

Samoa Tourism Climate Change Adaptation

- **Country** – Samoa
- **Project Name** : “Enhancing the resilience of tourism reliant communities to climate change risks” project
- **Funded by GEF /LDCF**
- **Implementing Agency** - UNDP
- **Executing Agency and Implementing Partners** – Samoa Tourism Authority and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- **Main Objective**
“Increase the resilience of tourism sector of Samoa through mainstreaming of climate risks into related policy processes and adaptation actions in coastal communities and tourism operations.
- **Focus:**
The focus of this project is to fully integrate climate change into key policy and planning instruments to ensure climate smart planning, development and investment practices
The target is on small scale tourism operations within six (6) Tourism Development Areas in Savaii, Upolu and Manono
- **Project Outcomes:**
 - i. Climate change adaptation mainstreamed into tourism related policy instruments and public – private partnerships
 - ii. Increase adaptive capacity to climate change and disaster risks of tourism reliant communities
- **Lessons Learned**
 - i. Planning is important but implementation is crucial
 - ii. Information sharing between key agencies will greatly assist with implementation of adaptation activities at the sector, community down to individual businesses and households
 - iii. Multi – sector and multi – agency coordination of activities through a programmatic approach is very effective in implementation
 - iv. The use of the Participatory Three Dimensional (P3DM) process as a planning tool was an effective way to communicate and integrate with communities in developing the Tourism Development Area Management Plans under this project which involved the knowledge transfer from MNRE officials with the knowledge and skills to implement such. (ICCRIFS – Forestry Division, PUMA, Water Resources, Environment Conservation, Technical to name a few)
- **Recommendations**
 - i. Information sharing between agencies should continue to better manage and efficiently implement climate change adaptation activities.
 - ii. Multi – sectoral and coordinated approach is a very effective way to learn and share lessons as well as ensuring activities are not duplicated, resources are shared and implementation is ensured.
 - iii. Build on existing initiatives and programmes that have been successful within the region, government, sectors and at the national level.