Lessons for Future Action Conference

Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction in Small Island Developing States. Samoa, 23-26 May 2011

Summary of Outcomes

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

FAAVAE I LE ATUA SAMOA

Australian Government
Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency
AusAid

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Summary of outcomes

Recognizing the challenge that climate change and natural disasters will bring to small island developing states, over one hundred and twenty representatives from small island developing states in the Pacific and East Timor, the Caribbean and the Indian Ocean, regional and international and non-government organisations and development partners met in Apia, Samoa 22-26 May 2011 to share lessons for future action on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of Samoa, the Honourable Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi.

The conference shared experiences and identified common challenges and good practice examples in: information and awareness-raising, national planning and policy frameworks; community based responses to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction; strategies and on-ground implementation options; and capacity development.
During the conference, participants reiterated the particular vulnerability of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and also recognised the diversity of climate change and disaster response challenges facing them given their different character (volcanic islands to small atolls), geographic, social and economic circumstances.

"While there are differences between and within regions in terms of size, capacity, levels of development and geography, I have always been impressed by the level of solidarity and cooperation that exists between small island states," noted David Sheppard, Director of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

Through conference discussions, working groups acknowledged the importance of having local needs inform research agendas, national planning and capacity development. Communication can provide a pathway to better engagement between national, community and donor stakeholders to determine priorities and deliver effective programs. New partnerships are needed to overcome challenges of managing long term agendas in the context of shorter term funding and implementation cycles, which need to respond to evolving priorities, knowledge and learning.

A report of the conference will be published to ensure that the insights, lessons learned, good practice, gaps and needs for future action identified can be shared more broadly.

Participants particularly appreciated the opportunity for a dialogue between regions and valued the identification of shared opportunities and challenges, and learning from actions taken to date. "*Communication is one of the under-utilised tools to linking national planning to local and sub-national levels and also scaling up to national, regional and global support*" Indi McIymont-Lafayette, Panos Caribbean.

At the conclusion of the conference, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (5Cs) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for further collaboration between the Caribbean and the Pacific regions.

"*Since 2007, the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre and SPREP have been working to forge a collaborative relationship for our two regions. This meeting provided a golden opportunity to bring to fruition a form of collaboration that is sustainable. Indeed the Climate Change Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding is a demonstration of this commitment. It is a concrete example of South-South cooperation."* Edward Greene, CARICOM Adviser, 5Cs.

"*There is too much to do and better partnerships are essential. SPREP's aim is to be a good partner with others so we can better serve the countries and peoples of the Pacific. We recognize that the scale of environmental and climate change challenges require a coordinated and cross sectoral approach*." David Sheppard, Director of SPREP.

Participants agreed that in order to act upon the lessons learned and experiences shared during the conference, SPREP and the 5Cs, in consultation with other partners, agencies and countries would:

1. Strengthen existing regional frameworks, and develop new frameworks and mechanisms where necessary, to support nationally-driven capacity building in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, that spans institutional, programmatic and individual elements.
2. Establish collaborative research networks to examine common challenges and needs initially focusing on coral reefs, coastal processes and coastal modelling.
3. Develop exchange programmes and learning networks within and between regions in order to share lessons learned and best practices.
4. Explore means to provide better climate change information to stakeholders that enable countries and communities to access (and contribute) information that is pertinent to their circumstances and in a form that is readily understood.

Following is a summary of the key insights, good practice examples and gaps and needs for each of the conference themes. The conference program is at Annex A.

Information and awareness-raising

Information and awareness-raising across governments and communities are essential elements underpinning the creation of solutions to challenges from climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The conference heard presentations from Leonard Nurse, Michael Taylor, Cherelle Jackson, Anne Rasmussen and Paul Holper on the science needed to understand risk, community perceptions of climate change, and effective approaches to communicating complex science.

Key insights

1. There has been major growth in the breadth of demand for climate change information in recent years. A decade ago scientists said what was needed – now users tell scientists what they need. The effectiveness of this process needs to be questioned: a gap exists between the research and the user, and often climate change information is not being translated into user needs or presented in a usable form.

