modelling from the Ridge to Reef has helped the community to identify their EBA options. EBA is also linked with drainage work including options of planting grass to prevent sedimentation.

76. On the discussion on the various components needed to effect EBA, the need for flexibility was noted. In response to a discussion on use of invasive species to produce biofuel, caution was raised regarding turning the invasive species into a crop by creating a demand for it.

[Linking ciguatera poisoning to climate oscillations a case study from Rarotonga, Cook Islands \(CI\)](#)

77. Discussions raised the issue of the social dimensions (health and food security) of this and whether there would be a time when alternative sources would need to be sought for the local population that depend on that particular source of protein.
78. Dr Johann Bell of SPC advised that Ciguatera poisoning is becoming a major problem around the region and that one option is to move away from reef fish to pelagic fishes around FADs. It was also recommended that funds need to be raised for workshop(s) to bring players in the region to discuss this. A test kit is needed to test poison levels of fish and is being developed. He added that under Climate Change, ciguatera poisoning will become more prevalent because there will be more substrate exposed from tropical cyclones and storms.
79. On the question of correlation of seasonal climate to ciguatera outbreaks, the presenter advised that a correlation has been shown. He also referenced a brief socio-economic study that assesses the costs of treating symptoms of ciguatera poisoning. 70% of people are not eating reef fish anymore with preference of tastes shifting to pelagic fish such as tuna but are expensive. Some are substituting with canned fish. The idea of seasonal prediction models for ciguatera poisoning was raised.

[The role of climate change related risk perceptions in designing and enhancing DRR and CCA policies, strategies, tools and methods – Dr Denis Chang Seng \(UNESCO\).](#)

80. Several points were highlighted: the importance of practical application being informed by a mixture of traditional knowledge and science; ensuring project sustainability by considering this early in the project cycle; coordination and partnership between donors and partners; the value of building on the Choiseul approach with multiple partners using a multi-sector approach and the importance of climate change impacts being considered together with other impacts. It was also noted that issues such as weak governance and over harvesting of forest and marine resources should be all included in totality in our responses.

Presentation from PMC, on linkages between observing systems, science and resilience - Neville Koop, (SPREP & PMC)

81. Key points highlighted included that: data is the foundation for all climate projections; adaptation is dependent upon knowing with some confidence what we will be addressing; GHG emissions have increased and temperatures will continue to increase for some time due to the lag effect, regardless of the extent to which emissions are reduced right now.

82. On the issue of NMSs being more integrated in the decision making processes in the countries, it was clarified that this country-dependent. Some countries sent National Meteorological Services (NMS) representatives to the international climate negotiations, as an example. SPREP is assisting NMS's with improving confidence in and building communication capacity to better work with other government agencies and across sectors (such as agriculture, health, etc). Examples of using meteorological information for agriculture and water resource management were outlined.
83. The point was made that while more data is always better, running and maintaining weather stations is expensive and therefore a balance is needed. Protecting the data already available is a priority (eg. digitising data currently stored in paper form) as this will ensure data continuity.
84. A suggestion was made that there is also potential to use satellite data for addressing data gaps in ground and ocean information.
85. The issue of applying data to specific sectors was highlighted and it was noted that the sectors need to approach NMSs to seek information that can then be appropriately packaged and interpreted depending on the need.
86. There was a reminder to look at the upcoming report of the IPCC (AR5), which will provide up-to-date assessments as well as the reports coming from regional and national met services.

The global framework for climate services in the Pacific islands – John Mara (NOAA/NIWA/BOM)

87. It was noted that actionable information to support decision making requires accurate, reliable data at an appropriate scale, translation of this data through a process involving a dialogue between users and providers so that it is targeted to specific sectors, and its delivery through established pathways and trusted messengers. It was also noted that a considerable number of projects and activities are underway in the region. It was suggested that greater attention needs to be given to aligning these efforts, and that the WMO Global Framework for Climate Services provides a mechanism to support the development of a more strategic approach to the development and delivery of climate services in the Pacific region. Regional Working groups organised around the five pillars (e.g., training, outlook products) land/or key sectors (e.g., water security, disaster risk reduction) as well as looking jointly across project work plans are examples of how this could be approached.
88. On the issue of communicating uncertainties of scenarios and probabilities, it was noted that further assistance is needed in developing and enabling information transformation, eg. through climate stories (Micronesia Challenge). Vanuatu outlined its information and communication project, which provides a way to identify gaps in communication products and a process for checking accuracy of information being made available to specific audience groups.

