



Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region

Pacific Island countries (PICs) are among those most vulnerable to climate change impacts, and there is an urgent need to progress adaptation and mitigation measures in the region. In this context, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has strengthened its existing partnership with GIZ to expand a regional programme to strengthen the capacity of countries to cope with climate change impacts. The programme, known as 'Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region' (CCCPIR), will also work in close partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

Further information

For further details on the programme please visit www.spc.int or contact:

Dr Wulf Killmann

Programme Director
SPC/GIZ – Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR)
PO Box 14041, Suva, Fiji
Email: wulf.killmann@giz.de

Mr Brian Dawson

SPC Senior Climate Change Adviser
Strategic Engagement, Policy and Planning Facility
Email: briand@spc.int



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Programme focus and approach

Climate change impacts such as changing rainfall patterns, more extreme floods and drought, increased cyclone intensity and rising sea level are likely to affect all communities in PICs and key economic sectors such as **agriculture, forestry, fisheries** and **tourism**. Improving the sustainable supply of **energy** with a focus on enhancing renewable energy and energy efficiency is critical for PICs to increase the resilience of their economies. Integrating climate change into **education** courses and strengthening teacher training is vital to equipping young Pacific Islanders with the information and knowledge they will need to cope with climate change impacts.

The programme will work to integrate climate change into the service delivery of SPC and SPREP divisions and programmes in the focal sectors identified above. At the national level the focal areas are determined by country priorities based on identified needs and gaps; these may therefore differ between countries. Information and knowledge sharing between countries will be supported to maximise the benefits.

The programme will build on and complement existing and proposed initiatives at the regional and national level. It supports the implementation, at the regional level, of the Pacific Island Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) and, at the national level, of relevant adaptation (e.g. National Adaptation Programmes for Action) and mitigation strategies, national sustainable development strategies and relevant sectoral policies and frameworks.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is a federally-owned enterprise that implements technical cooperation programmes on behalf of the German government.

For more than 30 years, Germany, through GIZ, has been cooperating with Pacific Island partners in strengthening the capacity of people and institutions to improve the lives of Pacific Island communities for this generation and generations to come. GIZ and its partners work together to balance economic, social and ecological interests through multi-stakeholder dialogue, participation and collaboration. The Pacific Island portfolio is managed under the GIZ Philippines country office in Manila.

Funding agency: Federal Republic of Germany through the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Implementation agency: GIZ

Regional partners: SPC and SPREP

Countries: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

Focal sectors: agriculture, forestry, land use, fisheries, tourism, energy, education

Duration: January 2009–December 2015

Budget: EUR 17.2 million

The programme is an extension in scope and regional coverage from the former regional programme 'Adaptation to Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region', which began working in Fiji Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu in 2009.



CONTACT DETAILS

Secretariat of the Pacific Community

<p>SPC Headquarters BP D5, 98848 Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia Telephone: +687 26 20 00 Fax: +687 26 38 18</p>	<p>SPC Suva Regional Office Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Islands, Telephone: +679 337 0733 Fax: +679 377 0021</p>	<p>SPC North Pacific Regional Office PO Box Q, Kolonja, Pohnpei, 96941 FM, Federated States of Micronesia Telephone: +691 3207 523 Fax: +691 3202 725</p>	<p>SPC Solomon Islands Country Office PO Box 1468 Honiara, Solomon Islands Telephone: +677 25543 +677 25574 Fax: +677 25547</p>
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Email: spc@spc.int
Website: www.spc.int



Overall objective:

The capacities of regional organisations in the Pacific Island region and its member states to adapt to climate change and mitigate its causes are strengthened.

1

COMPONENT

Strengthening regional advisory and management capacity

OBJECTIVE

Improved advisory and management capacity in regional organisations promotes adaptation to climate change and the reduction of GHG emissions in the region

2

COMPONENT

Mainstreaming climate considerations and adaptations strategies

OBJECTIVE

Selected PICs are implementing adaptation strategies for managing natural resources and sector policies that systematically incorporate climate considerations

3

COMPONENT

Implementing adaptation and mitigation measures

OBJECTIVE

Selected PICs have successfully implemented and evaluated adaptation and mitigation measures in the field of natural resources, particularly at community level



4

COMPONENT

Sustainable tourism and climate change

OBJECTIVE

Innovative partnerships and approaches in the tourism sector are promoting adaptation to climate change and a reduction in GHGs



Photo: Matt Capper

5

COMPONENT

Sustainable energy management

OBJECTIVE

Public and private service providers in the energy sector are strengthening and improving their climate-related services and their focus on sustainability, reliability and cost-effectiveness in the energy sector within the region

6

COMPONENT

Climate change education

OBJECTIVE

Capacities of education ministries, training institutions, schools and teachers are strengthened to plan and deliver education on climate change adaptation and mitigation

Results

The SPC/GIZ climate change programme has been working with Fiji Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu since 2009.

Key achievements supported by the ongoing programme include:

- Integration of climate change considerations into the Tonga Forest Policy (in partnership with FAO) and the forest policy development process in Vanuatu
- The development of a REDD¹+ policy in Fiji Islands, an assessment of forest area and forest carbon stock change in the country since 1990, and the drafting of a national REDD+ strategic action plan, all of which contribute to Fiji's efforts to get REDD+ ready
- Integration of climate change considerations into Vanuatu legislation, e.g. Environmental Management and Conservation Act
- Establishment of pilot sites in Tonga and Vanuatu to determine appropriate land use planning approaches and technologies to strengthen capacities of local communities, using gender-sensitive approaches, to adapt to climate change
- Awareness and information sharing in all countries using various media, school awareness initiatives, national events such as agriculture shows and environment day celebrations and a restructure of the SPC Land Resources Division website to facilitate information sharing on climate change related issues



1 Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation

