



Community consultation, Solomon Islands *Photo: Roger James*

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Director's Note



Dr Netatua Pelesikoti

Climate Change Division Director, SPREP

Dear Readers,

By this time next month, July 1-11, five inter-related regional meetings will be held in Nadi, Fiji. These are the Pacific Meteorological Council - a meeting of the directors of the Pacific Meteorological Services and partners; the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable - a networking and partnership meeting of Governments, private sectors and NGOs, donors and partners involved in climate change; the meeting of the Regional Water and Sanitation Committee; the Regional Disaster Managers Meeting; and the and the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable and Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management.

What is common with these meetings is that they address the key risks and development challenges facing Pacific islands and Territories (PICTs). Climate change impacts and disasters are development issues that intensify the vulnerability of PICTs, and water, a limited resource, is key to the health of both people and ecosystems.

All five meetings will address the capacity of PICTs in managing these risks and resources, and how best regional organisations, governments, civil societies, private sectors, NGOs and donors can work together to achieve common goals of resilience

SPREP and SPC are leading the coordination of these meetings in close partnership with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFs), UNDP, ISDR, GIZ and regional NGOs. It is expected that the outcomes of these meetings will guide coordinated regional support to PICTs priorities and Pacific inputs to relevant regional and global frameworks such as the SIDs meeting to be held in Samoa in 2014; the UNFCCC COPs; the implementation of the WMO Climate Services strategies; the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy; Regional Water Action Plan; and the review of the Hyogo Framework.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Climate Change Matters

About Us

SPREP's Climate Change Division (CCD) is made up of three programmes:

1. Adaptation;
2. Mitigation; and
3. Policy and Science.

The work of the CCD is directed by the SPREP Strategic Plan 2011-2015 based on the climate change priorities of SPREP Members and consistent with the *Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015* (PIFACC) and other relevant and approved policy drivers such as the Pacific Plan and the Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Management.

SPREP's three (broad) climate change strategic priorities for 2011-2015 are:

1. Implementing adaptation measures;
2. Improving members' capacity, knowledge and understanding of climate change, and risk reduction;
3. Contributing to global greenhouse gas reduction

Please visit our website at:

www.sprep.org/Climate-Change/climate-change-about-us

SPREP gears up for 2013 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

Preparations for the most significant regional gathering on climate change this year are well underway at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

"The PCCR meeting was established to coordinate climate change dialogue and networking in the region by linking global and regional stakeholders with the national and community levels."

David Sheppard, SPREP Director General

The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) will be held in Nadi, Fiji, from 3 - 5 July and is expected to host over 100 participants from across the region and worldwide.

For the full article:

[Click here](#)

Theme: building resilience to climate change through collaboration



Key session topics will include:

Increased resilience against climate change impacts and disaster risks

Innovative tools for adaptation and mitigation

The "Green and Blue economies" and sustainable development

Climate change financing

The PCCR is coordinated by SPREP, in partnership with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS); the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC); and the University of the South Pacific (USP), with funding support this year provided by Switzerland; the European Union Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA /SPC- PSIS) project; AusAID; and Germany's International Cooperation agency (Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ).

Building resilience to climate change through collaboration



Group work during the 2011 PCCR in Niue



School children perform for participants at the 2011 PCCR hosted by the Government of Niue

This year, the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable will focus on the theme "*Building Resilience to Climate Change through Collaboration.*" Over 100 participants, partners and observers will deliberate on this theme, reflect on lessons learnt at different levels and plan the way forward.

According to the concept of the 2013 PCCR, building resiliency, or achieving a state of resilience, is specific to each country or community depending on their capacity. This capacity could include factors such as labour force; governance/politics; socio-economics; ecological exposure; and more. Therefore, the process for building capacity has to be tailored to each community, even though, in some cases, delivery methods could be similar for a group of countries or communities.

