

Perspectives on adaptation planning from the Pacific in relation to stakeholder engagement

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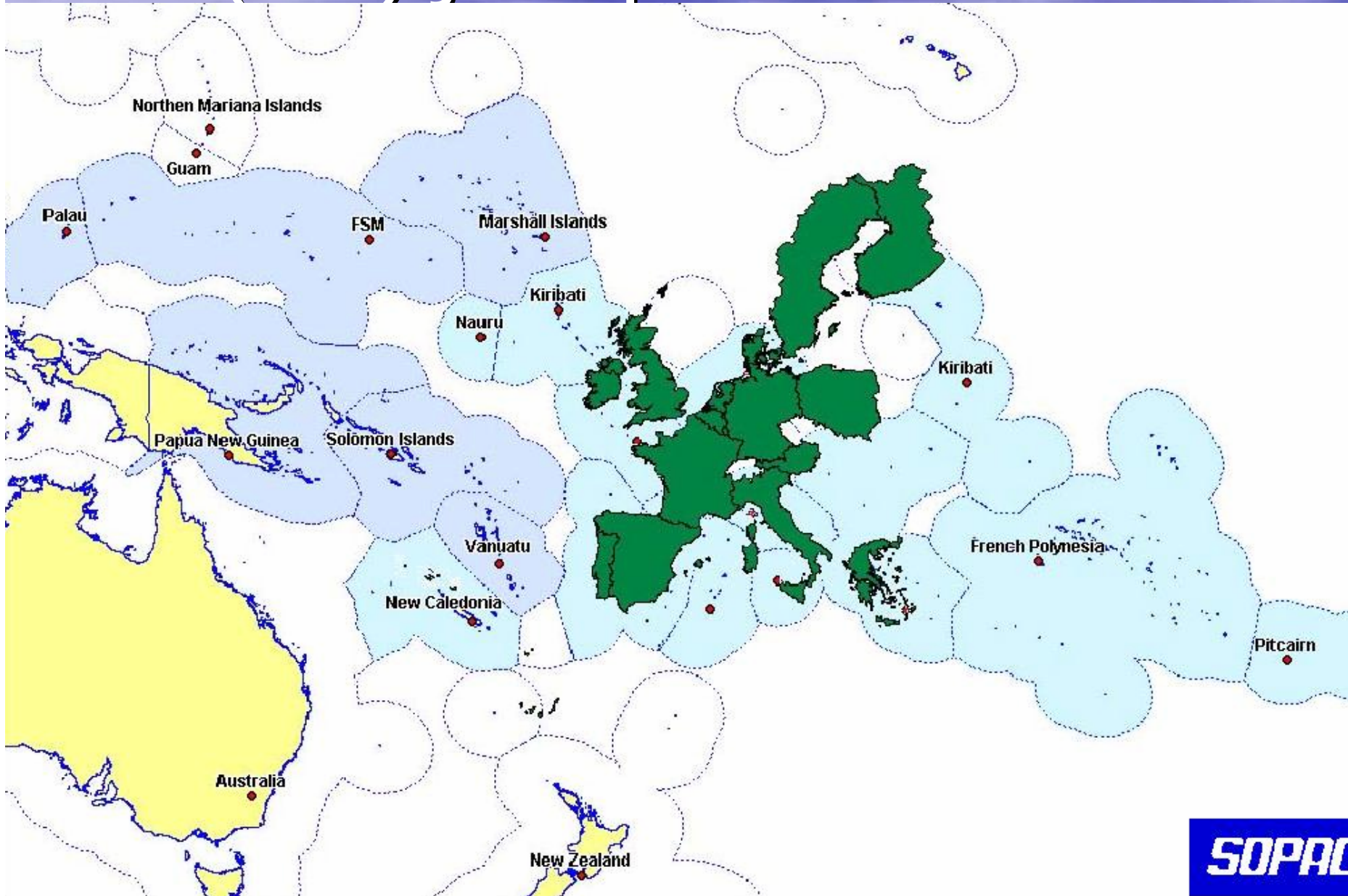
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Coverage - the Pacific SIDS