Climate Change and Health in the Pacific: new research and the role of WHO – DR. Rokho Kim

89. It was highlighted that not all populations are equally affected by climate change impacts such as heat stress, lack of fresh water, extreme weather, etc. The vulnerability assessment survey was undertaken per country and national climate change and health action plans have been developed in nine countries, with a further three in draft.
90. The dearth of research in the region in health was commented on and it was noted that while hospitals collect the information, it is not always shared. The work by WHO is very positively received.

SESSION 6 AND 7: WORKING GROUPS

91. The Working Groups met in two parallel sessions and their reports are summarised here.

Resources Working Group

92. The Resources Group constitutes representatives from Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Samoa, SPREP, Oxfam and UNDP. Coordinators elected were Mr. Exsley Taloiburi (PIFS) and Mr. Meapelo Maiai (SPREP). A diverse range of issues was discussed by the group which included: matching country needs with development partners; funding sources with focus on SPREP's Climate Change Adaptation Donor Database; identification of actions and recommendations; effective climate financing; and the need for an events calendar on key events.
93. There is also a need to identify ways to institutionalize a process for countries' NAPAs, NAMAs and JNAP priorities and matching them to sources of funding.
94. The Adaptation Group updated the plenary on current adaptation projects, which included the implementation, review and associated work of the USP-EU-GCCA project, AusAID programmes and UNDP projects.
95. The group also discussed the proposal to establish the working group on Loss and Damage, noting that a TOR has been drafted to guide the work of the Loss and Damage group. The group highlighted adaptation priorities, which included the importance of listed fish aggregate devices (FADs), expenditure review, impact assessment, human health, pro-poor detailed in depth vulnerability assessments, building cored-infrastructure and ecosystem based adaptation. Additional priorities highlighted by the group included increase number of ridge-to-reef and cross-sectoral approaches, community based adaptation and linking projects to mid-term development and linking traditional knowledge to science.
96. Comments from the plenary on the presentation centred on the value of the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) in the region and need to include gender, human health, water

security, coastal zone management and food security into the work of the group. PACC Officer, Peni Leavai explained that the project has already assisted in loss and damage for Kosrae, and that lessons learnt from that project will inform future work. The L&D group would attempt to integrate the issues addressed into its work in the next two years.

97. PIFS highlighted the need for key stakeholders to provide viewpoints at the upcoming SIDS Pacific meeting.
98. Samoa reflected on the purpose of the meeting and suggested that the group make a note of achievements made which include outcomes and outputs on adaptation since the inception of the roundtable.
99. On the issue of operationalising the WG, the representative noted that the general objective was to build the resilience of communities. She noted that the WG will look at achievements under PIFFAC and align the priorities with those successes.

Mitigation Working Group

100. The group report agreed among other things, to sustain emphasis on renewable energy as a means of reducing dependency on petroleum for power and reducing GHG emissions and accelerate planning and implementation of mitigation related initiatives. The group stressed the need to consider mitigation efforts in the context of broader national sustainable development strategies and goals including waste management, sanitation, access to sustainable and affordable energy and other issues.
101. Cook Islands underscored the role of the Pacific Power Association in bolstering mitigation goals and PIGGAREP's engagement in technology sustainability.
102. Others highlighted the Sustainable Development Goals process and the possibility of Energy Development Goals. In response, the group noted that mitigation is not restricted to climate change, and that mitigation should be considered in a wider context.

Knowledge Management Working Group

103. The group noted the diversity of their group, which included scientists, meteorology services, communications specialists and others. The representative emphasised the value of Information and Knowledge Management (IKM) in planning and processing information.
104. Challenges included low bandwidth lack of understanding of what IKM is, funds for operation and maintenance, communicating results and others.

