

PACC TUVALU NEWSLETTER

1ST QUARTER 2010

PACIFIC ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN TUVALU



WELCOME NOTE



Ms Loia Molipi, PACC National Coordinator

Welcome to the first issue of the PACC Update. This newsletter will be published every quarter by the PACC

Project Management Unit working closely with the PACC Project Communication Team. This newsletter is intended to inform people of the PACC Projects initiatives, activities and development.

This issue will basically cover a little bit more on the PACC project and a bit on the IWRM project. Related water activities is also highlighted and likewise climate change related events. Also inside this issue, a seasonal outlook for Tuvalu for the next three months to come. A good guide for the people of Tuvalu to see how weather is going to be in the near future.

Special points of interest:

- Tuvalu rely primarily on rainwater
- Half the population of Tuvalu resides on the Capital Island pressurizing supply of fresh water
- Ground water sources are contaminated by impact of climate change through sea level rising

About PACC Tuvalu

The PACC Project is designed to promote climate change adaptation as a key pre-requisite to sustainable development in Pacific Island Countries. The PACC project objective therefore is to enhance the capacity of the participating countries to adapt to climate change, including climate variability, in key development sectors.

The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as its

implementing agency and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) as implementing partner.

The project is scheduled to be conducted from 2008 to 2012 but it actually started on the 17th September 2009. The PACC project will cover 13 Pacific islands countries and help develop three key areas that will build resilience to climate change in Pacific countries: food production and food security, coastal management and water resource management

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ROTA WATER TANKS TO ASSIST TUVALU



Rota Water Tanks

Rota-mould manufacturing plant has been in the country for a while under the AUSAID and European Union projects to manufacture 10,000 liter Rota tanks for each individual house hold. EU funding is currently extending the distribution to all outer islands. With an additional tank to each household greatly assisted the people in terms of increasing their storage capacity and it is one of the very immediate adaptation method that was adopted by the Government to address problems of prolong dry

spells as direct impact of climate change. National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) was established early this year and is another environment project that looks at building resilience in the coastal management but do also cover building resilience to climate change in the water sector but in selective islands. PWD currently works in improving water catchments and guttering for each individual households under the financial assistance of AusAID.

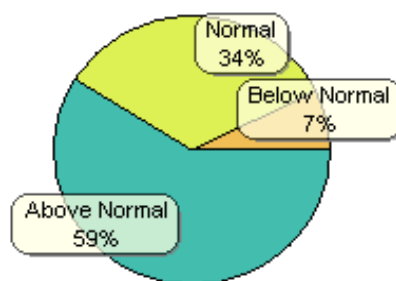
Cont'd...About PACC

Adaptation projects will be implemented nationally, and was selected after an intensive consultative process with the implementing agencies. At the sub-national level, pilot demonstration activities will deliver adaptation benefits in the form of practical experiences in the planning and implementation of response measures that reduce

vulnerability. These benefits will be integral for future replication and up-scaling, and also to identify larger-scale investment opportunities from multilateral banks supporting countries with climate change adaptation. The project will also foster regional collaboration on adaptation. Tuvalu have chosen the Water Resource Management as the main

thematic area that the PACC Project will focus on. The project will help build the resilience of the people of Tuvalu against climate change in the water sector. Running in parallel to the PACC project is the NAPA project which also builds the resilience of the people of Tuvalu against climate change but focused on Integrated Coastal Management.

Seasonal Climate Outlook for Tuvalu [May – July] (2010)



quality for human health and the environment.

The them was localised, “Clean Water for a Healthy Tuvalu”.

Tuvalu MET Office is the main office that oversees the climate outlook for the Tuvalu Group and currently data are collected from 4 station evenly distributed over the group.

These outlooks are based upon the average January - March values of "SOI Values" (Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values)

Outlook for Funafuti

Based upon the 3mth average value of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values from January to March (SOI Values=-

11.73), there is a good chance at 59% of getting "above-normal" rainfall for May through to the end of July for Funafuti.

The least likely situation is for "below-normal" rainfall in this period with the predicted probability being only 7%. The likelihood of normal conditions occurring is around 34%.

The chart on the right depicts the outlook for Funafuti

Funafuti expecting Above Normal rainfall.

Nanumea expecting Above Normal rainfall.

