



PEBACC+
Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Plus



Project co-funded by



FACTSHEET

Photo: SPREP

Overview

The Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change Plus/Phase 2 (PEBACC+) Project seeks to strengthen the resilience of ecosystems, economies, and communities to the impacts of climate change in Fiji, New Caledonia, Wallis-and-Futuna, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. The PEBACC+ Project will develop, sustain, and institutionalise ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) to climate change in these five countries and territories.

The project is implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and funded by the Kiwa Initiative and the French Facility for Global Environment.

This project is a continuation of Phase 1 funded by the International Climate Initiative and implemented from 2015 to 2020 by SPREP in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. It is also a follow up on the outcome of the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES) Project work funded by the European Union with support from Monaco and the Swiss Confederation between 2019 – 2023.

Phase 1 developed and implemented a systematic and participative approach to analysing climate and

non-climate threats to communities and ecosystems as a basis for adaptation planning in several pilot sites through the application of ecological and socio-economic resilience assessment mapping (ESRAM) at various scales. This work has led to the development of comprehensive master plans in close collaboration with stakeholders and local communities.

Ecosystem management and protection were already completed at several demonstration sites under PEBACC Phase 1.

Building on these initial investments, PACRES continued to support EbA implementation in the Barana Nature and Heritage Park, the Honiara Botanical Garden and the Mataniko and Tagabe River catchments in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu respectively, as well as urban greening around Port Vila and the Honiara CBD.

The PEBACC+ project will strengthen existing activities, diversify them, and integrate EbA and Nature-based Solutions (NbS) into public policies to ensure its sustainability. The French territories of New Caledonia and Wallis-and-Futuna will also benefit from PEBACC+ implementation.

Timeline: 2022 - 2026

Total Funding: €5.8M

€4M from the Kiwa Initiative and
€1.8M from the French Facility for Global Environment

Locations:



Fiji



Solomon Is.



Vanuatu



Wallis-and-Futuna



New Caledonia

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PEBACC+ project activities:

- Training for decision makers on EbA and NbS approaches, green infrastructure, and environmental protection.
- Mainstreaming EbA into climate adaptation strategies.
- A reforestation and agroforestry program in Taveuni, Fiji.
- Support the Blue Town initiative (integrated coastal zone management plan) in Savusavu, Fiji.
- Support ecosystem and forest rehabilitation and a resource center in the Barana Community Nature and Heritage Park, Solomon Islands.
- Restoration of the Tagabe River catchment area in Port Vila, Vanuatu.
- Support reforestation, agroforestry, and the creation of a locally managed marine area at Lenakel, Tanna Island, Vanuatu.
- Support EbA and implementation of NbS in New Caledonia and Wallis-and-Futuna through forest restoration, agroforestry, and fire prevention for water security; mangrove and coastal vegetation restoration for coastline erosion prevention. Activities also include resilience analysis and mapping as well as prioritization of EbA options.

Objectives

- Develop, support, and institutionalize the ecosystem-based approach to climate change adaptation in Fiji, New Caledonia, Wallis-and-Futuna, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu.
- Consolidate EbA experience at previous demonstration sites and expand it to new areas, to diversify adaptation options through NbS, including New Caledonia and Wallis-and-Futuna. These activities will contribute to the institutionalisation of EbA at national and local levels and ensure its sustainability.
- Strengthen regional cooperation among Pacific island countries and territories by sharing experiences and lessons learned and promote and replicate the project concept to increase resilience of Pacific communities to climate change.

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Pacific Island countries and territories have unique characteristics that make them susceptible to climate change impacts, including their remoteness and close dependence on natural resources. In addition to the impacts of climate change, the PEBACC+ project's target countries and territories face major non-climatic environmental challenges, such as:

- land use change and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources in watersheds
- large-scale removal of mangroves
- overfishing
- unplanned growth of urban centers
- poor waste and wastewater management
- general population increase
- economic dependence on agriculture and tourism in Fiji and Vanuatu
- unsustainable logging with high ecological impacts in Solomon Islands
- fires in New Caledonia
- invasive alien species
- decline in biodiversity that supports food security and economic income.



Melinda Kii, Kakau Valimaovo Tribe Leader of Barana, Solomon Islands, transplanting a native tree at the Barana Nature and Heritage Park.
Photo: © PEBACC+

NbS and EbA approaches bring a relevant and essential response to the impacts of climate change. By taking into account the ecosystem services on which people depend for their livelihoods and social and economic resilience, NbS and EbA integrate the sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services into a comprehensive adaptation strategy.

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