

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2023

- Greening of the Pacific Games with the Government of the Solomon Islands
- Building Capacity of Pacific Parliamentarians
- PCCC Engagement at COP28
- PCCC Secured JICA-funded Project for Innovative Solutions for Pacific Climate Change Resilience to strengthen engagement with the Private Sector
- PCCC delivered 12 Executive Courses through the CBCRP
- Government of Australia Investment of AUD 5 million to Strengthen the Services of the PCCC
- PCCC at the Pacific Island Forum Leaders' Meeting
- Australia Awards Fellowship Program on Health and Climate Change
- PCCC to lead Pacific Coordination and Engagement of the IPCC Processes
- Sea'ties Regional Report on Adapting Coastal Cities and Territories to Sea-level Rise in the Pacific: Challenges and Leading Practices
- PCCC strengthened PSIDS enabling capacity to access climate finance
- Climate Change Knowledge Brokerage critical to policy and decision makers



## Welcome!

Mālō e lelei, and warm Pacific Greetings from the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC), hosted at SPREP.

We hope you're having a great start to 2024! It is my pleasure to introduce and welcome you to the first edition of the "Nafa", the PCCC bi-annual newsletter. The PCCC is in its third year of operations, and every year our Advisory Board sets goals - One of which is to keep all of you informed, connected, and involved in our efforts to building resilience to climate change in the Pacific. We hope the 'Nafa' newsletter will help do just that.

2023 was a year of milestones for the PCCC. We have undergone remarkable advancements in delivering our key services to the Pacific on Knowledge Brokerage, Applied Research, Capacity Building and Training, and Innovation. This first edition of the 'Nafa' will provide you with updates on key milestones which include the formal endorsement of our four strategic Partnership Frameworks, the Project for 'Strengthening the Key Services of the PCCC', our capacity building program with JICA on Innovation and Private Sector engagement, the Greening of the Pacific Games with the Government

of Solomon Islands, Australian Awards Fellowship Program with the University of Melbourne, and PCCC engagement in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Reports.

We continue to express our appreciation and recognition of our donor contributions which have made a meaningful difference in the work of the PCCC since 2019. We acknowledge the Governments of Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Samoa and our Members for your ongoing support and partnership.

We hope you enjoy reading our first edition of the Nafa and we look forward to continuing working with you all in 2024.

Fa'afetai Lava!



'Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy,  
Manager, PCCC

## Building Capacity of Pacific Parliamentarians.

As part of a 3-day post-election seminar held in Nuku'alofa, Tonga in March 2023, the PCCC shared valuable insights into the nature of the Centre as the 'one-stop shop' for delivering capacity development programs on climate change adaptation, mitigation, climate services, and project development that opened up discussions with legislators from across the region, including Tonga, Fiji, Tuvalu, Australia and New Zealand. The seminar was organised by Government of Tonga Legislative Assembly in collaboration with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).

## PCCC Secured JICA-funded Project for Innovative Solutions for Pacific Climate Change Resilience to strengthen engagement with the Private Sector.

The second phase of the JICA-funded Project for Innovative Solutions for Pacific Climate Change Resilience marks a significant step forward in addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change in the Pacific region. At the heart of this project is the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) which is well known as the "Center of Excellence." The project will examine fit-for-purpose innovative climate solutions for Pacific Island countries, bringing in the private sector wherever possible.



Photo: JICA Resident Representative, Ms. Yumiko Asakuma with MNRE Chief Executive Officer, Lealaisalanoa Ms. Frances Debra Brown - Reupena.

## Greening of the Pacific Games with the Government of the Solomon Islands.



Photo: Tree-planting ahead of the 2023 Pacific Games in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

The PCCC continued to work closely with the Solomon Islands Government in 2023 to ensure the successful greening of the 2023 Pacific Games. While this targeted support was focused on the games, the long-lasting impacts would lead to a more sustainable, resilient, and 'green' future for Honiara City. Tree planning by athletes as a means of offsetting their carbon footprints as well as other greening activities were completed during the 2023 Pacific Games as a result of the support from the PCCC and SPREP.

## PCCC Engagement at COP28.



Photo: PCCC High-level Side Event at COP28.

