



New water tank installation in Tonga Photo: PACC Tonga

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Director's Note



Dr Netatua Pelesikoti

Climate Change Division Director, SPREP

Dear Readers,

Climate change and disaster risk management integration is high on the agenda this week, as we are in Nadi for the joint meeting of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable and the Regional Disaster Risk Management Platform.

SPREP is committed to support its Members and ensure sustainable outcomes by building their capacity and providing policy advice, tools and processes that enable the implementation of development activities that have considered both climate and disaster risks.

July provides us with a point to look back at the journey we took since the beginning of the year and consider how the SPREP Climate Change programme has responded to the priorities of SPREP Members.

A great place to start is with the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project, funded by AusAID and GEF and implemented through UNDP.

The capacity of PACC national coordinators has soared and it is very gratifying to see national coordinators discuss with confidence their project/sector issues and outcomes.

- PACC Vanuatu has used a participatory 3rd dimensional (P3D) consultation tool with communities that allowed participants young and old, men and women, to actively make decisions to select adaptation options.

- PACC Nauru consultations have successfully gained community acceptance of new and innovative adaptation technologies.

- The PACC FSM coordinator presented the Kosrae Loss & Damage Case Study Report to the UNFCCC High Level Segment Conference in Qatar.

There will be many more examples which you can read about in future editions of this newsletter.

I hope you find our July edition interesting and informative.

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

Pacific Climate Change Roundtable opens in Fiji

The 4th Pacific Climate Change Roundtable opened in Fiji in early July 2013, bringing together over 200 participants for the three day meeting, which focuses on the theme of building resilience to climate change through collaboration.

The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable facilitates ongoing interaction among climate change stakeholders and serves as the platform from which to assess the progress made in implementing the Pacific Islands Framework for Action against Climate Change.

"The world is watching and our series of meetings sends a clear message that we must integrate our responses if we are to effectively address the challenges of climate change and natural disasters in this century."

Mr. David Sheppard, Director-General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

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



Mr. Amena Yauvoli, the Permanent Secretary for Fiji's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation,

"Your participation is very important and critical. Equally crucial is the support of development partners."

Mr. Amena Yauvoli, Permanent Secretary for Fiji's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable 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).

2nd meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council

"This meeting is critical for the enhancement and development of weather, water and climate services in the Pacific region. Your Governments and their peoples have entrusted this task to you to find real and smart solutions. Their survival hangs on them."

Capt. Timoci Lesikivatukoula Natuva, Minister for Works, Transport and Public Utilities of Fiji



Participants at the 2nd Pacific Meteorological Council

Without effective and timely data collection and weather forecasting, Pacific nations and territories can be extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events.

To build this capacity, directors from 17 national meteorological services came together at the 2nd meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council in Nadi, Fiji.

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

The 2nd meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council is coordinated by Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and made possible through the support of the Australian Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIICSRTE), Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Deutsche Gesellschaft Für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

'Historical' two-week meetings on climate change and disaster risk

Fiji Times: A historical two-week meeting on climate change and disaster risk reduction in the Pacific began in Nadi where regional stakeholders discussed how to effectively address the challenges of climate change and natural disasters in this century.

A first in the Pacific and in the world, the meeting brought together the climate change and disaster risk roundtables and the Pacific Meteorological Council.

For the full article in the *Fiji Times*: [Click here](#)

"In our region, our leaders have continually reminded us of the urgency of climate change and that it is in fact an issue of national security."

Mr. David Sheppard, Director-General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)



Pacific Climate Change Roundtable 2013 participants

Climate Change Portal seeks Met partnerships

Pacific Scoop: National meteorological services in the region have been encouraged to join the [Pacific Climate Change Portal](#) as a way of getting meteorological information out to the public.

Launched in September 2012 by SPREP, the portal has been developed into a hub for climate change information in the region. Since its launch, the portal has registered 100,000 hits up to March 2013.

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



Pacific Climate Change Portal homepage

Welcome to the Pacific Adventures of the Climate Crab!



The world premiere of the 'Pacific Adventures of the Climate Crab' took place at the 2nd meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC).

This animation is an exciting new tool to raise awareness of the science and impacts of El Niño and La Niña and encourage Pacific Islanders to take early action in preparing for these extreme events.

