

Climate Change Matters

Photo: © Stuart Chape

Directors Note

Talofa lava and Fakalofa lahi atu from SPREP

This issue of your CCM highlights several events in our region related to climate change. We are excited to share with you the launch of the new E-Learning Platform to broker climate change knowledge in the Pacific region and hosted by Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and in collaboration with the JICA training modules for training of our Pacific community.

Also featured is the Vanuatu Community Climate Change Centres that will benefit over 120,000 community members in the Torba and Sanma Provinces.

Gender equality training for Pacific national meteorological and hydrological services training was undertaken as well as a feature on the training and capacity building project by JICA and the PCCC.

Finally, as most of you are aware and would have followed the US President Biden's Leaders Summit on Climate - an article in the CCM elaborates on some implications of new commitments and highlights new announcements were made which have narrowed the 2030 emissions gap by around 12-14% (2.6-3.7 GtCO₂e), according to a provisional post-Summit analysis by the Climate Action Tracker.

The only Pacific country invited to the Summit was the Republic of the Marshall Islands. H.E David Kabua, delivered a statement that resonated with the wider Pacific family. For me, it was a message of urgency, action and survival that echoes sentiments conveyed by several of our Pacific Leaders on many occasions.

Colleagues and friends, this is your newsletter so in that regard, I would welcome your stories related to climate action and initiatives in your country - we would be happy to share those with our extensive network.

Kia Manuia,

Tagaloa

Director of Climate Change Resilience
The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)



Tagaloa Cooper





E-LEARNING PLATFORM TO BROKER CLIMATE CHANGE KNOWLEDGE IN THE PACIFIC REGION

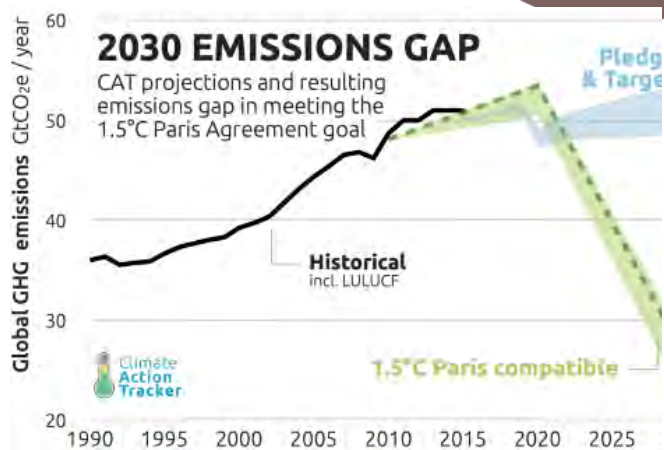
An online learning platform where Pacific island people can access information, foster learning, and engage in dialogue on climate change impacts, knowledge, capacity needs and innovation was launched on Friday 12 March 2020 at the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) in Samoa.

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NEW MOMENTUM REDUCES EMISSIONS GAP, BUT HUGE REMAINS - ANALYSIS

Climate action announcements made on 22 April 2021 at US President Biden’s Leaders’ Summit on Climate, together with those announced since September last year, have narrowed the 2030 emissions gap by around 12-14% (2.6-3.7 GtCO_{2e}), according to a provisional post-Summit analysis by the Climate Action Tracker. The largest contributions came from the US, the EU+UK, China and Japan.

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MARINE HEATWAVES AND PACIFIC MEDIA: WORLD METEOROLOGICAL DAY

The Pacific commitment to ongoing enhancement of weather and climate services across the Pacific is an ongoing one. On the World Meteorological Day we commemorated the work undertaken by our national Met Services in the Pacific islands’ region, our partners that provide the necessary support, and the many staff that work 24/7 in this field, some in isolated areas throughout our Pacific islands.

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VANUATU: COMMUNITY LEADERS AND PROVINCIAL STAKEHOLDERS APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY CLIMATE CENTRES

More than 20,000 community members in Torba and Sanma Provinces in Vanuatu will directly benefit from the establishment of community climate centres under the Vanuatu Klaemet Blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt (Van-KIRAP) project. Community leaders in Torba and Sanma Provinces in Vanuatu have given the final clearance for Vanuatu Meteorology...