2. What is the nature of this gap? It is a delivery gap, where resources and international best practice drive the demand for research, but which fails to link effectively with user needs, especially in a community context. This gap extends to our collective ability to identify the applied research needs including economic and social information.

3. Regions need to increase gathering of data to support their understanding of climate change risks. Importance of long time series data sets for attribution of anthropogenic climate change, and data on non-climate variables is essential for adaptation. But there may be other data that needs to be captured. We need to determine the mechanism to identify what the other data is (climate data, but also sector relevant data) – and then to capture it (in order to support on the ground action)

4. The science needed to facilitate awareness building is any science that enables evaluation of the core message that: the climate has changed; the climate will continue to change; the climate demands change (Michael Taylor, Caribbean Climate Modelling Consortium). We need sector relevant information to engender change, and need to adopt terms like ‘changing climate’ and ‘changing weather’, which are more easily understood than ‘climate change’.

5. Effective principles and methods for communicating science to communities include:
   - know the stakeholders and understand their needs
   - simplify for non-specialists (don’t use jargon), but keep the integrity of the message
   - localise: make information relevant (i.e. country, place or sector specific)
   - humanise information: describe likely impacts in a way people can relate to, such as how impacts may affect their livelihoods, families or traditions)
   - use a trusted person or source to deliver messages where appropriate
   - use a variety of methods and media to deliver information
   - use of local concepts, even if not scientifically the first choice, will enhance understanding

Good practice examples

6. Potential to capture key lessons from these examples, and disseminate as case studies:
   - Belize – community adaptation programs on coastal management
   - Jamaica – voices for climate change education project
   - Samoa – community based adaptation consultative process
   - Climate change media partnership
   - PNG community based forums
   - Vanuatu community theatre and puppetry
   - Kiribati waste management – turtle kit
   - Pacific Climate Change Science Program
   - Caribbean Modelling Initiative

Gaps and needs

7. Need to better understand complexity of communication and awareness raising, and who the key players and best suited organisations or groups are to convey information to stakeholders. This recognises that the relationships between different groups will determine how they relate to and communicate with each other, which is ultimately defined by national circumstances.

   - Who is best suited to provide information to policy makers to inform policy development and decision making across government?
   - Who is best suited to provide information to sectors (fisheries, agriculture, water etc) and to inform and raise awareness in communities?

8. Researchers need to better communicate what they find in societal terms, particularly with regard to risks, adaptive capacity, potential costs (economics), values or assets gained or lost. Underpinning this is the resource issue: researchers need resources to enable better communication, in a way that is effective to community concerns and priorities.

   - Linked closely to this is the need to identify the messenger of climate change information, and to provide sufficient resources to support the use of effective communication methods.

9. Need to establish and explain the rationale for how research products link to people's livelihoods and the impacts on them. Regional organisations have a major role in this process, and are well placed to lead collaborative research. There is a need to increase capacity to do science in the region, for the region.

   - SPREP-5Cs MOU allows them to establish collaborative working groups (initially) on:
     - Coral reefs
     - Coastal modelling
     - Other areas, such as water resource management, agriculture and energy are also important to countries.

- There is also a role for a mechanism, whether it be a clearing house, platform or catalogue to collect and disseminate climate change information, to enable countries and communities to access (and contribute) information that is pertinent to their circumstances and in a form that is readily understood.

10. Regional organisations should also enhance their dissemination of climate change information and data to multiple user groups, including the media and community groups. At the same time, concerted effort is needed to support new partnerships between community groups and regional organisations in order to prioritise information that is needed to promote effective action.

11. Further investment in science is required in areas to enable countries to understand the risks and risk management options they face, which could include baselines for non climate variables at local levels (e.g. land use, crop yields, temporal and spatial changes in diseases etc). In addition there is a need for data collection at regional and local scale, such as sea surface temperature, incidence of coral bleaching, wave climate conditions, etc.

    - It is important that the science imparts a sense of the timeframe in which impacts will be felt, and the intensity of the likely impact.

National policy and planning frameworks for CCA and DRR

National policy and planning frameworks provide an important structure to effective community activity and a key mechanism to link country priorities with regional and international agendas. The conference heard presentations from Albert Williams, Ken Leslie, Netatua Pelesikoti, Padma Lal and Sione Fulivai on the potential for realising the synergies between CCA and DRR, and ways to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of planning.