105. The priorities and needs addressed included the duplication and fragmentation, human capacity to analyse data and provide information and knowledge, ensuring that information is timely and meets user needs.
106. The themes discussed included tracking adaptation, traditional knowledge, database of queries and solutions, policy framework, vulnerability and adaptation assessment. The group discussed the way forward and selected a core team to champion specific KM priorities and to ensure that IKM features at key CC events.

Loss and Damage Working Group

107. The group agreed that a working group will be established and a TOR was drafted. The objective of the group is to provide a space for countries to come together to share scientific, technical knowledge and a better understanding the science and impact of some of the responses to loss and damage. Elements of the TOR were discussed which included membership.
108. The Chair informed the plenary that the Coordinators of the Working Group were Brian Philips of Vanuatu as lead coordinator and Malia Talakai (Nauru) as the assistant coordinator.

SESSION 8: Roadmap Discussions

109. Netatua Pelesikoti of SPREP presented an overview of the status of disaster risk reduction at the national level, noting issues such as capacity building, perceptions of risks, over consultation of communities and confusion caused by separate programmes addressing risks under different labels. She explained the 2009 response by regional organisations to develop a way forward to address DRR and CC in a coordinated manner.
110. Brian Dawson of SPC discussed the rationale for an integrated strategy, noting that CC and DRM have overlaps with a shared focus on risk reduction. He also advised that integration was already happening at national level and that it would result in more effective use of capacity and resources. Widespread support for integration has also been expressed at regional and international level. The Pacific would be the first region to actually carry out the idea into action.
111. He presented some common concerns between CCA and DRM, noting that most of the work is related to weather-related hazards. Since integrated approaches are already happening at national level, it made sense to have a consistent overarching regional framework. Some countries have also started to implement institutional changes (eg. Vanuatu).
112. Cristina Casella of SPC provided an explanation of the roadmap process as the process of formulating and developing a Pacific Integrated Regional Strategy for DRM and CC. This would

replace the respective CC and DRM strategies, which both come to an end in 2015. She further provided an outline of the actual process by which the roadmap process will progress, including a timeline leading up to the approval process commencing in July 2014. [View full presentation and timeline.](#)

113. Samoa mentioned the August 2014 Small Island Developing States meeting to be held in Apia, and suggested this was an opportunity to showcase the initiative.
114. Nauru/AOSIS observed that the purpose of this meeting includes providing input to the joint framework, and stated that if it were to be adopted as a Pacific strategy, it would need to allow countries and territories to discuss it further and receive approval. The representative sought further understanding on the objective of the meetings leading to the joint meeting next week.
115. Dr Pelesikoti clarified that PCCR is held every two years and it has its own specific objectives (namely to bring together those involved in climate change work in the region and to assess work done under the PIFACC). The parallel meeting is the Pacific Meteorological Council meeting. The two meetings are held biannually; the fact that they are being held back to back is to cut down on costs. She added that the process for the Roadmap has always been transparent, with integration of CC and DRM and stemmed from national issues and needs. She noted that this should have nothing to do with country positions as parties to the convention and that the aim of the joint approach was to respond to the lack of capacity and other challenges already identified in responding to risks.
116. Samoa reminded the meeting of the SIDS Pacific and SIDS Meeting and highlighted the value of sharing ideas and information. He commented further that the processes (DRM and CC) will remain separate, but where there are opportunities to integrate and synergise, there will still be institutional issues to work through at the national level.

SESSION 9: ROAD TO WARSAW

Preparations for COP - SPREP

117. The preparations for the Warsaw Convention of the Parties to the UNFCCC were outlined. A pre-COP workshop will be held a month before the COP and will include negotiations training based on real examples. The workshop will look at a subset of specific themes and the input of PICs was requested. There will be media participation as part of the SPREP training programme. A one-day Pacific pre-COP, pre- AOSIS session will also be held in Warsaw.
118. A team of SPREP and other CROP agencies will attend the COP to assist with different working groups and provide technical backstopping.