The premise for the 2013 PCCR theme is that collaboration is a crucial element in building climate change resiliency for the Pacific at all levels, from local to international. A diverse range of topics relating to collaboration, building resilience and climate change will be discussed in presentations, working groups and published papers at this year's premier Pacific dialogue on climate change.

The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable, 3 – 5 July, is held alongside the Pacific Meteorological Council, 1 – 5 July, in Fiji. These take place before the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management and the Pacific Climate Change Round Table, 8 – 11 July, 2013.

For more information: [click here](#)

Media and Climate Change with SPREP and PACCSAP

A series of 4 trainings for Pacific media on climate change took place over the last 6 weeks. SPREP's media outreach programme is strengthened through a one-year project funded by the Government of Australia, through the Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning Program.

It has led to this particular training for Regional Media; Solomon Islands Media; and Journalism and Media Students from the National University of Samoa.

Read the [full story here](#)



P3D Modeling- A cost effective tool for assessment and planning

The P3-D model, introduced by the PACC project at its final community consultation on Epi Island, Vanuatu, in March 2013, is a new planning model to be used by the land and marine base sectors.

As community members mapped out the natural features of their island, each representative would seek clarification on the use of appropriate color and of what physical evidence had been observed on the site. For example, dead coral reefs are evident on Lamén Bay as a result of sedimentation during rainy days.

“With the community participation it allows me to cross-reference details. It saves time, as well, during site inspection and I think Vanuatu should begin to use this tool for future planning.”

Mr. Philimon Ala

Mr. Ala is one of six sectoral experts representing government departments working with the Vanuatu PACC project to address coastal infrastructure on the island of Epi.



For more information, contact Taito Nakalevu, PACC Regional Project Manager: taiton@sprep.com

The PACC Project consists of 14 member countries; it is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). It is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Australian Agency for International Development with support from United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Climate Change Capacity Development (C3D+) Programme.



Alliance of Small Island states address Loss and Damage

Expert negotiators from the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) met in New York during a three day preparatory meeting from May 16 to 18. The aim of the meeting was for AOSIS expert negotiators to prepare ahead of this year's negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) around the issue of how to address loss and damage to the adverse impacts of climate change.

This meeting allowed expert negotiators an opportunity to prepare, not only for the negotiations that will take place in Bonn from 3 to 14 June, but also, more importantly, for the upcoming 19th Conference of the Parties that will take place in Warsaw, Poland, in November 2013.

“Loss and Damage is an important issue for the Alliance of Small Island States and this meeting reinforced the groups’ willingness to go to Bonn prepared to contribute constructively to the discussions.”

Malia Talakai, Lead Negotiator, AOSIS

Additionally, the use of modern communications technology allowed for other invited Pacific delegates to participate in the conference virtually, a practice that should be commended as it reduces the contribution of more greenhouse gas emissions from travel!

For more information please contact Diane McFadzien, Climate Change Adaptation Advisor: dianem@sprep.org



Apia, Samoa, post Cyclone Evan, 2012. Photo: Jill Kelly

First SIDS DOCK Pacific meeting builds on energy momentum

The first SIDS DOCK Pacific Regional Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji, from 6-9 May, focused on utilizing the increased momentum in renewable energy and energy efficiency in the region as an opportunity for development. The meeting was attended by national coordinators and senior officials responsible for energy policy from 12 Pacific members of SIDS DOCK, along with representatives from regional organizations and development partners.

The meeting discussed the work of SIDS DOCK thus far and the way forward. Particular attention was given to the preparatory process currently underway for the SIDS 2014 conference to be hosted by Samoa in September,

2014 conference to be hosted by Samoa in September, 2014.

In the Meeting Statement, it was noted that SIDS DOCK reviewed current efforts in attracting further donor support, acknowledged efforts to strengthen the capacity and legal structure of SIDS DOCK Secretariat and agreed to several proposals for consideration at the next SIDS DOCK Meeting.

The meeting was funded by the Danish Government through the SIDS DOCK Support Programme, and organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with other SIDS DOCK, including SPREP.