Key insights

1. The conference acknowledged that, in any field, a critical success factor is 'the recognition of plans and frameworks as living documents that are modifiable, dynamic and responsive to changing conditions' (Edward Greene, 5Cs).

    - Climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) are long term agendas, and the magnitude of likely impacts from climate change will increase over time. Long term planning, with medium term milestones, is required that allows for new information to be incorporated, and for actions and investments to be informed by projected future as well as current risks.

2. CCA requires multi-faceted and multi-scaled approaches. Linkages need to be built across sectoral approaches and collaboration established between ministries. `We need to make more and more linkages between actions to address climate change impacts and sustainable development, while reducing poverty' (Prime Minister of Samoa).

3. Many different institutional frameworks for CCA and DRR can work, but having a champion, with influence across government and community was identified as a key factor in driving effective action noting the cross-cutting and cross-sectoral nature of the response needed.

    - Governments need to drive the planning effort, and central agencies can often effectively place CCA and DRR in a national economic development or planning framework, and coordinate donor engagement.
    - A number of countries (Guyana, Kiribati, Cook Islands, PNG) have the lead coordinating climate change function in the Office of President or Prime Minister, while others have achieved similar levels of national consensus through strong leadership from Ministries of Environment and national climate change teams.

4. The requirements and costs of implementation must be considered in developing policies and frameworks. The conference emphasised the importance of on-ground implementation of agendas, including community engagement and policy-relevant data collection.

5. In summary, national planning frameworks need to:
    - include active stakeholder involvement and ownership in the planning and implementation process, with an emphasis on participation from women and youth

- create an enabling environment for coordinated and sequenced CCA and DRR implementation across all stakeholders
- establish an appropriate governance and institutional architecture supported by legislative/ policy
- effectively integrate CCA and DRR across sectors, agencies as well as levels (government, community etc) in a programmatic approach
- be attuned to community and sector needs (i.e. be demand-driven) and assess the costs and economic values associated with both impacts and policy implementation
- provide a platform for donor engagement and aid effectiveness.

6. The conference agreed regional approaches and programs provide large benefits, particularly where countries may have limited technical or institutional capacities: 'Regional programs on climate change have significantly boosted action on the ground' (Prime Minister of Samoa). Regional approaches achieve greatest success when they reinforce national agendas.

    - Regional organisations have an important role to play in promoting good practice, by fostering inter-regional collaboration and dialogue to capture and build on existing knowledge and by developing tools such as checklists for effective planning.
    - While acknowledging differences in national capacity, there may be opportunities to increase efficiency and effectiveness by combining implementation efforts at a regional or sub-regional scale.

Good practice examples

7. Potential to capture key lessons from these examples, and disseminate as case studies:
    - Joint National Action Plans in Tonga, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands
    - Reform of Caribbean building codes in recognition of increased hurricane activity
    - Climate change legislation enacted in the Federated States of Micronesia
    - Vanuatu environmental and legislative reform (climate change screening)
    - Regional climate change policy frameworks for action in the Pacific and Caribbean
    - Samoa Climate Early Warning System
    - Sand mining policies in the Caribbean and Vanuatu

Gaps and needs

8. There are likely considerable benefits to increase linkages between national approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, at least in the short to medium term. Conference participants identified that for these benefits to be realised there needs to be:
    - streamlined institutional arrangements;
    - consistent policy frameworks linked to long term development planning; and
    - the capacity to link resourcing where appropriate.

9. There is a need for much improved regional, social and economic information for use in vulnerability assessment and to inform effective adaptation and disaster risk reduction. At present there is limited national quantitative and spatial understanding of the risks to community well-being and productivity.

10. Conference participants identified that partnerships between development partners and partner countries could be improved. Development partners need to respond to partner country priorities, and partner countries need the systems to clearly set priorities and articulate their needs. The planning framework can be the basis for this interaction. It was also noted regional organisations can assist countries where capacity may be limited.

    - More effective engagement between counties and donors may address the gap between risk assessment and the identification (and implementation) of adaptation responses, which is a common and continuing concern for SIDS.

11. National frameworks need to be accompanied by sectoral and cross-sectoral implementation frameworks, with appropriate monitoring and evaluation, linked to national development goals and informed by ecological, social and economic systems, as well as risks assessments.

    - It would also be valuable to document lessons learned from the different institutional frameworks to inform countries that are undergoing structural revisions or adjustments to their national frameworks.

12. National planning for adaptation and resource mobilization for adaptation should recognize the linkages to reducing costs to the economy of high cost energy imports. Given the fundamentals of the economies of SIDS, it is extremely unlikely that they will be able to generate the resources to import energy and invest in adaptation. The costs savings from renewable energy could be redirected to adaptation.

Community based responses to CCA and DRR

Local communities are often the most directly affected by climate impacts and natural disasters; they also often possess important local knowledge which can help manage risks. The conference heard presentations from Robyn James, Sione Faka'osi, Monifa Fiu and Indi McIymont on the value of integrating local and traditional knowledge, opportunities for linking community based responses to national planning, and best practice examples of engagement.

Key insights

1. The conference recognised the importance of building on existing community strengths: 'Communities are the front line of CCA and DRR' (Frank Wickham, Solomon Islands). Communities are best placed to determine their needs, and to identify what projects are most important for them.

2. There is value in linking science to traditional knowledge to support common outcomes and understanding (e.g., ICCAI project in Roviana Solomon Islands). Communities need to be partnered with scientists to understand climate impacts and consider new systems and adaptation measures needed, such as for food security and agriculture.

3. The concept of social capital is intrinsic to community-based responses to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. There is a need to build social capital to achieve effective outcomes, such as linking it with ecosystem resilience in, for example, a mangrove rehabilitation activity. We need to consider whether we are using our social capital most effectively (e.g. youth)

4. Effective programming at the community level can be challenging: it is complex and sometimes time and resource intensive. Recognising the need to define the 'community', this group must have strong ownership and engagement in the program design and implementation. Programs should build on existing networks, groups and other activities, and where possible, foster collaboration with different organisations and other communities.

5. The conference agreed that local agendas (often facilitated by non-government organisations) need to be better linked with national agendas. Relationships between these groups at the national and local level can be fostered to help identify community needs and to support resource allocation. Communication is an important tool in this process: 'Communication is one of the under-utilised tools to linking national planning to local and sub-national levels and also scaling up to national, regional and global support' (Indi McIymont-Lafayette, Panos Caribbean).

Good practice

6. Potential to capture key lessons from these examples, and disseminate as case studies:
   - Voices from Mocho – community people were trained in oral testimony and then captured community climate experience of change in Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic
   - Strengthening Adaptive Capacity in Choiseul Solomon Islands
   - Community Empowerment and Climate Change Adaptation in Lifuka and Foa (Tonga)
   - Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project
   - Engagement of community champions in a number of projects discussed
   - Cook Islands – vulnerability assessments. Worked closely with local NGOs to avoid perception of over-consultations
   - Fiji – erosion issues and land use practice (ecosystem based management projects)
   - PNG – participatory opportunities for sustainability
   - Samoa – education and advocacy
   - Trinidad and Tobago – disaster planning with schools and churches
   - Solomon Islands – building social and ecological resilience of the Roviana community

Gaps and needs

7. 'Community' is a broad concept. We need to ensure we are clear who the community is – for example do we mean working at the village level or the broader population in an area? We need to ensure the voices of the villagers are considered as important as other more powerful voices – such as hotel owners etc.

8. While it is true of national planning, community-based responses also need longer-term programming. Recognising the need to reconcile long-term adaptation agendas with shorter funding and programming time cycles, programmatic approaches should be explored through regional organisations and partner countries. Regional organisations need to target communities in how they share information and lessons, and to do this in a timely way.

9. Greater effort is needed to document traditional knowledge, particularly of older people, as a critical knowledge resource. Often these stories/knowledge have only been passed down orally so yet to be documented, or may not be passed down to the younger generation so may be lost. This can include experience and knowledge of past weather patterns or climate related events that may not have been recorded scientifically.

