



# **PACIFIC ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

## **PROJECT EXECUTIVE GROUP**

### **REPORT**

**SPREP TRAINING AND EDUCATION CENTRE  
APIA, SAMOA**

**3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2009**

# Table of Content

<i>Table of Content</i> .....	2
<b>1.0 Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0 Background</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<i>2.1 What is PEG?</i> .....	3
<b>3.0 Outcomes</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<i>3.1 PEG Chair and Secretariat</i> .....	3
<i>3.2 Membership</i> .....	4
<i>3.3 Meeting Protocol</i> .....	4
<b>4.0 ANNEX</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<i>4.1 Annex I: PEG Terms of Reference</i> .....	5

## **1.0 Introduction**

This report provides a brief summary of outcomes of the first meeting of the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project Executive Group (PEG). The first meeting was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2009 at the SPREP Technical and Education Training Centre, Apia, Samoa.

## **2.0 Background**

Below is some background information on the PEG.

### ***2.1 What is PEG?***

The Project Executive Group (PEG) functions as a policy oversight element of the PACC project. It is responsible for providing policy guidance, which includes the review and approval of the annual work plan and budget. The detail function of the PEG is included as an annex to this report (see Annex I).

The PEG will be established with the following composition; representatives of UNDP, UNDP-GEF New York, SPREP, country representatives, representative of relevant CROP agencies, collaborating organizations/institutions as well as co-financing partners. The PEG will meet every quarter to review and approve the PACC quarterly progress, approve any variances to the workplan and budget and propose practical measures to address any specific issues that may affect delivery and implementation of PACC activities. Special meetings may be called when the need arises.

According to the rules of engagement stipulated in the PACC project document approved by the GEF, the UNDP will chair the PEG; the Regional project Manager for the Project will serve as the Secretary to the Committee and the Secretariat services will be provided by the Implementing Partner (SPREP).

## **3.0 Outcomes**

### ***3.1 PEG Chair and Secretariat***

The meeting reaffirmed UNDP Apia multicountry office as the chairperson of the PEG to ensure consistency in meeting proceedings. Mr. Taito Nakalevu the PACC

Regional Project Manager was confirmed as the secretariat. The two positions would remain for the duration of the project until or unless circumstances warrant a change.

### ***3.2 Membership***

The meeting affirmed the following as the incumbent members of the PACC PEG. They will be representing their sub-groupings for a period of one year after which new representation will be reviewed.

[i] **Melanesia:** Mr. Jope Davetanivalu;

[ii] **Micronesia:** Mr. Abraham Simpson

[iii] **Polynesia:** Ms. Anne Rasmussen

[iv] **CROP Representative** – Mr. Marc Wison (IWRM Project Manager)

[v] **SPREP** - Mr. Espen Ronneberg

### ***3.3 Meeting Protocol***

It was also agreed that the second meeting of the PEG would be a teleconference call around August 09 to review and approve the 2009 annual work plan. Future meetings will be conducted via teleconferencing, and where possible face-to-face meetings to coincide with any regional activities of the PACC including the annual review meeting and when circumstances demand meetings may also be conducted virtually through the email.

## 4.0 ANNEX

### 4.1 Annex I: PEG Terms of Reference

#### PROJECT EXECUTIVE GROUP (PEG)

##### Background

Climate change will be a major impediment to the achievement of sustainable development in Pacific islands countries (PICs), as all economic and social sectors are likely to be adversely affected, and the cost of adaptation will be disproportionately high, relative to GDP. In attempting to mainstream adaptation strategies into their sustainable development agendas, PICs SIDS have been confronted by many challenges including insufficient resources, equity considerations, prioritization of adaptation measures and uncertainties over climate change projections and adaptation strategies.

Climate change, climate variability and sea-level rise are not only environmental issues but also of economic, social and political issues for the PICs. The impacts, and particularly the related economic and social shocks pose serious political and financial management issues as extreme climatic events can adversely affect gross domestic product, balance of payments, budget deficits, foreign debt, unemployment and living standards. Many PICs, given their smallness, location of their populations, agricultural activities, socioeconomic activities and key infrastructure at or near the coastal zone, any climate extremes and rise in sea-level will have significant and profound effects on their economies and their living conditions.

Current work in helping vulnerable populations adapt to climate change and variability has shown that socioeconomic, environmental and climatic stresses are all connected and therefore the full range of potential future stresses must be considered in adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change. Given the lack of human, financial and technological resources, partly due to their geography, accessibility, the smallness of the economic base and fragile economies vulnerable to external shocks, PICs' ability to adapt to climate change remains a major challenge for sustainable development.

The need to implement adaptation measures in small islands has been highlighted by the IPCC TAR where it was suggested that risk-reduction strategies together with other sectoral policy initiatives in areas such as sustainable development planning, disaster prevention and management, integrated coastal zone management and health care planning should be employed. Given this urgency for adaptation in small island states there has been an increase in *ad-hoc* stand alone projects, rather than a programmed or strategic approach to the funding of adaptation options and measures.

The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project (PACC), is aimed at building resilience to impacts of climate change in selected countries in the key vulnerable socio-economic sectors of coastal zone and associated infrastructure, water resources, food production and food security. PACC will also assess the range of financial instruments and investments needed at the national and regional level so that adaptation financing is sustainable.

## **Purpose**

The Project Executive Group (PEG) will monitor the conduct of the project and provide strategic guidance and direction to the implementation of PACC at the national and regional levels. It will be established with the following composition; representatives of UNDP-Samoa, UNDP-GEF New York, SPREP, country representatives, representative of relevant CROP agencies, collaborating organizations/institutions as well as co-financing partners. The PEG will meet at least once a year and as and when the need arises.

UNDP Samoa will Chair the PEG. Regional project Manager for the Project will serve as the Secretary to the Committee. Secretariat services will be provided by the Implementing Partner (SPREP).

## **Duties & Responsibilities**

The PEG shall be responsible for the following functions:

- Providing policy guidance to the Implementing Partner in the implementation of the project;
- Facilitating the coordination and implementation of project activities across institutions both at the regional and national levels;
- Reviewing the project activities, and their adherence to the work plan set forth in the project document and approve any modifications/revisions as may be necessary;
- Reviewing and approving the annual work plan and budget;
- Approving major project deliverables;
- Making decisions on the issues brought to its notice by UNDP and other collaborating institutions, and advise regarding efficient and timely execution of the project;
- Reviewing issues raised and agreeing to action plans for their resolutions;
- Initiating remedial action to remove impediments in the progress of the project activities that were not earlier envisaged;
- Monitoring the continued applicability of project benefits;
- Approving requests for changes (e.g. scope changes, schedule alterations, personnel);
- Ensure that the project activities are fully in line with existing policies and climate change negotiation position of the region; and,

- On request of the RPM/SPREP, provide guidance on the execution of national level activities under the PACC framework.

## **Members**

The following will be the members of the PEG:

- 3 Country representatives (1 per sub region)
- UNDP representative (Samoa MCO)
- SPREP
- 1 representative of CROP agencies