119. An expert meeting convened by the UNFCCC Adaptation Committee will be held in Nadi in September with a focus on slow onset events. This will likely be by invitation only, and participants were urged to share any information on this event that they may receive.
120. Institutional arrangements for loss and damage were discussed. An international mechanism is proposed that will sit under the COP to ensure UNFCCC has a leading role. It will complement and help coordinate and facilitate information flow between existing mechanisms and its functions will include development of strategic approaches, addressing issue gaps such as ocean acidification, slow onset events, land loss, and increasing land and sea temperatures. Synergies and links with JNAPs and PCRAFI (Catastrophic Risk Assessment Initiative) will be explored. Insurance mechanism will only be activated for countries that have taken disaster risk management steps, and payout conditions will require that further risk reduction measures be taken. Challenges in developing these arrangements from a developed country perspective were recognised and the need to avoid duplication and support and encourage bottom up approaches were noted. It was clarified that the purpose of the compensation/rehabilitation pillar is to address areas that countries cannot adapt to.
121. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) Chair is working with countries to address SBI deadlock by Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, in the hope that work can start immediately in Warsaw.
122. Mention was made of the 1.5 degree goal, noting that this requires the whole globe to go to negative emissions quickly. It was suggested that the PICs should propose an IPCC Special Report on negative emissions that could look at technologies other than geoengineering including those at small island scale that can be done in the short term. AOSIS is calling for urgent action.
123. It was noted that an ODI Climate Policy Initiative has recently calculated that around 350 Billion dollars has been tracked as climate finance. It was suggested that PICTs need to look at which sources are accessible to them. There is a need to identify credible sources of climate financing that are actually available. Climate financing in general needs more harmonisation, transparency and accountability. The need to articulate climate finance usage within national planning and budgetary processes was expressed.
124. Concern was raised that PICTs Finance Ministers have not been exposed as much as the Foreign Affairs and Environment Ministers who traditionally attend the COPs. It was noted that PIFS has offered support to AOSIS in helping to brief them.

Pacific Island Forum Presentation, RMI

125. The Marshall Islands advised that the next Pacific Island Leaders' forum will be held in Majuro from 3 to 6 September 2013. The mitigation focus of the event has been prompted by recent extreme events and Ministers realisation that unless significant effort is taken to slow climate change, survival will become a challenge.
126. There is also a general acknowledgment that transition to a low carbon economy will be a win-win for the Pacific and that the energy sector has potential for negative emissions, some at low

or negative cost such as efficiency measures, as well as renewable and in this context, the outcomes of the Pacific Energy Summit and the “New Energy Drive” were noted.

127. On the issue of the need to define NAMAs, it was noted that SPREP is developing NAMA guidelines.

128. It was noted that a Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership will be developed to feed into the UNGA 2013 and the 2014 SIDS summit.

129. The meeting was also advised on the Nansen Initiative for Pacific Islands Country Region hosted in the Cook Islands (current Forum Chair). A workshop report was developed and SPREP has commissioned a consultant to work with PICTs on the Nansen Initiative for six months. Not all countries were represented at the workshop but relevant information will be made available on request.

Inputs to joint meeting with Disaster Risk Platform and PMC

130. A drafting group constituting core group of representatives from USP, SPREP, SPC Australia Niue, Cook Islands and Samoa was established to prepare the [draft statement](#) to the joint meeting of the PCCR and the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Platform.

Closing Session

131. The Director General of SPREP made closing remarks and the 2013 PCCR was officially closed by Mr Esala Nayasi, the Chair of the Meeting.

Pacific Climate Change Roundtable Statement

To the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable and the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management

Preamble

The sustainable development of Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTS) is severely undermined by climate change, disasters and other risks. This requires the integration of these risks into national development, where appropriate, in order to ensure the resilience of development outcomes at national and community levels.

The purpose of this document is to provide a list of recommendations from the 2013 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) to inform and guide the process of developing a regional strategy for climate change response and disaster risk management post 2015.