10. Communication is critical to successful community based responses. There is a need to reinforce climate change messages and information at the community level regularly to ensure new knowledge on climate change is maintained – community members may come and go. Information and lessons must also be communicated quickly, both in communities and to those engaging with them.

11. Gender is critical in the community context. We need to ensure the differing knowledge, strengths, vulnerabilities and activities of women are included in any program. Women need to be included from the beginning of any program, including input into its design – often women don't say much at meetings, but they have a lot of knowledge.

12. The following lessons and needs must inform effective implementation of community based responses:
    - Strengthen community governance, including through training, to enhance empowerment on projects that affect them.
    - Practical and relevant tools should be provided to communities, in a way that ensures their use can be sustained.
    - Practical demonstration of a range of implementation options to find what is best suited to community needs and preferences
    - The risks of over-consulting communities require appropriate planning of activities, good coordination with other regional and national donors and partners, and appropriate time permitted for the full program cycle.
    - Target powerful people in communities and getting them onside – for example the church and priests, in different contexts can either hinder or support action on climate change.
    - Many projects are currently being implemented in the easier to reach locations, where more remote islands/communities may be more vulnerable. The logistics/expense of working in remote areas is not always funded by donors.
    - The need to understand factors that may impact on success of programs – for example in the Solomons where mangroves are being planted in an area where there is a shortage of firewood/fuel so will probably be cut down.

Program implementation (strategies for on the ground action)

Effective delivery "on the ground" is the ultimate test for partnerships and investment in CCA and DRR. The conference heard presentations from Rev Ikani Taliai Tolu, Albert Binger, Simpson Abraham and Melanie McField on features of successful on-ground projects, the importance of considering the economic value of ecosystem services and key challenges in facilitating sustainability of on-ground adaptation.

Key insights

1. Lessons for good program and project management:
   - Work within the cultural context
   - Recognise and stress co-benefits (social and economic). Benefits should speak directly to existing livelihoods, but also look at ways of creating new livelihood opportunities
   - Increase transparency and good governance for project accountability
   - Link projects to broader national strategies and plans (important not to disregard national priorities)
   - Use national climate change committees as overarching steering committee for projects
   - Ensure that there is engagement of champions (but that knowledge and capacity can be developed with those people who work with them, which supports program continuity)
   - Create appropriate financial mechanisms that streamline financial procedures reflecting needs on the ground.

2. Lessons to achieve timeliness in program and project implementation:
   - Ensure that information is shared quickly, broadly and using the right medium for your audience
   - Adopt a strategic outlook so that opportunities are grasped to continue momentum
   - Factor in sufficient time and finance to the project design and implementation.

3. The conference reinforced the importance of building links with existing long term programmes and organisations to ensure a transformational result and continuity and to facilitate replication of successful interventions.

   - This approach could also avoid "orphan" projects that have high administration costs and little or no sustainability. Some funds need to be dedicated to help transition projects into long-term programs.

The conference explored lessons learned from "worst practice" project implementation. Some key suggestions were:

Be really unclear on what the project aims to achieve
Employ your own relatives
Ignore local cultures and preferred languages, and use your own language of comfort
Ensure you do not have enough time or funding to complete the project
Just forget about the next generation

Good practice examples

4. Potential to capture key lessons from these examples, and disseminate as case studies:
   - Coral nurseries that grow climate resistant genotypes and plant them back on the reef as seen in Belize, Fiji etc (Melanie McField, Healthy Reef Initiative)
   - Climate ready collection with drought resistant and salt tolerant crop varieties (CEPACT-SPC Fiji)
   - Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project
   - Adaptation Learning Mechanism (ALM), establishing and making more accessible a Pacific version
   - Effective financial streamlining: Ministry of Finance receives all project funds, using standardized template and efficiently disburses funds to projects
   - Effective links established with national priorities and strategies: Strategy for the Development of Samoa - synthesizing all climate projects into one national framework to track progress

Gaps and needs

5. Improve the capacity to appraise the true costs of program/project development and implementation (administration work load higher than perceived – need to be realistic). This needs to be a priority for both recipient and donor countries.

