

CLIMATE CHANGE MATTERS

SIDS Samoa 2014 EDITION

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Director's Note



Dr Netatua Pelesikoti

Climate Change Division Director
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Dear Readers,

Samoa is buzzing with final touch up activities in preparation for the 3rd SIDS Conference next week. The Honourable Prime Minister Hon Tuilaepa Lufesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi's remarks on the weekend declared that Samoa is ready to welcome the world. This was a very proud moment for the people of Samoa and for those of us who call Samoa home.

I was fortunate to take a tour of the SIDS conference site and I assure you, it is AMAZING. The place is filled with personal touches of each of the government ministries and departments responsible for the layout and decorations of the buildings. It is full of culture and character and it will come alive with the opening ceremony on Sunday evening (30th August) and throughout the week.

There will be many climate change and disaster risk management related side events at SIDS with most being held at the main venue and a few also at the SPREP office compound at Vailima.

If you are attending the Conference, you may be interested in attending the 'Building Pacific Resilience – The Integrated Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific' to be held on Monday 1st of September from 1-2.30pm in Conference Room CM4. The keynote speaker will be the Lord Prime Minister of Tonga Tu'ivakano. See you there!

'ofa atu,
Netatua

About Us

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

1. Adaptation;
2. Mitigation;
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

We kindly acknowledge the following donors and partners:



Pacific region on track to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than half a million tons



Photo: Participants at the final Multipartite Review (MPR) for the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP) in Nadi, Fiji.

SPREP's groundbreaking draft report on current and projected greenhouse gas emission reductions in the Pacific region has been commended by a gathering of renewable energy experts in Nadi.

The report details current and projected emission reductions capturing results and impacts of PIG-GAREP activities. Preliminary results have indicated that by 2019, an estimated 551,881 tons of carbon will have been avoided as a result of efforts to reduce the use of and reliance on fossil fuels in the Pacific region.

For the full article: [Click here](#)

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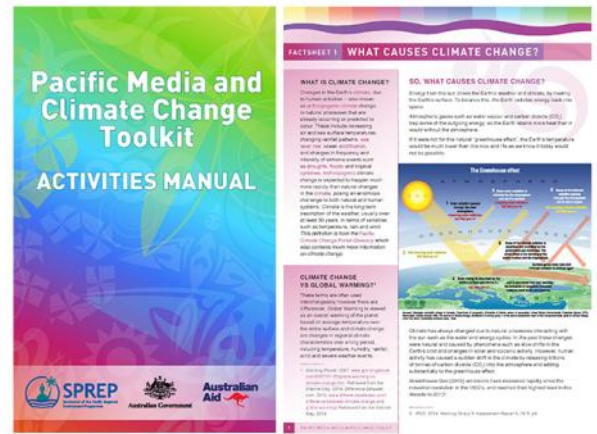


Pacific Media and Climate Change Toolkit available now!

The Pacific Media and Climate Change Toolkit is a new resource developed to help journalists in the region report on climate change and environment issues.

Launched by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) with support from the Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning (PACCSAP) programme, this toolkit was formed as part of SPREP's Media Outreach activities in answer to the requests from Pacific media for assistance with understanding this issue.

For the full article: [Click here](#)



Pacific countries to benefit from new regional initiative

The Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) and Rapid Response Fund (RRF) was launched at the Pacific Island Forum Leaders Meeting held in Palau from July 31 to 1 August.

For the full article: [Click here](#)



Photo: South Pacific Tourism Organisation CEO, Illisone Vuidreketi; Dr Giulio Massaso Tu'ikolongahau Pauga, Vice President USP; Maria Melei, Country Specialist, ADB; Gerald Zackios, Director SPC Northern Pacific Office; Kosi Latu, Deputy Director General, SPREP and Shiu Raj, Director Economic Governance, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. Also attended Wez Norris, Deputy Director - General, Forum Fisheries Agency.

Adapting to climate change in the Pacific: Knowledge is power

The wealth of knowledge gathered over the past five years under the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Project is now being shared through a range of newly launched resources.

All that was learnt over the past five years in carrying out this project, both at national and regional level, is now being made available so future projects can build on these.

For the full article: [Click here](#)



Photo: Mr Paul Maoate, Dr Netatua Pelesikoti Ms Lizbeth Cullity and Ms Ilisapeci Masivesi at the launch of new resources developed under the PACC Project.