The PCCC hosted three high-level side events on the margins of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in Dubai, UAE. The ongoing efforts of the PCCC through its four key functions of knowledge brokerage, science to services, capacity building and training, and innovation to make long-lasting impact was recognised and applauded at COP28, including the partnership with the University of Melbourne on exploring and building the capacity of professionals in the Indo-Pacific region on health and climate change, as well as the lasting legacy of the PCCC support to the Greening of the 2023 Pacific Games in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

## Government of Australia Investment of AUD 5 million to Strengthen the Services of the PCCC.



**Photo:** SPREP and PCCC team meet with the Government of Australia during the 31st SPREP Meeting in September 2023.

The Government of Australia, through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade invest AUD 5 million dollars for the ‘Strengthening the Services of the Pacific Climate Change Centre’ project in 2023. This generous funding support has bolstered the delivery, implementation, and operationalisation of the activities under the four key functions of the PCCC. This funding cycle will complete in 2025 against an agreed workplan with DFAT.

## PCCC delivered 12 Executive Courses through the CBCRP.

The JICA technical support program to the PCCC the ‘Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific (CBCRP)’ was officially completed in January 2023. During the course of the project, over 600 Pacific professionals were trained through twelve (12) executive courses on cross-cutting areas of climate change, including climate finance, disaster risk management, and health and climate change, to name a few. The sex-disaggregated data showed that there was a slightly higher percentage of Pacific female professionals who joined these courses and the quality of the content delivered was rated as highly valued by participants.



**Photo:** Participants at the Strengthening Climate Resilience and Safe Water Access in Rural Areas in the Pacific training for Melanesia in April 2023.



**Photo:** PCCC and University of Melbourne launch the Australia Awards Fellowship on ‘Advancing climate, health, and equity outcomes through local action in the Indo-Pacific’ in November 2023.

## Australia Awards Fellowship Program on Health and Climate Change.

As a result of a bilateral meeting between the PCCC and the University of Melbourne at the UNFCCC COP27 meeting in Egypt in 2022, a proposal was put forth to the Australia Fellowship Awards for a collaboration on ‘*Advancing climate, health, and equity outcomes through local action in the Indo-Pacific*’. Pacific Island fellows were sought from within the PCCC Capacity Building Community of Practice and joined the first 6-week phase of the fellowship in Melbourne, Australia in November 2023. Each fellow brought to the table a concept to be developed or implemented relating to their national contexts. The PCCC will host the second phase of the fellowship at the Centre in Apia, Samoa in March 2024.

## PCCC to lead Pacific Coordination and Engagement of the IPCC.

The PCCC was recognised for its efforts to boost engagement and involvement in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in the Pacific at the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) 7 meetings in August 2023. This followed a series of Pacific regional dialogues on the IPCC WGI, WGII, WGIII and the IPCC Synthesis Report convened by the PCCC between 2021-2023. Representatives from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services attended these dialogues and highlighted the need for strengthened Pacific regional coordination for the IPCC process.



Photo: PCCC and Pacific Meteorological Service Directors at the PMC 7 in August 2023.

## PCCC strengthened PSIDS enabling capacity to access climate finance.



Photo: Participants at the Climate Finance Advisors Training in Suva, Fiji in May 2023.

Unpacking the dynamics around climate finance, especially access, is an ongoing priority for the PCCC. Since 2021, the PCCC has partnered with the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and the Climate Finance Access Network (CFAN) to provide tailored trainings and 'train the trainer' sessions for key personnel around the region. The Pacific CFAN Advisor network is now well established and was used as a model to establish the Caribbean CFAN Advisor network. Enabling access to climate finance, particularly for non-traditional organisations like CSOs for example, was further highlighted at one of three high-level side events at COP28.

## PCCC at the 52nd PIFLM.

The PCCC was represented at the 52nd Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting in the Cook Islands in November 2023 by Ms 'Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy, Manager, PCCC. A side event held at the meeting reporting on the ways in which the PCCC continues to catalyse action on climate change in the region through its four key functions, as well as its four cross-cutting thematic areas, particularly climate finance.

## Sea-level Rise in the Pacific: Challenges and Leading Practices.



Photo: Fiji Meteorological Service Director, Mr Bipen Prakash, during his keynote address at the Sea'ties Workshop in July 2023.

The regional workshop on '*Adapting Coastal Cities and Territories to Sea Level Rise in the Pacific*' held in July 2023 brought together Government representatives, members of civil society, researchers, and climate change practitioners to engage in deep dive sessions on sea-level rise, adaptive approaches and strategies to empower Pacific communities in coastal adaptation planning. The [Sea'ties Regional Report – Adapting Coastal Cities and Territories to Sea Level Rise in the Pacific: Challenges and Leading Practices](#) was published in early 2024 as a result of the findings from this workshop. The July 2023 workshop was jointly organised between the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) through the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and the Ocean & Climate Platform as part of its Sea'ties initiative.