Niulakita expecting climatology condition

KING Tide Festival TUVALU - The tide is high

Tuvalu held its first 'King Tides Festival' in Funafuti, from the 25th of February to the 1st of March 2010. The festival was a joint effort by the Government and the people of Tuvalu to use the king tides season to promote its vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change particularly with sea-level rise. The rationale for having such a festival for the first of its kind in Tuvalu is to use the negative impacts of the king tides and turn it into a positive and entertaining event. The Permanent Secretary for Communications, Transport and Tourism, Mr. Enele Sopoaga highlighted that "The festival is not a



People flooded in the expo arena to witness the festival.

celebration of the King Tides itself but rather to spread awareness of climate change throughout Tuvalu and to the world at large." It was a successful event attracting journalists from abroad to witness the event. The event stretched out in a course of three days.

The event was officially closed by the Minister of Communications, Transport and Tourism, Mr. Taukelina Finikaso at the Vaiaku Lagi Hotel. Mr. Taukelina said, "I am happy to announce that the King Tides Festival will now be held as an annual event in the years to come." He gave special thanks to the Republic of China (Taiwan) Embassy of Tuvalu, Alofa Tuvalu, Tuvalu Overview, Tuvalu Red Cross Society, Taiwan ICDF, Environment Department and its project coordinators, nongovernment organisations and others who had contributed to make the event a huge success.

World Water Day 2010



Schools in Funafuti at the World Water Day celebration

Primary School students from Nauti Primary and Seventh Day Adventist Primary participated at a Quiz Competition

held on 22nd March, 2010 commemorating with the rest of the world the 'World Water Day' event. The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and the Integrated Water Resource Management project jointly organised a week long event raising awareness of the significance of water and its conservation to the younger generation of Tuvalu. The event focused on water, the natural resource and its vitality to life.

This year's theme, "Clean Water for a Healthy World", aimed to raise global awareness on the importance of water

Awareness programmes was conducted in all schools on the capital.

PACC National Coordinator, Ms Loia Molipi said, "The event's main focuses was on water, the natural resource most vital to life.

"It was a successful event and the both the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Project and the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Project are planning to sustain this event through out the lives of the two projects."

THE FALEVATIE ROAD SHOW

'Falevatie' is the local acronym for 'Compost Toilet' devised by the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Communication Committee, basically meaning a toilet that does not use water and is good for the people and the environment.

The IWRM Project with assistance from the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project and the NBSAP project demonstrated the Falevatie through a road show which took place on the 27th March 2010.

The event was a huge success as a number of interested people flocked by to scrutinize the Falevatie and ask questions on this new



The 'Falevatie' drew a crowd of community members during the road show.

innovation.

The road show also prepared games for children to enjoy with giveaways.

The main idea behind the road show was to introduce new strategies of saving water, saving our fragile environment and improving Tuvalu's public health system.

The road show traveled through out the Fogafale Island gaining a lot of interest from people to convert to compost toilet for a better future for Tuvalu.

It was really a tremendous effort in changing the negative perception of the people of Tuvalu about Compost toilets.

PACIFIC ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

PACC TUVALU



CONTACT DETAILS:
Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change
Water Sector
Public Works Department
Ministry of Works, Water and Energy
Phone: 00 688 20 537
E-mail: loia_tausi@yahoo.com
lmolipi@gov.tv
puavasa@gmail.com
Website: www.sprep.org/climate_change/pacc
www.eviro.gov.tv/climate_change/pacc
*Reports by Ms Loia Molipi ; Editing and Layout by Ms Setaita Tavanabola
SPREP/PACC Communications Coordinator*

WATER FACTS

- ✦ Up to one-third of global disease is caused by environmental factors, such as polluted water and air, according to estimates by United Nations agencies and the World Health Organization.
- ✦ Just over a billion people still do not have access to safe water. However, good progress has been made since 1990: about the same number of people have gained access to safe water, improving the global total who have access from 77 per cent to 83 per cent
- ✦ Access to sanitation is worse. An estimated 2.6 billion people — 42 per cent of the world's population — do not have access to improved sanitation facilities (household connection to a clean water supply).

The PACC and IWRM Projects in Tuvalu



Outer Islands participants attending an awareness training jointly coordinated by The PACC project and the IWRM project on Funafuti.

On the 15th September 2009, Mrs. Loia Molipi was successfully recruited as the National Coordinator for the PACC Project in Tuvalu.

The project was housed under the Public Works Department and works alongside the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Project. The IWRM project is currently run by two full-time staff

while the PACC project is run by Mrs Molipi alone.

With the existence of the IWRM's Project who is maneuvering along the same environmental area, the PACC was able to join hands with the former and work towards achieving the same ultimate goal, that is to have the people of Tuvalu well prepared for any negative impacts of climate

change that is predicted to occur in Tuvalu.

Mrs. Molipi was greatly assisted during the PACC Inception Workshop by the PACC Regional Manager Mr Taito Nakalevu.

It is hoped that all of PACC's activities would be smoothly run after the workshop.