- 14 Independent SIDS covered by this presentation – Cook Is., Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Is., Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Is., Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
- Although work by SPREP also involves the 7 non-self-governing territories of the Pacific, except Pitcairn
- Supported by our Members Australia, France, New Zealand and USA

EU (-98) juxtaposed on Pacific



Current planning builds on experiences of past climate change programmes in Pacific

- Pacific Island Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) – an enabling activity project for 14 PIC Parties to FCCC
- Primarily to enable completion of Initial National Communications to UNFCCC
- Allowed for adaptation activities, through vulnerability and adaptation training and some individual site studies, set stage for future work, establish modality of consultative process for climate change work in the region

Further projects piloted

- CBDAMPIC, 4 countries, stage 3 interventions derived from NatComs
- Methodology developed by SPREP with CIDA for engaging communities in project
- Inter-active process of establishing climate change perceptions/views in community
- Required multiple sets of interactions – village chiefs, women's groups, untitled men, youth, community leaders

Outcomes of consultative approach

- Communities agreed on their priorities and agreed on the options for intervention
- Communities assigned persons to work with implementation team, but also provided add-on voluntary services
- Evaluation of results showed high level of buy-in, up to 50% in-kind services of monetary costs provided, villagers happy
- Contrib. to further refinement of national policy

Pacific Adaptation to climate change - PACCC

- 3 focal areas: water resource management, coastal management and infrastructure, food production and food security
- National consultations resulted in consensus for one project for each SIDS, bearing in mind existing efforts and needs
- Options were then presented and discussed with communities in light of government priorities as well as expectations of the communities

PACC

- Kosrae circum-island road “climate proofing” and forest/mangrove protection
- Cook Islands – protection of harbour and airport upgrade for climate change and disaster preparedness
- Fiji – water management and drainage for better water supply and food security

PACC - continued

- Niue – improved water storage and distribution
- Samoa – coastal infrastructure management and protection
- Vanuatu – Epi roading relocation and design with flood protection
- PNG – diversification in agriculture

Rationale for approach

- Need to increase the ability of islands' physical infrastructure to withstand impacts
- Need to enhance the adaptability of vulnerable natural systems, by reducing stresses due to non-climatic effects
- reverse trends that increase vulnerability by reducing human activity in vulnerable areas, preserving natural systems that protect against hazards, and ensure that the incidence of "scoring own goals" is reduced
- improve public awareness and preparedness by informing the public about risks and possible consequences of climate change, and by developing overall communications strategies that make climate change science accessible to the average citizen
- All this requires a consultative, community based approach to succeed and to be sustainable

Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

- PCCR held in Apia October 2008
- Open participation, all PICTs invited, all CROP, US, NZ, Australia, UK, Japan, Switzerland, UN agencies, media
- In-depth discussion on current and planned activities in region
- Report with suggested areas of work
- Matrix development commenced but on hold until climate change portal is completed
- Seeking to continue working groups off-line

Using drama to disseminate information on climate change

- Drama class at USP - using arts to express climate change and its effects on Pacific people;
- 100 level course teaching development through theatre; and
- USP trains village youth groups to do likewise.



Climate Witness Project (WWF South Pacific)

Location - Kabara, Fiji

Aim: raise community awareness, undertake vulnerability assessment, etc.

Outcomes: Community adaptation action plan and activities including- forest management, installation of water tanks, community member participated at UNFCCC COP10 etc.

Partners - Lau Provincial Council, Rural Development Ministry

Project being duplicated in Ono-i-Lau, WWF has also trained other CBOs in Fiji and Tuvalu to implement Climate



Conclusions

- Stakeholder engagement is crucial
- Needs strong national level commitment
- Avoids parachute projects
- Builds capacity and awareness
- Enables and empowers
- Above all - sustainability