**Photo:** Photo: PCCC Sub-Regional Workshop for Melanesia and Polynesia in May 2023 in Nadi, Fiji.

## Climate Change Knowledge Brokerage critical to policy and decision makers.

Critical and often time-sensitive decision-making is crucial for Pacific Islands on the frontlines of climate change impacts, and understanding how and why decision-makers make the decisions that they do is a key aspect to the knowledge brokerage journey and function of the PCCC.

The PCCC completed sub-regional workshops for all Pacific sub-regions in May and September 2023, and one national workshop for the Solomon Islands on Knowledge Brokerage Processes and Tools in August 2023. The most common challenges that were identified across all regions as a result of these sub-regional workshops were that of capacity building to better understand knowledge brokerage processes and applications, as well as financing to be able to put into practice the knowledge and enhanced understanding gained through the workshops.

The Solomon Islands and Vanuatu took the lead to socialise key learnings and tools from these sub-regional workshops with national stakeholders in 2023, including with youth, marginalised groups, and the private sector. The feedback received has continued to be positive with increased interest in the application of knowledge brokerage tools, particularly Governance Mapping and Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning at national levels. A provincial-level knowledge brokerage workshop in the Solomon Islands and a national knowledge brokerage workshop for Samoa will be delivered in early 2024.

In partnership with Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia Pacific Climate Partnership (APCP), and the Australian Pacific Climate Alumni Network (APCAN), the PCCC provided technical advice and support in the delivery of the Knowledge Brokerage Support Program (KBSP) Training of Trainers (ToT) in April 2023. This was a major milestone in terms of the transition of the APCAN into the PCCC Knowledge Brokers Community of Practice (KB CoP), which highlighted the continued and proven success of delivering capacity building and trainings alongside with local counterparts.

As a continuation of the partnership between CSIRO, APCP, PCCC and SPREP, Knowledge Brokerage training manuals were developed to support Pacific Knowledge Brokers socialise theory and the application of key tools. The Knowledge Brokerage Support Program (KBSP) Manuals Vol I - Foundation Modules and Vol II - Knowledge Broker Tools will continue to be contextualised in 2024, with individual modules from these training manuals to be converted into an open-learning course on the PCCC E-learning Platform in 2024.



**Photo:** Knowledge Brokerage Support Program (KBSP) Vol I and Vol II Manuals.



**Photo:** Participants at the PCCC Knowledge Brokerage Workshop for Micronesia held from 19 - 21 September 2023.

## Key Events in 2024

- PCCC National Knowledge Brokerage Workshop in Samoa (13 - 14 March 2024)
- University of Melbourne and PCCC - Australian Fellowship Awards Workshop (18 - 23 March 2024)
- Climate Finance Access Network (CFAN) Workshop (6 - 8 May 2024)
- Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (8 - 10 May 2024)
- Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference (21 - 23 May 2024)
- 4th Small Islands Developing States Conference (27 - 30 May 2024)
- Regional Training Workshop on Developing Concept Notes for the GCF: Climate Resilience in Pacific SIDS (17 - 21 June 2024)
- PALM 10 Meeting (16 - 18 July 2024)
- 61st session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-61) (29 July - 2 August 2024)
- 53rd Forum Leaders Meeting (August 2024)
- PCCC Innovation Exhibition (September 2024)
- Fourth SPREP Executive Board Meeting (4 - 6 September 2024)
- Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (21 - 25 October 2024)
- UNFCCC COP29 (11 - 22 November 2024)

The Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) is the regional Centre of excellence for climate change information, research, capacity building, and innovation, hosted at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Apia, Samoa. As a Centre of excellence, the PCCC is mandated to provide practical information, support, and training to address the adaptation and mitigation priorities of Pacific Island communities.

The PCCC is underpinned by strong partnerships with Pacific Governments, applied research institutions, donors, civil society, and the private sector. The PCCC is a partnership between the Governments of Japan and Samoa. It is funded under grant aid through JICA for Samoa as the host country of SPREP. Additionally, the Centre receives generous funding and support from the Governments of New Zealand, Ireland, and Australia.



For more information, please contact [pccc@sprep.org](mailto:pccc@sprep.org)

Website - [www.sprep.org/pacific-climate-change-centre](http://www.sprep.org/pacific-climate-change-centre)