

PACC TUVALU NEWSLETTER

1ST QUARTER 2011

PACIFIC ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN TUVALU



Climate Change Development Consultation



Director of Agriculture delivering a speech during the official opening of the World Water Day 2012; key participants were women.

World Water Day is a day internationally observed on the 22nd of March every year and of a great significance to the people of Tuvalu.

The theme for 2012, “Water and Food Security” clearly define the understanding that to be able to feed everybody we first need to secure water in sufficient quality and adequate quantity.

This is a vital theme for the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Project which spans across 14 different island countries in the region, as two of its key target areas address water resource management and food security.

For this year, visits to Primary Schools were being organised two days prior to the 22nd of March; whereby educational awareness were being presented. Students were taught the link between water and food security with added fun through quizzes and prizes.

For the main event, women were particularly targeted as they deal more with the process of preparing meals for each families. Organised were cooking sessions by the Agriculture Department followed by a cooking competition to demonstrate and help people understand the important link between Water and Food Security. To encourage everyone to be part of the event respective islands groups formed teams and competed, winners were then awarded prizes. The days session was live on air with assistance from the Tuvalu Media Corporation.

The program was made possible with the great contribution received from the Red Cross, Agriculture Department, Integrated Water Resource Management, TANGO, Taiwan Mission and the Tuvalu Media Department.

Special points of interest:

- Names of the winners during the World Water Day
- Climate Change Policy fully endorsed and approved by Cabinet
- Lofeagai water cistern now starting work with its foundation

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Climate Change Policy approved from Parliament



Mr Tapugao Falefou; Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs

National Climate Change Policy is now finally endorsed and is ready to be released to the public.

According to the Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Environment; Tapugao Falefou, the NCCP was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting in February and was printed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme in mid March.

It was presented to Parliament on the 28th of March and copies are now ready in both English and in our native

language (Tuvaluan).

This is a big achievement for the PACC project as consultations were held midyear last year with Technical Expertise from SPREP, SOPAC and division of SPC with the goal of achieving what now is finally at its final stage.

The NCCP is an umbrella document where the National Strategic Action Plan relates more on how implementations are being carried out to achieve goals for the Millennium Development Goal.

PACC Pilot Site—Lofeagai Water Cistern



Unforeseen problems that have contributed to the slow progress of the project

and the high tides they are having, the work is still going to be done but they will be building the water cistern by compartments instead of waiting to have it build all at the same time.

This way, they can also get to test the compartment by connecting pipes from the gutters to the compartment to check for any leaks so they can get to have it all plastered and mended while still working on the other compartments for the cistern.

On the 30th of March, the PACC project held a small gathering consisting of the Lofeagai community, PACC steering committee and the casual workers to witness the formal procedure of having to pour the first cement to the foundation of the cistern, a normal custom usually practiced in Tuvalu. *(pictured in page 3)*

The cistern altogether is a 25m x 15m with a depth of an estimated 1.75m.

This is seen by the Lofeagai community as a real benefit for them as it will generate cost savings for community members as it will displace purchased water in times of extreme drought

There was also a media coverage during the function provided by the Tuvalu Media Department.

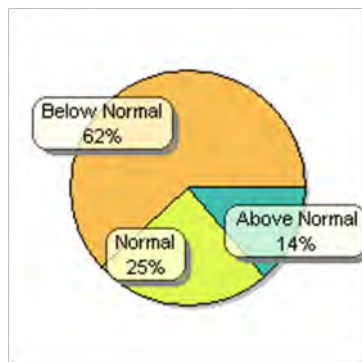
Work for the Tuvalu Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Pilot Site Project has been in progress for over two months now and to date, the work so far is progressing as planned.

According to Pilot Site Supervisor; Charles Leepo, things are running as planned but there have been some challenges that has slowed down its progress.

“Machinery equipments keep breaking down and for the past few days, we’ve been having quite heavy rainfall and experiencing high tides and therefore, all this have contributed to the slow progress of the project, these were unforeseen problems we were not prepared for”, says Mr Leepo.