For more information please visit: www.sidsdock.org



SIDS DOCK Pacific Regional Meeting, May, 2013 Photo: Carlo Iacovino

Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Solomon Islands

Choiseul province (traditionally named Lauru) is the northern most province of the Solomon Islands and home to over 26,000 people. The province contains globally significant natural resources. These are essential in supporting the economies, lives and livelihoods of the people. Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) aims to maintain these resources and keep ecosystems healthy to meet the primary goal of reducing vulnerability.

This report builds on a climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment for Choiseul Province through an EbA approach.



For the full report: [click here](#)

Cook Islands builds proposal preparation capacity

26 participants representing government sectors, including several outer island representatives, attended the specialized capacity development workshop on proposal preparation using the logical framework approach (LFA training) in May in the Cook Islands.

Participants worked through a series of activities and exercises, starting with how to conceptualise a problem; moving through constructing a problem tree and solution tree; then leading them into developing a logical framework matrix and writing a proposal.

Participants came to the training with their own ideas for proposals and at the end of the four days a few had completed full proposals, which they planned to submit to donor agencies following the workshop.

"The logical framework approach helps people get their ideas together and to really think through the steps required to make a project work".

Gillian Cambers, GCCA Project Manager

The training was organised by the Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Island States (GCCA: PSIS) project, which is funded by the European Union (EU), and was implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Organisation (SPREP).

For more information, contact Tagaloa Cooper, Climate Change Coordination Adviser: tagaloac@sprep.org



Mangaia, Cook Islands

Green fale in Tuvalu to showcase benefits of saving energy



Tuvalu photo: Anama Solofa

A new renewable energy project in Tuvalu takes the saying "Home is where the heart is" one green step further. Tuvalu will be building a renewable energy fale that will feature energy efficient appliances to demonstrate the benefits of living in a home with 'green' technology.

Once built, the fale will be open to people for visits to learn more about the benefits of having a green home, it will also serve as an educational tool for school children.

Read the [full story here](#)

For more information about PIGGAREP: [click here](#)

Climate Update

June to August Expected Rainfall Patterns Across the Pacific

Rainfall patterns across the Pacific should, mostly, be close to the usual for this time of year.

The sea surface remains slightly cooler than usual at the equator and east of the dateline, but normal elsewhere along the equator. A warm sea surface usually brings more rain than usual, and a cool sea surface usually brings less.

For the next three months:

Normal, to slightly more than normal, rainfall is expected in Papua New Guinea, the Marquesas, the Solomon Islands and the Tuamotu archipelago

Normal, to slightly less than normal rainfall, is expected in the Tokelau, Tuvalu, Eastern Kiribati and Western Kiribati and the Federated States of Micronesia.

For more information, contact your local meteorological service, or check the [Island Climate Update](#).