Recommendations to the Joint Meeting:

- To recognize that adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change remains a key priority for the region;
- To acknowledge and take into consideration the lessons learned from the implementation of the Pacific Island Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) and other relevant instruments;
- To maintain the leadership and country-driven approach by Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTS);
- To recognize that the Roadmap process be regionally coordinated in order to ensure thorough consultation and full support and implementation with all PICTS such that they are at the forefront of the Roadmap process;
- To recognize that there are commonalities between aspects of climate change and disaster risk management and that efficiencies can be generated through joint efforts;
- To further recognize, there remain needs in climate change and disaster risk management that should be considered and addressed through separate processes¹;

¹ For example: key principles of the UNFCCC that are not as clearly articulated in the Hyogo Framework, such as the polluter pays principle, and common but differentiated responsibilities; need to be maintained in the Roadmap

- To draw on lessons from national, sub-national and community level experiences in integrating DRM and CCA, such as the Joint National Action Plans (JNAPs) and national development strategies;
- To urge development partners to provide continued support to the Roadmap process;
- To recognize the value of joint meetings for the Roadmap.

ANNEX II

Pacific Climate Change Roundtable – Terms of Reference for the PCCR Steering Committee and Working Groups

(Endorsed in Niue, March 2011 by the PCCR as a “living document” and subject to revision by future PCCR meetings as necessary)

(i) PCCR Steering Committee Terms of Reference

Aim:

The PCCR Steering Committee is established to provide strategic oversight, guidance and coordination within the PCCR and with other relevant regional and national mechanisms in support of reducing development risks to climate change impacts in the Pacific. The PCCR also oversees the implementation of PCCR and its working groups’ recommendations following the roundtable.

Objectives:

The work of the Steering Committee will be supported by the Secretariat of the Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and also facilitate reporting to CROP CES-CCC. The SC has the following specific tasks:

Pre-PCCR:

Prior to the PCCR, the chair will convene a meeting of the SC to be responsible for the following:

- ☐ Determine a theme for the PCCR
- ☐ Providing strategic input into the overall programme and agenda of the PCCR
- ☐ Determine the roundtable meeting format
- ☐ Identifying key speakers for the PCCR
- ☐ Discuss and/or identify resources for the PCCR budget
- ☐ Promote PCCR

During the PCCR:

The SC is to provide the following:

- ☐ Provide guidance to the PCCR Chair and working group coordinators
- ☐ Provide input into the drafting and draft outcomes of the PCCR
- ☐ Report to the PCCR where required
- ☐ Provide the role of chair or take the lead on selected agenda items
- ☐ Provide strategic input into the work of the four Working Groups (as above) through the Working Group Coordinators.

Post PCCR:

- ☐ Provide on-going advice to PCCR working groups and other relevant regional partnerships mechanisms such as the CROP Climate Change Working Group (CES-CCC).
- ☐ Provide input in terms of lessons learned and recommendations for future meetings
- ☐ Make recommendations as to the composition of the Steering Committee in preparation for the next PCCR.

- ☐ Provide input and sign off into the final PCCR report.

SC Membership:

Steering Committee will be made up of representatives from governments and organisations (Annex 3 provides the SC members for 2011) as follows; host country as Chair, Polynesia representative, Melanesian representative, Micronesia representative, Developed country representative, SPREP (Secretariat), USP, PIFS, SPC, UN representative and one NGO representative.

Process:

The Steering Committee will meet mainly via teleconferences (to be organised by SPREP) in advance of the PCCR, but members will have at least one face to face meeting in preparation for the PCCR.

Steering Committee members are invited to nominate one alternate member, who will represent them in cases when they are not available.

(ii) PCCR Working Groups Term of Reference

In an effort to improve the working arrangements of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) the following working groups (WG) are established:

- ☐ Climate Change Adaptation and Mainstreaming Working Group;
- ☐ Mitigation Working Group;
- ☐ Climate Change Resources Working Group; and
- ☐ Climate Change Information and Knowledge Management Working Group.

Membership / Participation

Membership of the WG is open to all National, Regional and International Organisations at all levels. In particular, Regional and International Organisations and Agencies who have competence to deal with issues identified in the PIFACC on climate change adaptation and mainstreaming, mitigation, climate change information and knowledge management and resource mobilisation are encouraged to participate in respective WGs.