The film stars a comical and highly resilient crab and follows her escapades across the Pacific. The Pacific island countries can experience very wet or very dry conditions as a result of El Niño and La Niña.

The view the film: [Click here](#)

This project is a collaboration between Red Cross and the Australian Government's Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning (PACCSAP) Program. The project was implemented by the Red Cross, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazard Department

Pacific Meteorological Council comes of age

Island Business: Pacific meteorological directors have met regularly over the past 20 years but it was only in 2011 that the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) was established.

For the full article in *Island Business*: [Click here](#)



Forecasting damaging swells is a focus of Pacific Met Services

Met support from Aus, NZ & US

Pacific Scoop: Countries including Australia, New Zealand and the United States of American have been, and will continue to be important partners in the development of meteorological service in the region.

For the full article at *Pacific Scoop*: [Click here](#)

FSM PACC education in Kosrae

The Kosrae Department of Education had their Annual Conference during June 2013.

FSM PACC was invited to give two presentations "Adapting to a Changing Climate Flipchart as a tool for teaching about Climate Change" and "Loss and Damage associated with Coastal Hazards as a result of Climate Change".

For more information: [Click here](#)



Presentation to Kosraean teachers



Dalo plant

PACC trials climate resilient root-crops in Fiji

Three varieties of climate resilient root-crops have been piloted in two communities in Fiji, thanks to the work carried out by the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) and Fiji's Agriculture Ministry.

Village communities in Nakelo in Tailevu and Deuba in Serua are successfully planting three varieties of dalo, cassava and kumala, said Api Tuwai, PACC Coordinator in Fiji.

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

PACC assists to improve infrastructure in the Cook Islands

A climate adaptation project to improve the strength and durability of Cook Islands port infrastructure on the island of Mangaia has been replicated in two other islands.

Two harbours in Mitiaro and Mauke are "following similar designs to Mangaia and there are moves now to also use the same design in the northern group".

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



Mangaia, Cook Islands

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.



Green Climate Fund looks to advance



Efate, Vanuatu

The Board of the Green Climate Fund met in Songdo, the Republic of Korea, which will soon become the permanent home to the Fund.

At the meeting, the Board considered candidates for an Executive Director to lead the independent Secretariat of the Fund and a range of operational issues.

For the full press release: [Click here](#)

Climate Update

NIWA: The ocean remains slightly cooler than average in the eastern equatorial Pacific, but close to normal elsewhere along the Equator. The tropical Pacific remained in a neutral state (neither El Niño nor La Niña) in June 2013, despite a pattern reminiscent of weak La Niña conditions in the eastern Pacific.

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



NIWA Island Climate Update



Marakei, Kiribati

Scholarship for ocean affairs & sea law

The United Nations – The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme is a fully funded research Fellowship for developing State ocean professionals. The main objective of the Fellowship is to provide advanced research and training in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and related disciplines, to government officials and other professionals from developing States.

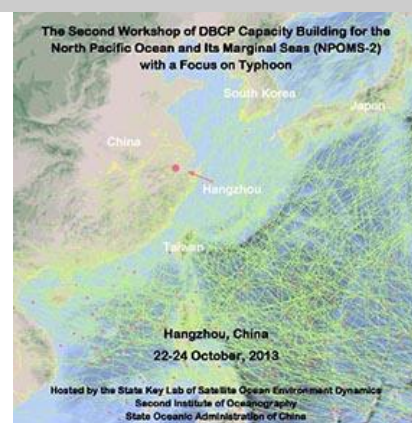
For the application details: [Click here](#)

Opportunity to attend typhoon forecasting workshop

A capacity building workshop on the typhoon forecasting and the ocean observing system will be held in Hangzhou, China from 22-24 October. Some funded positions are available. Applications are due by July 15th.

This is sponsored by the Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) of the Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organisation.

Contact the Pacific Meteorological Desk (PacMetDesk@sprep.org) or see <http://www.jcomm.info/NPOMS-2> for details.



Events in July 2013

Event	Location	Date
2nd Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC2)	Nadi, Fiji	1 – 5 July
Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR)	Nadi, Fiji	3 – 5 July
Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management & Pacific Climate Change Roundtable	Nadi, Fiji	8-11 July
UNFCCC First Meeting of Experts on Long-term Finance	Manila, Philippines	16-17 July