Tuvalu community to receive second communal PACC water tank



Last year Tuvalu opened a new 700,000 litre communal water tank in the community of Lofeagai, this year a second communal water tank that can hold 280,000 litres will be opened in the community of Tekavatoetoe.

For the full article: [Click here](#)

From the Farm to the Table: PACC serving Palau

Food security and production has been the main focus of the PACC Palau project.

A new recipe book containing over 60 new recipes developed since 2010 using local produce will be launched in Palau before the end of this year as part of the Pacific to Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project in the island nation.

For the full article: [Click here](#)



PACC helps Tokelau better prepare for droughts



In 2011 Tokelau was caught unprepared by a drought which led to water rationing for a month with 75% of households with no water and communal tanks with a mere 30% capacity of remaining water at the very bottom of the tank, the dirtiest and most unsafe water unsafe for consumption.

For the full article: [Click here](#)

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Tuvalu Meteor Service (TMS) successfully complete the On-Site Training Program of the Pacific International Training Desk (PacificDesk)

Elifaleti Ene and Richard Gokrun of TMS spent 4 weeks at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) campus training on topics including: Tropical Meteorology; Weather Analysis; Forecasting; and Communication Systems.

The On-Site Training Program is intended to prepare observers to understand the forecast process, learn fundamental variables and skills required for forecasting, and provide an opportunity for basic hands-on work with meteorological analysis and predictions, and communication systems.

For the full article: [Click here](#)



Photo: Front Row L-R: Ray Tanabe, Regional Director, NWS Pacific Region; Richard Gokrun, Cohort 1 – Tuvalu Met Service; Elifaleti Ene, Cohort 1 – Tuvalu Met Service; Tom Evans, Meteorologist-In-Charge NWS Honolulu Forecast Office. Standing L-R: Jose Aquino, Operator, UH TASI; Thomas Okamura, Instructor, Pacific Desk; Sean Okamoto, Project Assistant, Pacific Desk; Jennifer Strahl, Instructor, Pacific Desk; LTJG G. Carl Noblitt IV, Pacific Region Climate Change Officer, Pacific ENSO Applications Center; Christina Higa, Director, Pacific Desk; Thomas Vaughan, Hollings Scholar and NOAA Intern; H. Gingerlei Porter, Associate Director, Pacific Desk.



Visit our website for more information: <http://pacificdesk.org/>
More pictures on our facebook: www.facebook.com/PacificDesk

Global campaign launched to improve weather and climate services for SIDS



A global campaign to improve weather and climate services for all small island developing states was launched today with the support of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and Digicel Pacific.

The Small Islands, Weather Together campaign (www.weathertogether.org) aims to show how the small island developing states of the world can work together to improve their vital weather and climate services.

For the full article: [Click here](#)

The "Small Islands, Weather Together" partnership is designed to show how the small island nations of the world are working together to improve their vital weather and climate services. This initiative has been developed by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in support of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) which will be held in Apia, Samoa, from 1-4 September, 2014.



Training for Smarter use of the SmartMet system

National meteorological services in five Pacific countries are soon to install a tool designed to improve weather forecasting services.

The SmartMet system will help met services collate, view, analyse and interpret weather data and at the same time compose, edit, disseminate and archive weather forecasts in graphical and text formats.

The workshop was held from 4 – 8 August at the SPREP Compound. It was attended by participants from Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

The SmartMet systems have been funded through the Finnish-Pacific Project (FINPAC) which focuses on reducing vulnerability of Pacific island country villagers' livelihoods to the effects of climate change. It is a four year project funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland through a grant to the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI).

For the full article: [Click here](#)



Photo: Awarding certificates upon completion of the final training session

Events in September 2014

Activity	Date	Where
SIDS Conference	1 – 5 Sep	Apia
FINPAC QMS Regional Roving Audit Team Mission	8 – 12 Sept	Niue
Joint Training Workshops for PICs on Developing Funding Proposals for the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund and Strengthening the Capacities of National Designated Entities of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)	15 – 20 Sept	SPREP
Media Training for MET Service	22 – 26 Sept	Marshall Islands
SPREP Meeting	25 Sept – 02 Oct	Marshall Islands
NCCARF Conference	30 Sept – 02 Oct	Australia
2 nd Pacific HLSM Preparatory Meeting for UNFCCC Conference of the Parties	04 – 07 Oct	Marshall Islands