So far, there has been a change of plan for the scheduled work plan already been set up, due to the loader always breaking down

Seasonal Climate Outlook for Tuvalu [Apr—Jun] (2012)



Outlook for Funafuti issued from the Meteorological Unit of Tuvalu.

The values are based upon the 3 month average value of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values from Dec-Feb (SOI Values =2.5), there is only a 14% chance of getting “above normal” rainfall for April through to the end of June for Funafuti.

The most like situation will be for “below normal” rainfall in

this period with the predicted probability being 62%.

The likelihood of “normal” conditions occurring is around 25%.

There is a higher probability that the below normal scenario will occur more frequent than the normal scenario.

Everyone therefore is hereby informed of this prediction for the next three month.

GIZ doing Cost Benefit Analysis for PACC Pilot Site Project



A cost benefit analysis (CBA) required under the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project is currently underway for the pilot sites in Tuvalu.

Ms Marita Manley of Marita Manley from GIZ, Simalua Enele from the Ministry of Finance and PACC coordinator Loia Tausi are collecting CBA data to construct a community cistern in Lofeagai community.

The CBA will examine the costs of constructing and maintaining the cistern and the benefits of the additional water supply that the community can now

access during the dry season. This water supply will displace purchases of desalinated water generating savings for community members and also government as water is currently being subsidised.

It should also be able to supply more water than it is currently assisting the communities during times of extreme water shortages.

Marita used the example of the PACC project cost-benefit analysis while on island to run a short training with the Ministry of Finance and Auditor General office staff to raise awareness about the CBA framework and how it can be applied on an actual case study.

Food for thought:

We must cut our coat according to our cloth, and adapt ourselves to changing circumstances

W R Inge

Formalities of pouring the first cement to the foundation



On the 30th of March, the PACC project held a small gathering consisting of the Lofeagai community, PACC steering committee and the casual workers to witness the formal procedure of having to pour the first cement to the foundation of the cistern, a normal custom usually practiced in Tuvalu.

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

A CEO throwing a party takes his executives on a tour of his opulent mansion. In the back of the property, the CEO has the largest swimming pool any of them has ever seen.

The huge pool, however, is filled with hungry alligators.

The CEO says to his executives "I think an executive should be measured by courage. Courage is what made me CEO. So this is my challenge to each of you: if anyone has enough courage to dive into the pool, swim through those alligators, and make it to the other side, I will give that person anything they desire. My job, my money, my house, anything!"

Everyone laughs at the outrageous offer and proceeds to follow the CEO on the tour of the



estate. Suddenly, they hear a loud splash. Everyone turns around and sees the CFO (Chief Financial Officer) in the pool, swimming for his life. He dodges the alligators left and right and makes it to the edge of the pool with seconds to spare. He pulls himself out just as a huge alligator snaps at his shoes.

The flabbergasted CEO approaches the CFO and says, "You are amazing. I've never seen anything like it in my life. You are brave beyond measure and anything I own is yours. Tell me what I can do for you."

The CFO, panting for breath, looks up and says, "You can tell me **WHO THE HELL PUSHED ME INTO THE POOL!**"

PACIFIC ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

PACC TUVALU



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Reports by Ms Loia Molipi

Interesting & Useful Facts about Water

- Roughly 70 % of an adult's body is made up of water.
- At birth, water accounts for approximately 80 % of an infant's body weight.
- A healthy person can drink about three gallons (48 cups) of water per day.
- By the time a person feels thirsty, his or her body has lost over 1 percent of its total water amount.
- The weight a person loses directly after intense physical activity is weight from water, not fat.

WINNERS!



Winners for the prompt quiz competition from Nauti Primary School were:

- 1st place: Viliame E Sopoaga (pictured above)
2nd place: Alesana A Seluka
3rd place: Abolina Taukave



Winners for the prompt quiz competition from SDA Primary School were:

- 1st place: Sapeta Penivao (pictured above)
2nd place: Kalepou Puti
3rd place: Pilitati Seti and Marika Ratu



Winners for the Cooking Competition :

- 1st place: Tamala Nielu & Angelina Sokotia from Vaitupu Island (pictured above)
2nd place: Puataunofo P and Lasita I from Nanumaga
3rd place: Fitalo F and Mamao M from Nui