- ☐ Each WG membership is on a voluntary basis;
- ☐ Participation of partners and CROP at each MWG meeting is self-funded;
- ☐ PICTs participation could be supported if resources are available;
- ☐ Each WG shall meet at least once in a year or when specifically requested by a member;
- ☐ Any member may offer to host an MWG;
- ☐ Any member who offers to host the MWG Meeting shall cover the costs of venue and refreshments;
- ☐ SPREP will be the supporting secretariat for each WG;
- ☐ Each WG will also be responsible for addressing relevant cross cutting issues such as capacity building, awareness, communications, gender, poverty reductions and other emerging issues relevant to the WG.

Process:

- ☐ The coordinator of each WG will be elected at each PCCR, and will be responsible for convening teleconference meetings and face-to-face meetings during and in between PCCR, draft their agendas and request necessary background papers, supported by the secretariat.
- ☐ The WG coordinators and alternates shall be appointed on a rotational basis.
- ☐ The coordinators is expected lead and utilize their own organizational structures for support and in consultation with the SC to ensure resources needs are discussed and identified.

Climate Change Adaptation and Mainstreaming Working Group**Introduction**

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) are among the most vulnerable in the world to the impacts of climate change. Most of the PICTs however, are significantly constrained in terms of their ability to adapt to climate change. Most countries have very limited human and financial resources at their disposal to fully assess and analyze climate related risks, identify viable adaptation options or implement response measures. In this context, supporting climate change adaptation is a key priority for the region. The work of this working group contributes to promote awareness and understanding of what adaptation opportunities are out there and how to systematically identify risks, assess vulnerability and identify and implement adaptation priorities. Similarly, sustaining climate change adaptation calls for the mainstreaming of climate change risks and impact analysis into national development strategies and sectoral strategies including decision making and budgetary planning processes.

Aim

The establishment of the CCAM WG is to support the monitoring and evaluation role of the PCCR under the PIFACC. The CCAM WG is to facilitate a forum where PCCR members share lessons learned, discuss priorities and identify opportunities for addressing these priorities both at the regional and national levels. The CCAM WG is to also to provide 'linkages' to other regional mechanisms including policies and strategies where climate change adaptation should be mainstreamed.

Objectives

CCAM WG is to promote and ensure that a coordinated, cooperative and strategic approach is taken by Regional, International Organizations and Donor Agencies when assisting Pacific Island countries undertake adaptation activities within the context of PIFACC and other relevant regional policies calling for climate change adaptation and reducing the risk of climate change related disasters. Specific objectives include the following:

- ☐ Strengthen coordination and cooperation by regional and international organizations and agencies to facilitate the implementation of the Framework with relation to adaptation;
- ☐ Develop a transparent process at the national level to monitor and measure progress in implementing the adaptation component of the PIFACC.
- ☐ Foster Adaptation Partnerships linked to other relevant development partnerships in support of national adaptation initiatives and priorities
- ☐ Support the CCA mainstreaming into regional policies and national development policies, strategies and decision making and budgetary planning processes
- ☐ Provide CCA linkages to other regional mechanisms
- ☐ Provide support to national CCA and mainstreaming initiatives
- ☐ Facilitate WG activities in between roundtables

- ☐ Report to the PCCR

Utilisation of existing mechanisms

In the Pacific, adaptation issues are dealt with by many groups, but the primary adaptation activity at the regional level is covered by the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Project, and PACC has established structures that could be utilized as key building blocks for the AWG in the region. In addition there are the steering committees of SPC/GIZ ACCPIR, the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Platform, the SOPAC Div/SPC – EU Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Facilities and the Pacific Pilot on Climate Change Resilience (PPCR) as well as institutions such as the University of the South Pacific (USP), ICCAI/PASAP and others. The WG will need to draw on these to develop an appropriate working modality for cooperation. Intended Activities:

- ☐ Improving the availability and use of information, knowledge and expertise;
- ☐ Strengthening the participatory process of national level policy and planning, policy integration and strategy formulation to ensure adaptation is considered in decisions across all sectors;
- ☐ Strengthen planning processes which are fully participatory and holistic i.e. development of adaptation strategies and action plans;
- ☐ Strengthen and support community based approaches by developing a larger pool of people able to conduct such processes;
- ☐ Develop awareness and education support;
- ☐ Share lessons learnt on adaptation actions on the ground and approaches taken;
- ☐ Strengthen ability to access adaptation funding resources; and
- ☐ Report to the roundtable key adaptation activities and new/emerging ones.

