

Pacific Regional Action on Climate Change Adaptation in coastal zones



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Overview

- Adaptation overview in Pacific
- Specific coastal zone interventions and baselines – PACC methodology
- Community based approaches
- Related initiative – Pacific Year of the Reef
- Next steps in the Pacific

Climate change is impacting the Pacific – what PICs observe

- Increase in extreme events
- Saline intrusion in atolls
- Shifts in tuna stocks and migratory routes
- Increased coastal erosion
- Coral bleaching events increasing
- Anecdotal evidence on the increase

Adaptation experiences of past climate change programmes

- Pacific Island Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) – established as an enabling activity project for the then Parties to FCCC, expanded to include all 14 States
- 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 such as CBDAMPIC project in 4 countries

Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project

- 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
- Eg. Niue on water mgt, Vanuatu on coastal zone mgt, Fiji on food security

PACC objective – coastal zones

To increase the resilience and enhance adaptive capacity of coastal communities, socio-economic activities and infrastructure

Coastal zone methodology PACC

1. Situation analysis
2. Stakeholder analysis
3. Overview of existing relevant projects
4. Methodology criteria for selection
5. Assessment of priority sector
6. Current institutional baseline
7. Institutional arrangements for delivery of the project

Situation analysis - Kosrae

- General climate analysis FSM
- Specific rainfall/climate conditions Kosrae
- Economic activity
- FSM party to FCCC? Yes – hence eligible for GEF funding
- Is there a sustainable development strategy? Yes – this assists process

Stakeholder analysis

- Conducted by project team (SPREP, UNDP, regional consultants)
- Desk studies, visits to Ministries, etc.
- Consultations with officials, workshop with local communities involved
- Selection of target community and selection of intervention options

Overview of relevant projects

- Participated in PICCAP – persons trained
- Climate modelling project – persons trained and climate change data gathered
- Vulnerability and adaptation assessment carried out for Kosrae
- Road project about to commence in Kosrae

Criteria for selection

- Alignment with Government priorities
- Baseline assessment has been carried out
- Ability to co-finance – criteria for GEF SCCF eligibility
- Climate proofing is an element in the national sustainable development strategy

Assessment of priority sector

- Infrastructure plan calls for completion of circumferential road
- Unserved community has concerns over damage to swamp and mangroves
- Climate change predictions show increase in rainfall – road would wash away sooner
- Able to show climate proofing win-win

Institutional baseline

- Development in Kosrae all along the coast
- New developments funded in context of national infrastructure plan – 20 years
- Kosrae State planning office sets out 5 year plans
- Kosrae climate change team able to act as project management unit

Institutional arrangements for delivery of project

- Climate change team acts as project management unit
- Includes members from target community
- Team integrated in broader Integrated Resource Management Agency
- Oversight by National Department of Economic Affairs

Community based approach

- In-depth consultative process, using local and national experts
- Keep cultural issues in mind!
- Community explains its own V&A assessment and raise concerns
- Experts discuss options based on national sustainable development strategy
- Consensus reached on best option

Baseline analysis - results

- BAU – road built but unsafe after 15 yr
- Climate proofed – built for 50 yrs/25 yrs
- BAU – mangroves disrupted, fisheries affected
- Mangroves protected and enhanced
- BAU – standard seawall in some sections
- Upgraded seawall design were needed



Related activities

- 2008 Pacific Year of the Reef
- Slogan: strong reefs, strong islands
- Two key messages:
 - ✓ Coral reefs: provider, protector
 - ✓ It's time to give back
- All messages, images, and material designed to portray pivotal role of reefs and depict urgent need for concerted action to reverse degrading trend of coral reefs



2008 Pacific Year of the Reef

- Campaign activities build on awareness to support and promote action at different levels
- Youth involvement through regional schools competitions, better resource governance in Vanuatu, economic valuations to support decision making in Kiribati, promoting community-based management in Pacific, and developing tools to assess livelihood projects
- Other activities aim to build a Pacific Reef Trust Fund for small-scale community projects



2008 Pacific Year of the Reef

- Campaign activities complement existing projects by SPREP and partners
- Ensures integration with other projects and initiatives
- Kosrae road clear example protecting reef from land based activities; enhanced protection due to mangrove enhancement

Corals are particularly at risk

- Corals constitute a natural protective barrier, and are also a primary input in tourism – for diving, fishing nursery, sand production for beaches, etc.
- Climate change stresses on corals include bleaching from heat, acidification, increased sedimentation, algal blooms, etc

Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change

- Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015 endorsed by Leaders
- Establishes sets of priorities for action on climate change in the region – involves local, national, regional and international levels
- Adaptation is a major focus: multi-stakeholder, risk management, no regrets, improving safe secure livelihoods, focus on most vulnerable areas and integrate in NSDS and other strategies

Establishment of Regional Roundtable on climate change

- To provide a major opportunity for the Governments and communities to build a consensus on what actions should be taken to alleviate climate change impacts
- practical work will be undertaken through regional and national policies as part of regional projects (PACC, PIGGAREP and PI-GCOS), and through NAPAs and SNCs.

Thank you