6. Build stronger links between applied science and program/project implementation (e.g. for mangrove rehabilitation projects)

7. There is a need for more robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks, but which are not too onerous to implement:
   - to be developed at the design phase of programs and projects
   - there is a need to have very clear goals and objectives for programs and projects, in order to enable appropriate M&E and incorporate national goals and overarching ecological and community goals (resilience)
   - baseline information is needed to monitor progress
   - linkage of indicators from local to national scales

8. Programs need long term financial sustainability

Capacity development

Reducing vulnerability in Small Island Developing States to climate change and disaster risk will require enhanced capacity at regional, national and local scales. The conference heard presentations from Franklin McDonald, Claire Bernard, Frank Wickham, Leonard Nurse and Annette Salkeld on the requirements for capacity development in the regions, the benefits of regional approaches, and gaps in capacity which must be addressed to enable effective CCA and DRR.

Key insights

1. Capacity can be many different things to many different stakeholders. We need to understand what we mean when applying the term, and what type of capacity is being proposed, what it will deliver and whether it best addresses the need (e.g. technical and social capacity; community and national needs).

2. Climate change will complicate existing planning processes and adds a further capacity development need for Governments, communities and other stakeholders. 'Business as usual' is no longer applicable. New emerging coalitions and alliances are needed.

    - At the same time, capacity development must take stock not only of the new requirements imposed by climate change, but also how these needs relate to existing pressures across the sustainable development agenda and also of disaster risk reduction.

3. Projects impact on core budgets of Governments, NGOs and community organizations and co-financing is a far bigger cost that initially assumed, and may lead to reduced capacity in some areas.

4. Building capacity requires different actions at different scales – for example, creating knowledge to meet local needs, improving procedures and structures at organizational levels, enabling policies at national and societal levels.

    - Regional organisations can bring a appropriate economy of scale to support national capacity, particularly in small jurisdictions (e.g. many SIDS)

5. Drivers of capacity are ownership, leadership and knowledge – this can enable a broader approach to creative collective leadership.

6. The links between capacity and knowledge need to be recognised and stated. Identifying the sources of knowledge is an important part of this process, as is identifying who generates new knowledge.

Good practice examples

7. Potential to capture key lessons from these examples, and disseminate as case studies:
   - Caribbean and Pacific – have conducted national capacity self assessments (NSCAs), which have also been aggregated into a regional assessment. In Jamaica, these NSCAs were then used to design and develop their programmes. NCSAs provide a good baseline for capacity needs – but require regular application and updating.
   - Jamaica – looked at the convergence of CCA and DRR at the level of the national development plan, and incorporated DRR and CCA as a strategic national outcome in the long term development plan. This secures work in this area as a longer term national priority.
   - Pacific – has very strong social networks (which last for life), promoting consideration of building social leadership around existing social networks (e.g. high schools, villages, churches etc).
   - Jamaica – has thematic working groups which bring together stakeholders from various sectors (i.e. government, NGOs, private sector) to work on key technical issues. This attracts a wide variety of skills, e.g. NGOs bring additional skills and input from the community level. These thematic groups are used to contribute to national project design.
   - Pacific - noted the example of how some NGOs are now locating permanently at project sites, and taking on community cultures to ensure longer term sustainability
   - Pacific – Learning Networks can empower participants and their teams, foster champions and facilitate inter-island support and assistance with problem solving.

Gaps and needs

8. Capacity building needs arise at regional, national and local levels, to deal with access to technology and resources, support from regional expertise to national implementation. Capacity gaps exist in research, provision of information, access to technology, institutional and regulatory frameworks and expertise which need to be addressed.

   - A regional framework for prioritizing and then assisting capacity building at the national levels may be required.

9. Incorporating capacity into national planning is also a priority, and needs to be incorporated into long-term development plans and medium-term socio-economic frameworks. There needs to be a two-way dialogue between capacity needs at the community level and ability to facilitate these through national instruments (such as policy and legislation).

   - The private sector can have a role in assisting with national assessments, particularly where state capacity is limited.
   - Revisiting the concept of a national capacity assessment tool, which builds upon and harmonises the experiences of tools that were built around specific multilateral environmental agreements could be explored.