Mitigation Working Group

Introduction

While Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) have minimal greenhouse gas emissions, being the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change they have the most to lose should emissions not be addressed, globally. PICTs also stand to benefit from transforming their economies towards low carbon models.

Aim

The establishment of the MWG is primarily to ensure that a coordinated, cooperative and strategic approach is taken by Regional, International Organizations and Donor Agencies when assisting Pacific Island countries undertake national mitigation activities and efforts as provided for by the PIFACC. The MWG will draw together national and regional expertise in all areas of mitigation activities, relating to energy efficiency and renewable energy, reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation, enhancement of carbon sinks and controlling emissions from waste management.

Objectives

The following key objectives apply to the MWG:

- ☐ Strengthen coordination and cooperation by regional and international organizations and agencies to facilitate the implementation of the Framework with relation to mitigation;
- ☐ Support the development of a transparent process at the national level to monitor and measure progress in implementing the mitigation component of the PIFACC.

Utilisation of existing mechanisms

In the Pacific energy-related mitigation is also covered in the Framework for Action on Energy Security in the Pacific (FAESP). The FAESP has established the Pacific Energy Oversight Group (PEOG) which is made up of regional agencies; and the Pacific Energy Advisory Group (PEAG) (PEOG, PICT and Industry representatives as well as NGOs) as two coordinating mechanisms for its implementation and monitoring), and these are expected to continue as core constituents of the MWG. The MWG will draw on the PIFACC and FAESP and other related regional frameworks / strategies to develop an appropriate working modality for cooperation. The MWG will also draw on committees and teams working on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD), afforestation, reforestation and agriculture, as well as waste management expertise.

Intended Activities

- Ensure there is coherence and consistency in the Implementation Plans, Strategies and Outcomes of the PIFACC and FAESP;
- Improving the availability and use of information, knowledge and expertise;
- Strengthening the participatory process of policy-making, policy integration and strategy formulation; Strengthen planning processes which are fully participatory and holistic i.e. development of mitigation strategies and action plans;
- Develop awareness and education support; and
- Strengthen ability to access mitigation funding resources.
- Report to the Roundtable key mitigation activities and new/emerging ones.

Climate Change Resources Working Group

Introduction

The Climate Change Roundtable in 2009 recommended the establishment of the PCCR working groups in an effort to improve the working arrangements of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC). The Resources Working Group (RWG) is one of those established working groups.

The RWG is very important as it seeks to collate information on resource opportunities available for climate change initiatives in the region. It should help to provide a link from the PCCR to other complementary climate change resources and coordination mechanisms that have common goals of facilitating greater coordination and harmonization of donor funds and country efforts. It should encourage increased access to climate change resources, reduced fragmentation of climate change funding, and in collaboration with other WG's, encourage more effective utilisation and management of climate change resources.

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) are among the most vulnerable in the world to the impacts of climate change. Most of the PICTs however, are significantly constrained in terms of their ability to adapt to climate change or implement co benefit mitigation activities. Most countries have very limited human and financial resources at their disposal to fully assess and analyse climate related risks, mitigation opportunities, identify viable adaptation options or implement response measures. In this context, accessing climate change resources impacts significantly on each country's adaptation and mitigation capacity. The work of this working group contributes to promoting more awareness and understanding of what funding opportunities are available and how to successfully access them.

Aim

The establishment of the RWG is primarily to ensure that a coordinated, cooperative and strategic approach is taken by Regional, International Organizations and Donor Agencies when assisting Pacific Island countries with financial and technical support activities and efforts as provided for by the PIFACC. The RWG will draw

together national and regional expertise in areas relating to climate change financing, technical support and regional coordination.

