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*The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.*

## Twenty Fifth SPREP Meeting of Officials

Majuro, Marshall Islands  
 30 September – 2 October 20014

### Agenda Item 10.2.1: Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR) – Pacific Regional Program

#### Purpose of Paper

1. To provide a progress report on the work of SPREP in implementing the *Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR) - Pacific Regional Program*;
2. To raise Members' awareness of the PPCR and to invite them to use and promote the Regional Technical Backstopping Mechanism (RTSM) and its associated financing facility (the Rapid Response Fund (RRF)).

#### Background

3. At the 23<sup>rd</sup> SPREP Meeting, the meeting noted the commencement of the *Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR) Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR)* a USD\$3.61 initiative, and that SPREP was implementing components 1 and 3, and SPC was implementing component 2. SPREP commenced work on its components in November 2013 with the recruitment of four project consultants. An inception workshop was held on 21 January 2014 and the project has been progressing well since then, according to its approved schedule. The PPCR will end on 1 August 2016.

#### Progress to Date

##### *Component 1*

4. The aim of this component is to integrate climate change and disaster risk into national and sub-national Government (development) planning, budgeting, and decision-making processes in a systematic and programmatic way. Based on criteria provided by PPCR and discussions among participating CROP agencies, SPREP identified FSM (State of Kosrae) and Tuvalu as its two pilot countries. The intention of the PPCR is that activities implemented in the pilot countries and pilot sectors will be trialled and thoroughly evaluated, and successful measures and approaches then replicated in other PICTs and sectors (where applicable). Ultimately Component 1 of the PPCR aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policy making, interventions and investments in PICTs - and to ensure these efforts are resilient to climate change and disaster risks. A situation analysis in Kosrae carried out by the project identified the following priorities for mainstreaming climate change and disaster risks into national and sectoral planning processes: (1) developing of standardised project preparation guidelines, including basic risk screening, to complement the new Overseas Development

Aid project proposal form and (US Compact) project proposal format; (2) developing basic capacity in the cost-benefit analysis (CBA) methodology; (3) developing checklists to support appraisal functions undertaken during Budget Review Committee by finance personnel; and (4) developing a standardised project-level monitoring and evaluation (M&E) guidelines promoting the Log-Frame Approach with sections on (generic) project risk and climate-related risk specifically. Each of these initiatives will be supported by training workshops and mentoring to facilitate learning-by-doing. A similar process will be undertaken in Tuvalu.

5. The next phase in this work once the Tuvalu Situation Analysis has been completed and both FSM and Tuvalu have endorsed the proposed initiatives, will be the generation of the guidelines, workshops, training/mentoring to support the initiatives - as well as design of mechanisms to ensure that capacity building continues beyond the life of the project. Methodologies and knowledge products generated will be uploaded to the Pacific Climate Change Portal [www.pacificclimatechange.net](http://www.pacificclimatechange.net). The information will be shared with all SPREP members including the national track PPCR pilot countries, Regional Organisations in the Pacific and development and other partners, consistent with the PPCR objectives of raising awareness, sharing knowledge and experiences to pilot and demonstrate ways in which climate risk and resilience can be integrated into national development planning and implementation.

### *Component 3*

6. Under this component Pacific Developing Member Countries (DMC) capacity to respond to climate change risks will be built and supported through the Regional Technical Backstopping Mechanism (RTSM) and its associated Rapid Response Fund (RRF). The RTSM/RRF was launched at the Pacific Forum Leaders Meeting in Palau – 31 July 2014 and gives effect to the vision advocated by Pacific Forum Smaller Island State Leaders, CROP and PACC officials of a mechanism to assist Pacific island countries. A specific email address has been created ([rtsm@sprep.org](mailto:rtsm@sprep.org)) for requests for technical assistance.

7. The RTSM is a registered network of experts in climate change and disaster risk management matters who will provide coordinated and timely technical advice on appropriate resource opportunities, strategic approaches and technical assistance to support the needs of Pacific Islands Countries. The RRF is the financing arm of the RTSM and was established initially with US\$ 1.1 million financing from the ADB Strategic Climate Fund (sourced through the Climate Investment Fund). As the RTSM is a grant facility, it is anticipated that USD 1.1 million financing from the ADB Strategic Climate Fund will soon be depleted and it is expected to trigger the following signals: (1) that such a RRF facility is required for the Pacific and (2) the need to promote the facility to other donors and partners for additional funding to enable PICTs to respond to climate change risks at a time line more suitable to them and (3) to gauge and to monitor the feasibility of the such an arrangement (RTSM&RRF) of evolving into a financing facility for the Pacific region.

8. The RRF is open to all development partners and organizations however, whilst funded with ADB SCF seed funding, the RRF will finance only TA for the 14 Pacific DMCs. TAs for Niue or any other non-eligible PIC will be funded by other donors on the proviso that if countries request assistance from RTSM, it will act as a conduit and on forward request for assistance to other CROP agencies and partners where relevant. These conditions may change as new development partners and donors join the RRF.

9. The operationalization of the RTSM/RRF underlines the spirit of collaboration and cooperation that exists between CROP Executives and agencies to efficiently serve the priorities and needs of Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) to effectively respond to climate change and disaster risk reduction. The RTSM brings organisations together to collectively identify experts to meet country requests for assistance, streamline different procurement procedures through a single operational modality and to work together to mobilise additional funding. Such approaches also give effect to the concept of sustainable financing for climate change and disaster risk management promoted in the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Strategy for the Pacific and in the 'new' Pacific Plan.

10. A monitoring and evaluation framework for the SPCR Regional Track is under development to monitor the performance of the SPCR PPCR Programme. The framework is expected to be finalised in late 2014.

### Recommendation

11. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the progress made by SPREP to implement the Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR) -Pacific Regional Program; and
- **invite** members to use and promote the Regional Technical Backstopping Mechanism and its associated financing facility (the Rapid Response Fund) and noting the current available funding of USD\$1,182 million.

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16 August, 2014