10. Capacity development should not just be top down, and rely on external experts, but should also train people within the communities who will remain, especially over the longer term. Personnel with most experience need to find structured time to mentor new recruits.

    - Short term assistance will not achieve long-term change. Some big NGOs are now based permanently on project sites, taking on the customs and cultures of these communities, to ensure success.

11. The capacity framework should not assume permanent support from external aid agencies. There is a need for a sustainable programmatic approach on behalf of donors, as when donor priorities change (i.e. through government change, restructure etc) good work is lost. Identifying and resourcing internal drivers of capacity can help build national resilience.

12. Need for "strategic fore-sighting" to develop new ways of thinking about climate change adaptation. This needs to include regional and island scenarios relevant to adaptation planning in SIDS.

13. Communities have competing pressing needs. Need to learn how to integrate climate change into the sectors that are meaningful for the community i.e. climate change and food security, so that they see benefits at outset and will continue to have buy-in beyond the funding for a project or program.

14. Monitoring and evaluation should be a strong feature of capacity development. This requires a good baseline assessment of capacity at the start, but need this should be at both the national and community level, as the two levels can be quite different. Baseline assessment is vital in showing project results.

ANNEX A

PROGRAM

Lessons for Future Action Conference

Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Small Island Developing States

Samoa, 23-26 May 2011

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

FAAVAE ILE ATUA SAMOA

Australian Government
Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency
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LESSONS FOR FUTURE ACTION CONFERENCE: PROGRAM

Monday 23 May 2011		
0800	Registration – Tanoa Tusitala Hotel Conference Centre	
0830	Prayer: Father Penetito Mauga, Catholic Church of Samoa Opening statement by David Sheppard, Director, Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) Opening statement by James Batley, Deputy Director General, Asia Pacific & Program Enabling Group, AusAID **OPENING ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER OF SAMOA,** Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Neioti Aiono Sailele Malielegaoi Group photo	Martin Sharp DCCEE
0930	Morning tea	
1000	Conference objectives and agenda overview	Jo Mummery DCCEE Jill Key, SPREP
	1 Information and Awareness Raising **Chair: Roger McLean, IPCC Lead Coordinating Author, Small Islands**	
1015	Awareness raising – understanding the risk Community perceptions of and responses to climate change and risk Baseline data needs – what we need to attribute climate change Underpinning science and modelling tools Communicating the science	Leonard Nurse, UWI Michael Taylor, UWI Cherelle Jackson, Pacific Climate Change Editor Anne Rasmussen, Climate Change Focal Point, Samoa Paul Holper, CSIRO
1130	Breakout groups. Issues to consider: 1. What information and evidence is needed for action 2. What are the priority areas of science/assessment for each region? (e.g. wave modelling for coastal impact assessment) 3. Good examples of successful communication – and what makes them successful? Identify best practice.	
1230	Lunch	
1315	Breakout group feedback	

	2 National Planning and Policy Frameworks **Chair: David Sheppard, SPREP**	
1415	International and regional frameworks, national policy and planning frameworks - Do national policy and planning frameworks meet emerging needs? - Developing nationally relevant policy frameworks for CCA and DRR - What role does CCA and DRR play in core policy development? DRR and CCA synergies and opportunities at the national level - What have we learned from joint national planning? The social and economic value of CCA and DDR at the national and local level	Albert Williams, Vanuatu Ken Leslie, CCCCC Netatua Pelesikoti, SPREP Padma Lal, IUCN Sione Fulivai, Tonga
1515	Afternoon tea	
1530	Breakout groups. Issues to consider: 1. Good examples of national policy and planning – and what makes them good? Identify best practice. 2. How to best linking national, regional and local levels for effective outcomes 3. How are countries coordinating and organising for CCA and DRR activities? Synergies and differences between DRR and CCA? What works best?	
1630	Breakout group feedback	
1730	Close	
1800-1930	Dinner: Hotel Millenia, Beach Rd, Apia	
	Tuesday 24 May 2011	
	3 Community Based Responses to CCA and DRR **Chair: Frank Wickham, Solomon Islands**	
0830	Application of demand driven and bottom up experience and planning Sustainable development and building resilience for DRR and CCA (including adaptive capacity and traditional responses) DDR and CCA synergies and opportunities at the local level (including lessons learned from joint national planning)	Robyn James, TNC Sione Faka'osi, Tonga Trust Monifa Fiu WWF Pacific Program Fiji