Objectives

The following key objectives apply to the RWG:

- Strengthen coordination and cooperation by regional and international organizations and agencies to facilitate the implementation of the Framework in relation to financing and technical support;
- Provide a link from the PCCR to the discourse and development of options to improve access to and management of climate change resources, focused particularly at the national level but also including the regional and international levels; and
- Support the development of a transparent process to monitor and measure progress in the effective provision of financial and technical support to all components of the PIFACC.

Utilisation of existing mechanisms

In the Pacific financial and technical support as well as regional coordination are considered by several different entities such as the Pacific Plan Action Committee (PPAC), CROP Executives Sub-Committee on Climate Change, PIC/Partners Meeting, Development Partners in Climate Change (DPCC) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) constituency meetings. The RWG will need to draw on these to develop an appropriate working modality for cooperation.

Intended Activities

- Improving the availability and use of information, knowledge and expertise on funding opportunities to the climate change portal
- Input to regional finance coordination studies and initiatives
- Strengthening the participatory process of policy-making, policy integration and strategy formulation;
- Strengthen planning processes which are fully participatory and holistic i.e. development of strategies for sharing information on sources of support;
- Develop awareness and education support; and
- Build and strengthen the regions ability to access climate change funding resources.

Climate Change Information and Knowledge Management Working Group

Introduction

Understanding climate change data and information underpins adaptation and mitigation planning and implementation. However, the application of that understanding in decision making processes required that data and information are collected, analysed and applied in decision making processes. Before information could be applied, information needs to be disseminated in a format that is easy to understand by decision makers at national and community levels.

While PICTs are vulnerable to climate change impacts, it was noted in the 4th Assessment Report by the IPCC that assessments of existing and project climate change impacts are difficult because some climatic processes are still not well understood. It is in this context that this working group is established to respond to this gap.

Aim

The establishment of the CCI-KM WG is primarily to ensure that a coordinated, cooperative and strategic approach is taken by Regional, International Organizations and Donor Agencies when assisting Pacific Island Countries with knowledge management, science and observations and efforts to improve knowledge resource management as provided for by the PIFACC. The CCI-KM WG will draw together national and

regional expertise in areas relating to knowledge management, science, climatology and observations, systematic observations, communications, education and public awareness.

A core function of the focus on knowledge management is to ensure information crucial to the strengthening and enhancement of climate change adaptation and mitigation and which contributes to sustainable development is supported with appropriate efforts to make such information easily available and accessible. It is intended that this will be a cross-cutting effort to support the other working groups of the PCCR and that the CCI-KM WG will be closely engaged in the work to establish and provide oversight for the Pacific Climate Change Portal.

Objectives

The following key objectives apply to the CCI-KM WG:

- Strengthen coordination and cooperation by regional and international organizations and agencies to facilitate the implementation of the Framework with relation to knowledge management, science, climatology and observations, systematic observations, communications, education and public awareness;

- Support the development of a transparent process at the national level to monitor and measure progress in implementing the provision of financial and technical support to such knowledge management components of the PIFACC. Support countries and Partners in identifying priorities and gaps for support at either the regional or the national levels on knowledge management and making recommendations for actions on these.

Utilisation of existing mechanisms

In the Pacific knowledge management, science and climatology, systematic observation, communications, education and public awareness are dealt with by many groups, including the Regional Meteorological Services Directors Meeting (RMSD), the steering committees of Pacific Island Global Climate Observing Systems (PI-GCOS) and Pacific Islands Global Ocean Observing Systems (PI-GOOS), as well as institutions such as the University of the South Pacific (USP), International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (ICCAI), Pacific Climate Change Science Project (PCCSP) and others. The CCI-KM WG will need to draw on these to develop an appropriate working modality for cooperation.

Intended Activities

- Improving the availability and use of information, knowledge and expertise, including oversight of the Pacific Climate Change Portal;
- strengthen the participatory process of policy-making, policy integration and strategy formulation based on utilization of the best available climate change information and knowledge;
- strengthen planning processes which are fully participatory and holistic i.e. development of strategies for sharing information on sources of support and mainstreaming these into those which do not already incorporate knowledge management;
- develop awareness and education support; and
- strengthen ability to access funds to improve knowledge management at national and regional level.