



# ISSUE

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2024

- PCCC Highlights Adaptive Capacities at AP-PLAT Forum.
- PCCC and JICA showcased partnership.
- Applying knowledge brokerage to catalyze climate action.
- Advancing Climate, Health and Equity Outcomes programme.
- Revamped and Recharged The New Look of the Pacific Climate Change Portal.
- Formulation of an Integrated Climate Resilience Rehabilitation and Restoration Plan for Popua Peninsula and Sia Heu Lupe Sites in Tonga.
- MOUs signed at the 4th POPCCC.
- PCCC co-convened the 2nd International Research Network (IRN) Meeting.
- PCCC spearheads South-South Learning Exchange with Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre.
- Partnership with Asian Institute of Technology Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP) to deliver training on climate finance.
- PCCC and University of Melbourne awarded A\$500,000 for Fellowship Program on Just Transition.
- Welcome Trust awards PCCC and University of Melbourne AUD \$4.8M for PAVE Project.
- PCCC role on innovation the Pacific innovation lounge and the Pacific Climate Investment Hub.
- The PCCC Project for Innovative Solutions for Pacific Climate Change Resilience.
- PCCC at the 53rd PIFLM.
- PCCC offers project design and development training to help Niue access climate finance.

# Welcome to the Second Edition of the *Nafa* Newsletter!



The Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC), hosted at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), warmly welcomes you to the second edition of our newsletter, "The Nafa". As 2024 draws to a close, we reflect on a year filled with significant events – challenging, yet ultimately rewarding. The experiences and opportunities we encountered this year will significantly shape our future work in serving the Pacific community.

Despite our relatively small team size, the PCCC successfully addressed the significant climate change challenges facing the Pacific region. We achieved this by focusing on several key areas:

• Knowledge Brokerage and Dissemination: We actively generated and shared climaterelated knowledge through various means, ensuring that crucial information is readily available to those who need it.

- Science to Services and Research Coordination: We provided crucial technical support and coordinated the delivery of relevant services, ensuring effective implementation of climate-change adaptation and mitigation strategies. This included leveraging the power of scientific research and policy advice.
- Capacity Building and Collaboration: We prioritized capacity building initiatives through training programs and fostered collaboration among individuals, organizations, and nations across the Pacific region.
- **Innovation:** We ensure collaborative approach to facilitate the sharing of ideas and innovative solutions.

The PCCC expresses its deep gratitude to our partners for their trust and collaboration in delivering our services. Our collective efforts have significantly contributed to building resilience within our Pacific community. I am reminded of a popular quote, which fittingly describes my outlook on the year; "Success is knowing that you did everything in your power to achieve the best possible outcome."

We wish you and your families a joyful Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Malo,

'Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy, Manager, PCCC







#### PCCC Highlights Pacific Adaptive Capacities at AP-PLAT Forum

As part of its continued efforts to boost information and knowledge sharing and strengthen partnerships, the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC), hosted at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), joined the 4th International Climate Change Adaptation Platforms Meeting in Tokyo, Japan from 14 – 15 December 2023.

The objectives of the meeting were to share knowledge and information related to developing and operating national and international information platforms, share recent activities supporting local and national governments and relevant stakeholders working on climate change adaptation using information platforms, and to discuss potential areas for collaboration and continued partnership to support information platforms in countries in the Asia and Pacific regions.

#### Full story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-climate-change-centre-highlightspacific-island-adaptive-capacities-at-international-forum



### Samoa explores applying knowledge brokerage to catalyze climate action and decision making

Critical and often time-sensitive decision-making is crucial for Pacific Islands on the frontlines of climate change impacts. These challenges experienced, amongst others, shaped the discussions during a two-day workshop on Knowledge Brokerage Tools from 13 – 14 March 2024.

The workshop was attended by representatives from various Divisions of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), including the Samoa Meteorological Division, as well as representatives from the Land Transport Authority (LTA), Samoa Red Cross, the Planning and Urban Management Agency (PUMA), and the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO).

#### Full story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/samoa-explores-applying-knowledge-brokerageto-catalyse-climate-action-and-decision-making

#### PCCC and JICA Showcased partnership in JICA Clean City Initiative International Discussions.



The Japan International Cooperation Agency's (JICA) cooperation on climate change and waste management in Oceania was highlighted during the second meeting of the JICA Clean City Initiative through its work with the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and the Japan Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management (J-PRISM), both hosted at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

Manager of the PCCC, Ms. 'Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy, shared experiences on climate change challenges and opportunities in the region, the key functions of the PCCC, and the work that has been done by the PCCC to date and looking into the future. This includes the recently completed, JICAfunded Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific project, which was implemented from 2019 to 2023. The project had overwhelming success, having trained over 500 professionals.

Ms. Kaisamy said that "the PCCC E-learning Platform was a key milestone for this project, particularly during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing online access to a wider audience around the region – A fit-for-purpose solution".

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/cooperationbetween-pacific-climate-change-centreand-jica-showcased-in-jica-clean-cityinitiative-international-discussions





#### Second stage of Pacific leaders for Advancing Climate, Health and Equity Outcomes programme gets underway in Samoa

The second stage of a fellowship which exists to develop leadership potential and stimulate lasting change in Pacific communities and beyond, by empowering a global network of talented individuals through high-quality education experiences, took place in Samoa. Fifteen policy makers and researchers from the Pacific and Southeast Asia gathered at the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) for the second stage of the Advancing Climate, Health, and Equity Outcomes through Local Action in the Indo-Pacific programme, from 18 – 22 March 2024.

The programme is co-hosted by Melbourne Climate Futures and the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health in partnership with the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC). It is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Australia Awards Initiative.

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/second-stage-of-pacific-leaders-foradvancing-climate-health-and-equity-outcomes-programme-getsunderway-in-samoa



#### MOUs signed on the margins of the 4th POPCCC

4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference (4POPCCC) "Our Ocean, Our Home: Climate Resilience for a Blue Pacific," attracted over 300 participants from academia, the private sector, public institutions, civil society, arts, faith communities, and industry.

The conference aimed to spotlight knowledge and insights on the rapid climate changes impacting the Pacific region. It served as a platform for promoting sustainable solutions and innovations for climate mitigation and adaptation, advocating for global climate action, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

At the end of the conference, two MOUs were signed between SPREP and NUS and SPREP and the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) to bolster strategic collaboration towards building a more resilient Pacific Environment. These engagements were facilitated through the work of the PCCC under its science to services and research function. For more information visit 5th iteration of the POPCCC to be held in the Solomon Islands in 2026 and the book of abstracts online.

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/sprep-and-national-university-of-samoastrengthen-environmental-cooperation & https://www.sprep.org/news/ sprep-and-solomon-islands-national-university-bolster-collaboration-formore-resilient-pacific-environment



#### **Revamped and Recharged – The New Look of the Pacific Climate Change Portal**

The <u>Pacific Climate Change Portal</u> (PCCP) was redeployed at the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable in Apia, Samoa, from 8 – 10 May 2024. Delivered through the Pacific Climate Change Centre, the PCCP continues to serve as a cutting-edge knowledge brokerage platform designed to provide user-friendly information, decision-support tools, and resources. It empowers Pacific Island Countries and Territories to make informed, climate-smart decisions.

#### Visit the Pacific Climate Change Portal on: Home | Pacific Climate Change Portal



Pacific Climate Change Centre works with the Kingdom of Tonga on the Formulation of an Integrated Climate Resilience Rehabilitation and Restoration Plan for Popua Peninsula and Sia Heu Lupe Sites

The PCCC with funding support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and collaboration with the University of Melbourne the PCCC is undertaking a climate change vulnerability assessment for the Popua Peninsula and Sia Heu Lupe Sites, Tongatapu, as well as developing an Integrated Climate Resilience Rehabilitation and Restoration Plan for the site.

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-climatechange-centre-works-with-the-kingdom-of-tongaon-the-formulation-of-an-integrated-climateresilience-rehabilitation-and-restoration-plan-forpopua-peninsula-and-sia-heu-lupe-sites







#### South-South Learning Exchange held with Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre.

In early June, the PCCC and SPREP conducted a <u>knowledge-sharing exchange</u> with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) in Belmopan, Belize. This three-day event, which included Ms. Melissa Mitchell, Deputy High Commissioner from Trinidad and Tobago, aimed to boost cooperation between the Pacific and Caribbean regions.

The exchanged focused on enhancing South-South cooperation between the two Centres, particularly as both have heavy investment from the Government of Australia, with an AUD 5 million to the PCCC for strengthening its services and the support rendered to the CCCCC for its accreditation to the Green Climate Fund.

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-climatechange-centre-and-caribbean-community-climatechange-centre-deepen-south-south-learning-andcollaboration

### PCCC builds capacity of Pacific countries to access climate finance

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In June, the PCCC partnered with the Asian Institute of Technology Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP) to <u>deliver a 5-day training</u> on developing new and existing Green Climate Fund (GCF) Concept Notes in Pacific countries to enhance financial support for climate change resilience by empowering and enhancing the capabilities of key stakeholders engaged in the design of climate change adaptation projects.

#### Full Story:

Training Builds Capacity of Pacific Countries to Access Climate Finance



#### PCCC co-convened the 2nd Indigenous Research Network (IRN) Meeting

The 2nd Indigenous Research Network (IRN) meeting was convened at the Pacific Climate Change Center on 24 May 2024. The IRN aims to strengthen indigenous voices in global agricultural to help empower traditional indigenous practices to be used in our fight against climate change. The meeting brings together practitioners from the Pacific region to seek ways to strengthen collaboration and build capacity for future generations in the fight against climate change. The IRN meeting followed the 4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference held at the National University of Samoa in partnership with the Victoria University of Wellington and SPREP.

Full story: <u>https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1TFWRswYn6/</u>



Pacific Climate Change Centre and University of Melbourne secure A\$500,000 to advance climate resilience and outcomes in Indo-Pacific



Building on the success of the inaugural Australia Awards Fellowship Program between the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) at SPREP and the University of Melbourne, a second round of fellowships was awarded in May 2024. This new program, titled "Advancing Climate Adaptation, Resilience, and Just Transitions in the Indo-Pacific," is set to begin in November 2024.

#### Full story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-climate-change-centre-and-universityof-melbourne-secure-a500000-to-advance-climate-resilience-andoutcomes-in-indo-pacific





#### PCCC and University of Melbourne Secures AUD \$4.8M Grant for Pioneering Health and Climate Impact Project.

The Pacific faces severe climate-related threats to health, yet these issues are often overlooked in policies. Many Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) are already pursuing climate-resilient development using traditional knowledge. Led by the Pacific Climate Change Centre, hosted at SPREP, and the University of Melbourne, the PAVE-Health project aims to integrate climate health impacts into national and international policies by unlocking essential financial, human, and technical resources.

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/aud-49-million-tofortify-pacific-region-against-health-impacts-ofclimate-change



#### **Driving Innovative Solutions** for a Resilient Pacific.

The PCCC is committed to delivering innovative, tailored climate solutions for the Pacific region. The new PCCC – JICA Project for <u>Innovative Solutions</u> for Pacific Climate Change Resilience (IS-PCCR) launched in March 2024 and held its <u>inaugural Joint</u> <u>Coordination Committee</u> (JCC) meeting in June 2024. The meeting covered upcoming initiatives, including the first training session in September, the Pacific Climate Change Centre Innovation Exhibition, and the Innovative Climate Finance Hub.

In late June, <u>Pacific countries convened in Sydney</u> for a 4-day workshop co-facilitated by the PCCC and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The workshop addressed innovation, private sector engagement, just transition, climate finance, climate services, and project development. It focused on developing strategies and tools to overcome planning silos and tackle climate risks effectively.

Full Story: <u>https://www.sprep.org/news/solutions-at-the-heart-of-project-for-innovative-solutions-for-pacific-climate-change-resilience</u>



### **PCCC** role on innovation – the Pacific Climate Investment Hub

The Pacific Innovative Climate Finance Investment Hub is aimed to offer grants and innovative funding that is demand driven, predictable, flexible and investment and support to catalyze climate action in the Pacific Islands built around the PCCC four key functions and the underlying program areas of work on adaptation, mitigation and low carbon futures, climate science and climate finance access.

The PCCC innovative climate finance investment hub will seek to generate financial resources and technical support to:

- 1. Targeted support triggered by government requests aligned to the PCCC functions and key priority thematic areas identified by the hub to be published every year.
- 2.Offer grant funding of up to between USD 20,000 to USD 500,000, customized acceleration support through partnership frameworks/ arrangements, cos-sharing initiatives and co-delivery models.

The Minister of Finance, Hon. Tiofilusi Tiueti emphasized the hub's role in enabling national entities, the private sector, and vulnerable groups, including women and youth, to develop tailored financial solutions. "Through sustained partnership, resource mobilisation, and a strategic focus on innovation, we can collectively build a more resilient and prosperous Pacific region. The time to act is now. Let us work together to build a future where the Pacific thrives," Tiueti said.

Full Story: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17Bi5zxeoK/

#### PCCC at the 53rd PIFLM.

In August, leaders from across the Pacific Islands region gathered in Nuku'alofa, Tonga for the 53rd Pacific Islands Leaders Forum Meeting. The PCCC held two side events, one on 'The PCCC Long-term Strategy – The Innovative Climate Finance Investment Hub' and the second on 'Advancing Climate, Health, and Equity Outcomes through Local Action in Australia and the Pacific'. The side events were attended by representatives from governments, the diplomatic corps, donor agencies, NGOs, the private sector and other stakeholders with strong interests in the region.

Speaking at the side event on 'The PCCC Long-term Strategy – The Innovative Climate Finance Investment Hub', Hon. Tiofilusi Tiueti, Minister of Finance for the Kingdom of Tonga and PSIDS Climate Finance Political Champion outlined the PCCC's threefold approach to securing long-term investments and reiterated Tonga's commitment to support the Centre's leadership in establishing and hosting the Innovative Climate Finance Investment Hub.

Full Story: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1B6jXpXGER/





# **PCCC** offers project design and development training to help Niue access climate finance

Accessing climate finance to help build a resilient Niue is at the core of ongoing work by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) through the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC). Building capacity to help achieve successful climate change project implementation is at the core of a three-day introductory training facilitated by the PCCC and hosted at the Niue Ministry of Natural Resources from 10-12 September 2024.

Working with participants from a wide range of sectors within Niue, the training began with a three-day programme and was followed by online training through the PCCC. Through this introductory training, participants learned about project planning, design and the skills required for project planning and development, particularly those funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

This was the first such training to be delivered through GCF readiness support and provided a platform for future training specific to the capacity building needs and demands across the Pacific Islands.

#### Full Story:

https://www.sprep.org/news/enabling-niue-to-access-climate-finance



#### **Events** October 2024 – June 2025

- CHOGM, 21-25 October 2024
- COP29, 11-22 November 2024
- PCCC Innovation Exhibition, 3-4 December 2024
- PCCC Advisory Board Meeting, 6
  December 2024
- PCCC Annual Planning Workshop, 17-19 January 2025
- PCCC IPCC Write shop and CC Research Roadmap Validation Workshop 10-14 February 2025
- Australia Awards PCCC & UoM
  Implementation Workshop, 3-7 March 2025
- IPCC Advisory Board Meeting, TBC March 2025
- PCCC Strategy and Business Plan Review
  March 2025
- Pacific Risk Management (Primo) Conference, 17-20 March 2025
- Technical Advisory Board Meeting (TAG)
  Indigenous Workshop, April 2025
- Capacity Building for Knowledge Brokerage Tonga, April 2025
- Pacific Regional Research Symposium, 22-23 May 2025
- United Nations Ocean Conference, 9-13
  June 2025

The <u>Pacific Climate Change Centre</u> (PCCC) is the regional Centre of excellence for climate change information, research, capacity building, and innovation, hosted at the <u>Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme</u> (SPREP) in Apia, Samoa. As a Centre of excellence, the PCCC is mandated to provide practical information, support, and training to address the adaptation and mitigation priorities of Pacific Island communities.

The PCCC is underpinned by strong partnerships with Pacific Governments, applied research institutions, donors, civil society, and the private sector. The PCCC is a partnership between the Governments of Japan and Samoa. It is funded under grant aid through JICA for Samoa as the host country of SPREP. Additionally, the Centre receives generous funding and support from the Governments of New Zealand, Ireland, and Australia.











Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

For more information, please contact pccc@sprep.org

Website - www.sprep.org/pacific-climate-change-centre