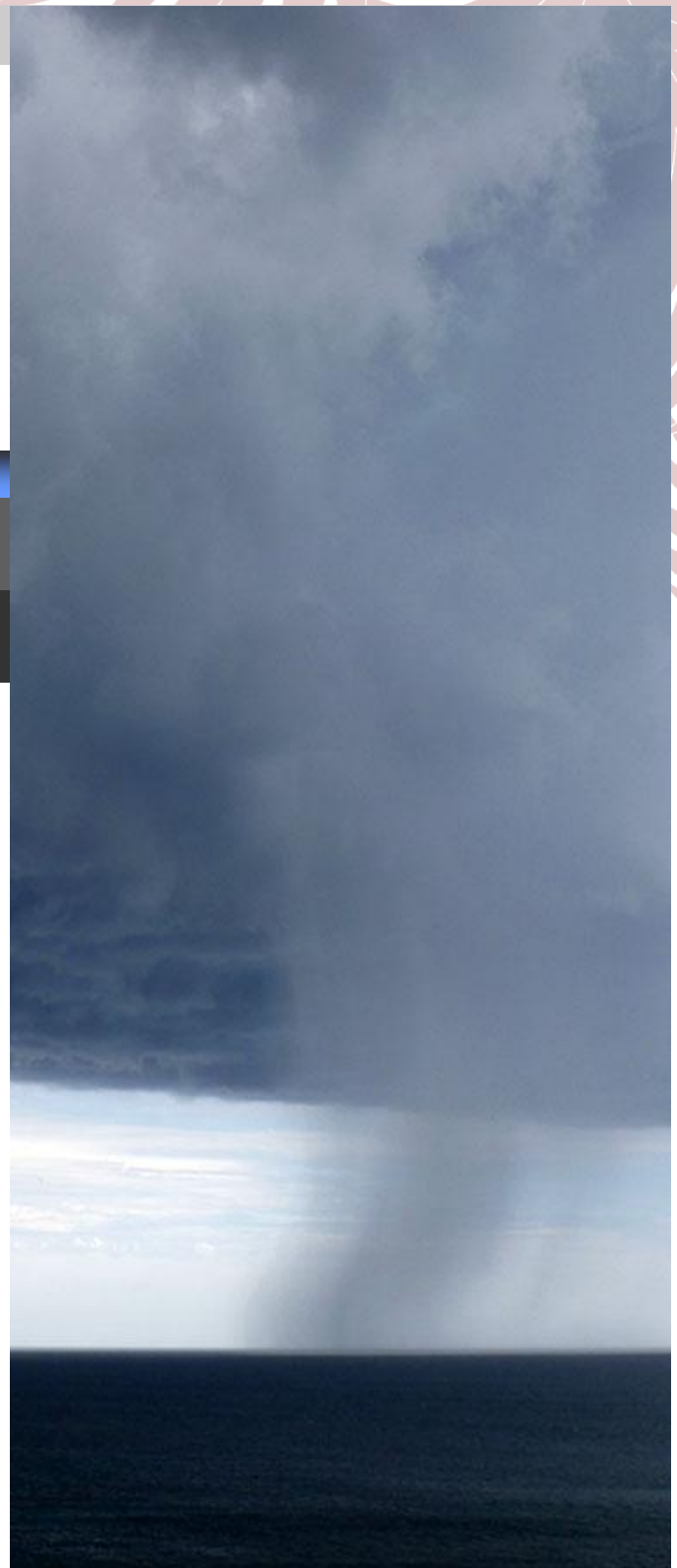
Warming in the Deep Ocean

The deep ocean is warming at the fastest rate yet measured and the Pacific Ocean is playing a vital role, according to a recent paper in the latest issue of Geophysical Research Letters.

The paper, entitled "Distinctive climate signals in reanalysis of global ocean heat content", by Magdalena Balmaseda, noted that while the upper ocean (above 300 metres) has only slightly gained heat, the deeper ocean (between 700 and 2000 metres) has gotten significantly warmer since 1975.

It is thought that the La Niña conditions experienced in the Pacific over the past decade (i.e. increased 'trade-winds' at the equator blowing towards the west) have pushed extra heat from climate change below a depth of 700 metres. When the next El Niño occurs, this heat could be released from the ocean to the atmosphere, resulting in a rapid increase in global temperature.

The ability to measure the increase in global ocean temperatures below 700 metres has been made possible by using Argo floats, which have been deployed globally since 2002. Argo floats sink to 2000 metres then return to the surface every 10 days and provide real time measurements of the ocean temperature and salinity.



Rain over the South Pacific, photo: Carlo Iacovino

For more information contact Neville Koop, Meteorology/Climatology Adviser: nevillek@sprep.org

Events in June 2013

Event	Location	Date
USAID-ADADT Climate Change Finance Meeting	Nadi, Fiji	3-4 June
PMC Steering Committee Meeting	SPREP, Samoa	5 June
Joint Climate Change Disaster Risk Management Partners Meeting	Suva, Fiji	5-6 June
PACC Monitoring and Evaluation Visits	Tonga & Cook Islands	3-15 June