



New Zealand
Climate Change
Programme

Te Hōtaka
Rerekētanga
Āhuarangi o
Aotearoa

Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance
Programme (PICCAP)
- New Zealand's involvement

UNFCCC CGE Workshop 8 to 10 August 2002

Helen Plume
New Zealand Climate Change Project
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
New Zealand

Acknowledgements:

- Dr Richard Warrick, International Global Change Institute (IGCI), University of Waikato, New Zealand
- Prof John Hay (GEF review of PICCAP)
- Wayne Tamangaro King, SPREP Manager of PICCAP

Background to PICCAP

- A GEF/UNDP project involving 10 Pacific Island countries

Cook Islands, Federated States of
Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands,
Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu
and Vanuatu

- Coordinated and executed by SPREP
- Designed to strengthen capacities of participating countries in terms of training, institutional strengthening and planning activities to enable meeting of reporting commitments under UNFCCC

Background to PICCAP continued

- Began June 1997, initially for three years; plus one year “top up” from GEF
- Country team approach/collaborative
- Designed to address the common and collective needs of the Pacific island countries to prepare their national communications in the most cost-effective manner
- Built on experience and expertise developed under the US Country Studies Programme (4 of the participating countries)

Background to PICCAP continued

Supported by many partners – international and within the region:

- Pacific: University of the South Pacific, University of Guam, University of Papua New Guinea, South Pacific Forum Secretariat, Forum Fisheries Agency, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
- New Zealand: University of Waikato, University of Auckland, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research
- Australia: National Tidal Facility of Flinders University, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation – Division of Atmospheric Research

PICCAP objectives

Six major capacity building objectives leading to the following outputs:

- an inventory of greenhouse gas sources and sinks
- an evaluation of mitigation options
- national vulnerability assessments
- an evaluation of adaptation options
- a national climate change implementation plan
- first national communications under the UNFCCC

New Zealand Government support of PICCAP

- Supported capacity building activities related to climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment
- Supported 20 Pacific Island participants to attend first course on climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment (June to October 1998)

Certificate course on Climate Change V and A assessment

- Course developed and delivered by the International Global Change Institute at the University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand
- Entire course transferred to University of the South Pacific in Fiji
- Enabled PICCAP to finance another round of the course at USP
- USP continues to operate the course on a sustainable basis

Certificate course on Climate Change V and A assessment cont..

- Enabled one of New Zealand's own institutions to partner another in the region to undertake the course, and other initiatives beyond just training
- Participants in the IGCI course became the PICCAP national focal points
- Growing pool of national and regional experts (both teaching staff and trainees) in vulnerability and adaptation assessment

Certificate course on Climate Change V and A assessment cont...

- At June 2000, most of those who have gained the Certificate in Climate Change V and A Assessment are working in areas that contribute substantively to climate change activities in their country
- The training package used in the IGCI/USP courses has since provided the basis for training activities in both the Caribbean and the Maldives

PICCAP outcomes

- 8 participants have submitted initial national communications – most of these were submitted in October 1999 (COP5)
- Additional benefits: designed for 10 countries, but Niue, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and Palau also participated in PICCAP meetings, workshops and training activities, and two of these countries have also now submitted national communications

PICCAP outcomes continued

- PICCAP sought an evaluation of its key technical outputs:
 - evaluation and synthesis of the 10 V and A reports
 - evaluation and synthesis of the 10 national ghg inventory reports
- Insufficient time to enable findings to improve quality of initial national communications
- Should assist in preparation of second national communications

Conclusion

The significant investment made by countries, regional organisations and the international community has laid a solid foundation for:

- more in-depth analysis and integrated assessments
- second national communications