LESSONS FOR FUTURE ACTION CONFERENCE: PROGRAM

	Linking national planning to local and sub-national levels - Scaling up to national, regional and global support - Sustainability considerations of CCA and DRR	Indi Mclymont, PANOS
0930	Breakout groups. Issues to consider: 1. Examples of good community based responses – and what makes them good? Identify best practice. 2. What are the key elements for scaling up and sustaining community based responses? 3. How can we make bottom-up planning for CCA and DRR more effective?	
1030	Morning tea	
1050	Breakout group feedback	
1200	Lunch	
	4 Strategies and On-Ground Options **Chair: Leonard Nurse, IPCC Lead Editor for SIDS**	
1300	What works on the ground - Effective adaptation options – what's the best way to provide support? - Sectoral approaches to risk management - Adaptation/Renewable energy opportunities - Actual experiences with CCA and DRR – challenges and opportunities - What combination of CCA and DRR deliver the most benefits? (public/private partnerships, those that integrate DRR, CCA and economic development, community involvement)	Rev Ikani Taliai Tolu, Pacific Conference of Churches Albert Binger, CCCCC Simpson Abraham, PACC Coordinator, FSM Melanie McField, Healthy Reef Initiative, Belize
1400	Breakout groups. Issues to consider: 1. What works on the ground? 2. What are the features of a successful project? 3. What to avoid!	
1500	Afternoon tea	
1530	Breakout group feedback	
1730	Close	
1830-2200	Formal networking dinner: Aggie Greys Hotel, Beach Rd, Apia	

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Wednesday 25 May 2011		
	5 Capacity Development **Chair: Edward Green, CCCCC**	
0830	What is capacity development and how is it best developed? Regional responses and needs of the smallest countries Developing business plans and project proposals Accessing resources	Franklin McDonald, York University Claire Bernard, Sustainable Development & Regional Planning Institute of Jamaica Frank Wickham, Solomon Islands Leonard Nurse, UWI Annette Salkeld (OXFAM Australia) & Florence Le Paulmier (CARE International in Vanuatu)
0930	Breakout groups. Issues to consider: 1. Are there capacity gaps that hinder on-ground responses? How can we building regional capacity to support national responses? 2. How do we monitor and evaluate effectiveness in the longer term? 3. Good capacity building programs – what makes them successful? Identify best practice	
1030	Morning tea	
1050	Breakout group feedback	
1200	Lunch	
1330	Field Trips 1. Coastal zone adaptation 2. Water in a time of change 3. Tsunami recovery – Aleipata district 4. Mt Vaea Walk – island biodiversity & RLS Museum	 MNRE Samoa MNRE Samoa Red Cross Samoa Conservation Inter-national & MNRE
1700	Field trip participants arrive at Sinalei Reef Resort	
1800	Dinner: Sinalei Reef Resort	
2130	Return to Tanoa Tusitala Hotel	Transport provided

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Thursday 26 May 2011		
	6 Lessons for Future Action **Chair: Rob Kay, Coastal Zone Management (Australia)**	
0900	Field trip reflections	
0915	Overview of the day	Martin Sharp, DCCEE
0920	Individual reflection	
0930	Overview of lessons learned for the five themes	Jo Mummery, Martin Sharp DCCEE
0955	Introduction to breakout groups	
1000	Breakout groups per theme. Review outcomes for each theme: • What you like about the outcomes (and what's missing) • Keys example relating to that theme • Key gaps and challenges (Morning tea available)	Panellists to join the breakout group for their theme. Groups to self-assign a coordinator and rapporteur.
1100	Breakout group feedback	
1145	High-level outcomes of conference and plenary discussion	Jo Mummery, DCCEE
1230	Conference reflections	Pacific Indian Ocean Caribbean
1300	Close	David Sheppard
	Lunch	
1730	Cocktail Function hosted by SPREP: SPREP Compound, Valima	