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THE NDC HUB LAUNCHES 10-YEAR STRATEGY FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN THE PACIFIC

Suva City, Fiji -- LAYING out the game plan for Pacific climate action through its Nationally Determined Contributions for the next decade, the long-term strategy of the Regional Pacific NDC Hub was officially launched by the Chair of the Pacific Small Island Developing States, and Fijian Prime Minister Hon Josia Voreqe Bainimarama in Suva on 8 April 2021.

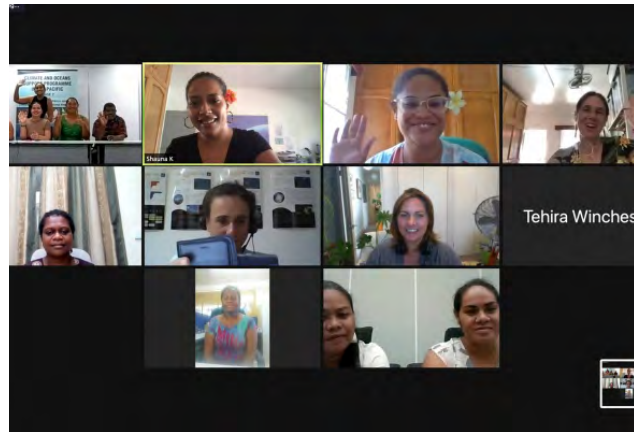
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SUPPORTING GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ACROSS PACIFIC MET SERVICES

Organisational Culture was the focus of the final session of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) training for Pacific National Meteorological and Hydrological Services. Having started in March this year, the series of training sessions aimed at strengthening GESI across the Met Services in the Pacific region for improved service delivery.

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DEVELOPING LONG-TERM STRATEGIES FOR DECARBONISATION IN SIDS

SPREP's partner on the IMPACT Project, Climate Analytics, has published a new briefing entitled Long-term strategies in SIDS: blueprints for decarbonised and resilient 1.5°C compatible economies. Long-term strategies provide a space for governments to set out a blueprint for a resilient, decarbonised future that is compatible with limiting warming to 1.5°C.

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NEW PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS CONTRIBUTING TO LITERATURE IN THE PACIFIC ON TROPICAL CYCLONES AND DROUGHT

Pacific authors, technical partners and region-wide universities are telling their stories on the science and impacts of climate change with the release of two new peer-review papers on "Tropical cyclones contributing to extreme rainfall over the southwest Pacific nations" and "Historical and future drought impacts in the Pacific islands and atolls".

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Photo: @Stuart Chape



SAMOA LEADS NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON NDC IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP AND NDC INVESTMENT PLAN

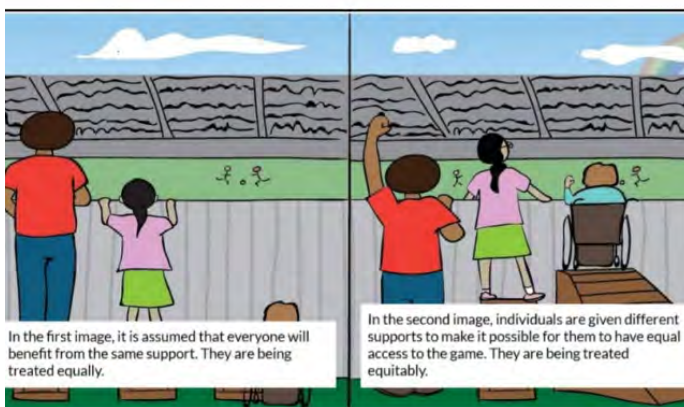
The Renewable Energy Division (RED) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) of Samoa held a national stakeholder consultation with sector experts to discuss its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Roadmap and NDC Investment Plan with a project pipeline in March 2021.

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TRAINING CONTINUES IN A SERIES HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN PACIFIC MET SERVICES

Raising awareness on the importance of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and sharing ideas on how to achieve this in the important work that is done by Pacific National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) was at the core of a series of trainings which continued on the week starting on the 9th of March.

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In the first image, it is assumed that everyone will benefit from the same support. They are being treated equally.

In the second image, individuals are given different supports to make it possible for them to have equal access to the game. They are being treated equitably.



PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE CENTRE TRAINING INITIATIVE EXTENDED TO 2023

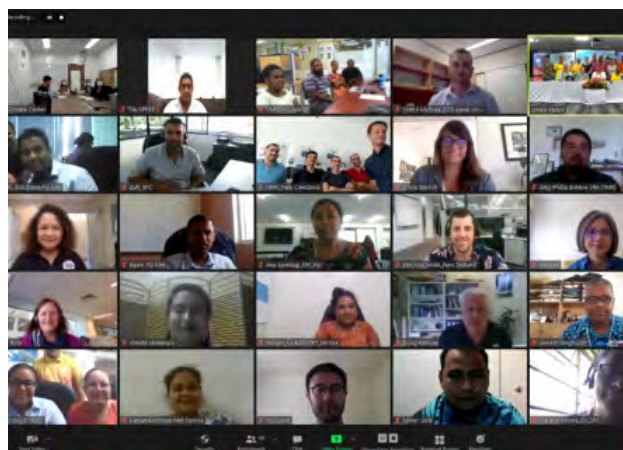
Opportunities to build your understanding of climate change, through a partnership between the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Pacific Climate Change Centre, have been extended through to 2023. The Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Mr Kosi Latu, the Resident Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mr. Akihiko...

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REFLECTING UPON LA NIÑA AND 2020 TROPICAL CYCLONE SEASON AND LOOKING TO THE SEASON AHEAD

With the Pacific having recently gone through a La Niña event, representatives of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) from across the Pacific, as well as their partners from regional organisations and scientific institutions, came together in a virtual meeting this week. This saw them reflect on their efforts to help keep people informed during the La Niña, as well as to present and summarise the climate and ocean observations...

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HOW TO CLOSE ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE GAPS IN ASIA PACIFIC

On March 10th, an engaging technical session organised by UN Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Global Adaptation Network (GAN) shared perspectives from across the Asia Pacific region on how to close knowledge gaps and scale up adaptation action, including nature-based approaches. The session, Closing adaptation knowledge gaps to scale up nature-based action in the Asia-Pacific region, focused on building on and scaling up the Lima Adaptation...

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COSPPAC CLIMATE SUMMARY

Issued 10 May 2021

- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral. Climate model outlooks indicate this neutral phase will last at least until September.
- A moderate to strong Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) pulse is expected to move eastwards from American longitudes towards tropical Africa.
- The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was active and shifted north of its normal position while the South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) was active and shifted to the southwest of normal.
- The sea surface temperature anomaly pattern in April shows the classic shape of a decaying La Niña with warm conditions in majority of the countries and distinct cooling along the equator, east of Nauru.
- Coral bleaching was on watch for almost all countries with patches of warning in PNG and Cook Islands.
- For sea level, a noticeable higher than normal in Solomon Islands, by 350mm.
- For May to July 2021, the dynamical models (as well as SCOPIIC) agree on above-normal rainfall for southern Cook Islands, Fiji, southern French Polynesia, FSM, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Niue, the southern and Momase regions of PNG, Tonga and Vanuatu. The models also agree on below normal rainfall for northern Cook Islands, central and northern French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru and Tuvalu.



DO YOU USE WEATHER, CLIMATE & CLIMATE CHANGE INFORMATION TO HELP MAKE YOUR DECISIONS?

TAKE THIS SURVEY

HELP OUR RESEARCHERS UNDERSTAND HOW YOU USE PACIFIC SERVICES FOR WEATHER, CLIMATE & CLIMATE CHANGE INFORMATION.












CALENDAR - MAY

3-5	VAN-KIRAP Tourism sector climate information services plan development in Santo, Vanuatu
9-21	One CROP+ Meeting-Virtual
10-12	VAN-KIRAP Fisheries scoping and awareness workshop in Epau and Pangpang communities, Vanuatu
12	PCCC Advisory board meeting
13-14	VAN-KIRAP Gender focus group consultations in Epau and Pangpang communities, Vanuatu
14	VAN-KIRAP Weather radar coordination meeting-Vanuatu
24-26	VAN-KIRAP Tourism sector climate information services plan development in Tanna, Vanuatu
26-27	PCCC Regional dialogue- Virtual
27	SPREP Climate Change webinar- Virtual
31-JUN 10	Pacific NDC 1st Sessional period 2021-Virtual

CALENDAR - JUNE

8-9	Hydromet PAC-Virtual
9	One CROP+ Meeting-Virtual
11	Pacific NDC Steering committee meeting-Virtual
16	SPREP Day

CALENDAR - JULY

9	One CROP+ Meeting-Virtual
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A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures