

CLIMATE CHANGE MATTERS

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Photo: Pauline Marsden

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EDITORIAL

Changing climate is challenging in itself without the added challenge of how to make sure that information management and knowledge sharing are part of every new adaptation and mitigation programme/projects. On one hand, the mitigation is gradual and long term process however on other adaptation could be based on quick responses to the changing scenario. Adaptation requires effective and timely delivery and exchange of all supporting mechanism and meteorological information, thus successful adaptation to climate change necessitate the Information Communication Technologies (ICT) to disseminate the information in multifarious ways. ICT not only helps reduce the time lag but also systemically transform the information through networked governance. ICT can play a crucial role in supporting public outreach, building a database, creating awareness for the adaptation against the impact of climate change and thus secure our wellbeing and that of the ecosystem.

The University of Wellington recently released this publication on 'Achieving Sustainable E-Government in the Pacific Island States' (Rowena and Hassall editors), it's worth reading as it covers a wide range of areas including public finance management, climate change and disaster, education and development. The outcome of any climate change adaptation and mitigation should be securing our wellbeing.

Let's hear from you!

Climate change matters.

Our Pacific islands matter.



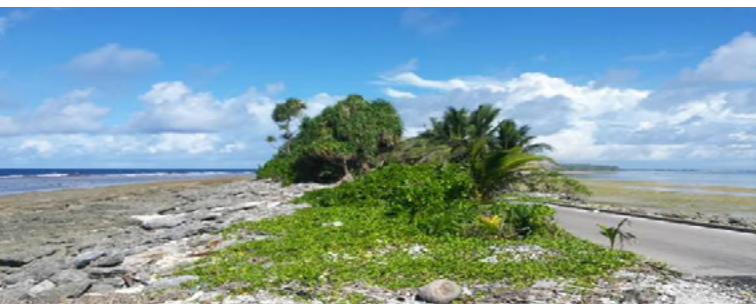
SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
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Solomon Islands progresses work on national climate change and disaster risk finance

Pacific island countries are working to address emerging issues around accessing and managing climate change and disaster risk finance with targeted approaches to the current challenges, including the development of human resources capacity and strengthening of country systems.

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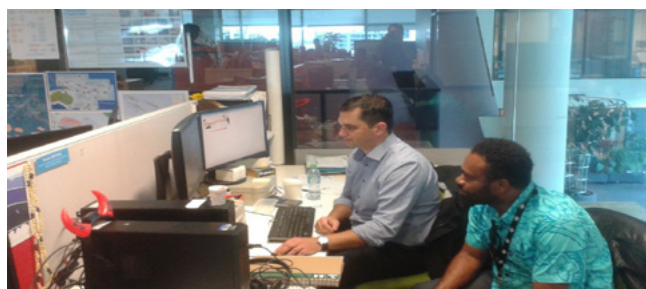


Progress and pending closure of Program for Pacific Climate Resilience (PPCR)

The work piloted under the two components of the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience: Pacific Regional Track (SPCR-PR) administered by ADB and implemented by SPREP comes to a close in June this year.

A mission was conducted in February and March to Kosrae State in FSM and a participatory evaluation mission to Tuvalu to obtain feedback on the mainstreaming tools spanning cost benefit analysis, monitoring and evaluation and central appraisal that are now in use.

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COSPPac Training in Melbourne

The climatology officer for the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) based at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has contributed to the development of the SCOPIC e-learning tool. The tool will help new and existing climate officers to use SCOPIC software to provide climate forecast in countries in the Pacific region.

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Technical Workshop on the GEF Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)

Several international agencies, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat joined forces to convene a technical workshop on the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) in Copenhagen, Denmark.

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Whale Poo and Climate Change on the agenda at Pacific whale conference

What do whale excrement and climate change have in common? More than you may think, according to a special report on Climate Change and Whales that was presented before the Whales in a Changing Ocean Conference in Tonga.

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Tanna Island, Vanuatu. Photo: Stuart Chape

Coastal and marine ecosystems critical for a resilient Pacific region in the face of climate change

Pacific island people rely heavily on ecosystem services and natural resources to support their national economies and community livelihoods. Today, these same ecosystems are under threat from climate change and other stressors such as population growth, natural disasters, deforestation, pollution, and unsustainable management of natural resources.

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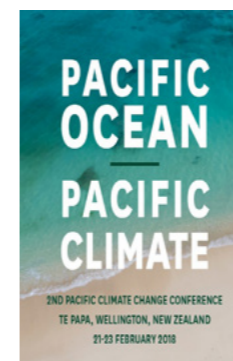


Participants of the Pacific iCLIM Project workshop held at the SPREP Headquarters in Apia. Photo: SPREP

Pacific iCLIM Project Discussions Underway

Discussions for the Pacific iCLIM Project, which aims to enhance regional capacity in climate change information knowledge management across the Pacific region, are currently underway with a workshop being held at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Headquarters in Apia from 6 – 7 April.

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First Announcement: Mark your diaries: 21-23 Feb 2018, Te Papa National Museum

Following the success of the First Pacific Climate Change Conference in 2016, we are pleased to announce planning for the 2018 conference is underway.

Climate change is already changing the nature of the weather and the seasonal climate, and raising sea levels across the globe.

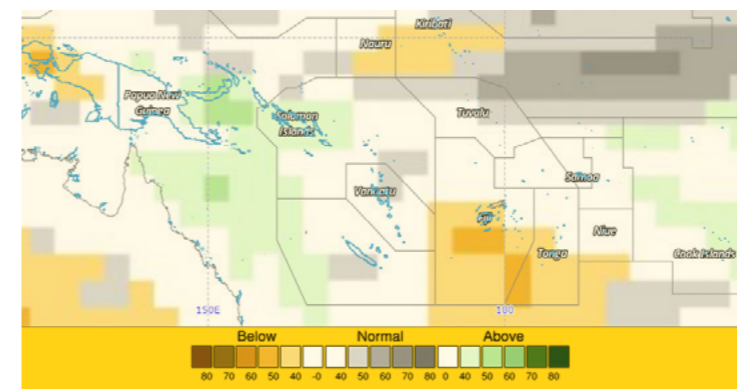
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The PEBACC and NZ PPOA projects team up to adapt to climate change in Taveuni, Fiji

Earlier this month the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC) project implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the New Zealand Pacific Partnership on Ocean Acidification (PPOA) project, along with experts from Watershed Professionals Network and The Water Institute, teamed up with the Fijian communities of Taveuni to develop adaptation strategies and projects.

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El Niño may develop in 2017

The tropical Pacific remains neutral with respect to the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO). However, there are signs that El Niño may develop in 2017. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology has issued an El Niño Watch.

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| PROJECTS/EVENTS | DETAILS | DATE | WHERE |
|---|--|---|---------------|
| Regional Communications Training for Climate Officers | Communications training for climate officers from 14 countries | 1-5 May | Nadi, Fiji |
| FRDP | Attend the FRDP Meeting | 2-3 May | Suva, Fiji |
| UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies Meetings | Continuation of negotiations on the implementation of the Paris Agreement as well as regular agenda items for the UNFCCC process | 4-5 May AOSIS 6-7 May Group of 77 and China 8-19 May UNFCCC | Bonn, Germany |
| PIMS and PRCS Mid Term Review | Review of the revised PIMS and PRCS by different stakeholders | 8-9 May | Nadi, Fiji |
| GIZ Finance and Admin Training | Compulsory training for all out posted Pacific staff | 8-12 May | Suva, Fiji |
| Samoa Climate Finance Forum | Organise the Samoa Climate Finance Forum | 9 May | Apia, Samoa |



To find out more about SPREP's Climate Change Division (CCD) please visit: www.sprep.org/Climate-Change/climate-change-about-us



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www.pacificclimatechange.net



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Our vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

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