



**SPREP**  
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional  
Environment Programme

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**DEVELOPING COUNTRY EXPERIENCE IN PREPARING  
ADAPTATION PROJECTS AND ACCESSING ADAPTATION FUNDS**

# Pacific Island Experiences in Accessing Adaptation Funds



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC

**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL  
FORUM**

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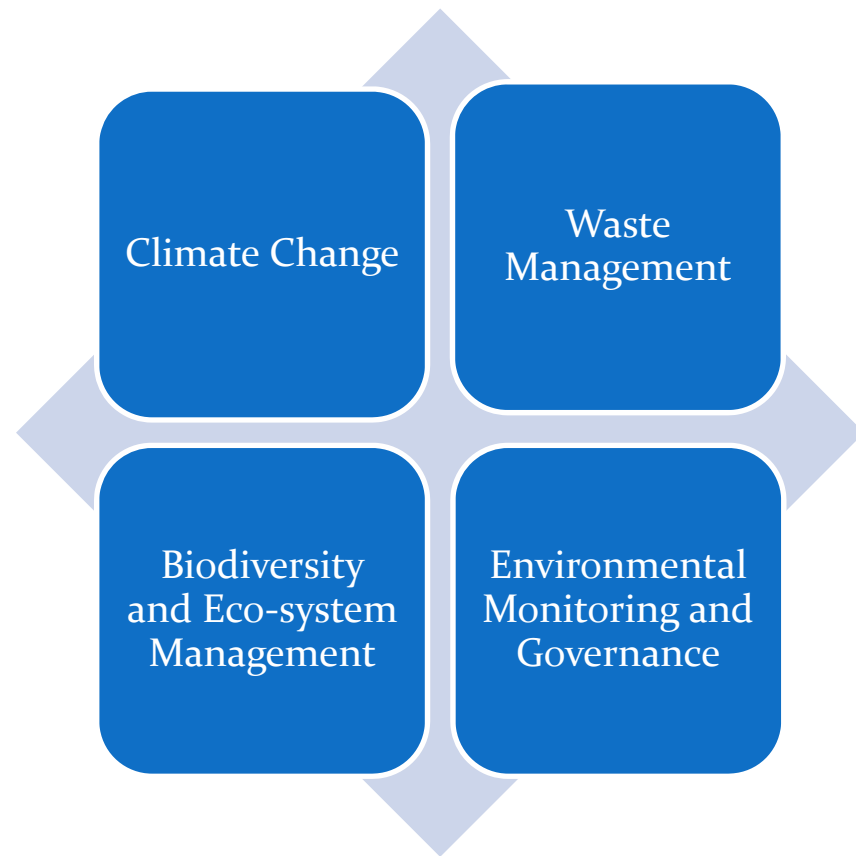


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# SPREP

- Mandate: “to **promote cooperation in the Pacific** region and provide assistance in order to **protect and improve its environment** and to ensure **sustainable development** for present and future generations”





# SPREP's Climate Programme

## Science and Policy

- UN climate negotiations
- Knowledge management
- Global Ocean Observation Systems
- Resource Economics

## Adaptation

- Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (GEF/UNDP, Australia/UNITAR)
- Joint National Action Plans (CC and DRR (Australia aid))

## Mitigation

- Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (GEF funded/UNDP)



# Common Challenges of our members

- Funding landscape is confusing – i.e. Fast Start Funding
- Donor priorities, eligibility and reporting requirements differ.
- Stringent requirements to become National Implementation Agencies
- Lack of national capacity and time commitment to develop proposals
- Co-financing and additionality requirements



# SPREP's role

- Provides regional backstopping to national governments to implement regional projects in partnership with donors, partner agencies and national governments
  - Application for Adaptation Fund MIE Status
  - Proposal Development
  - Project management, reporting and M&E Support
  - Technical back-stopping for implementation



# Case Study of a Regional Project: Pacific Islands Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC)

Funded through GEF Special Climate Change Fund,  
UNITAR and Government of Australia

Implemented in partnership with UNDP and other  
agencies

Implemented across 13 Pacific Countries and 1 Territory

Focuses on **Water, Food Security and Coastal  
Management**







# Project Successes (to date)

## **Mainstreaming:**

- National Climate Change Policies developed in at least four countries
- Sector policies and regulations passed on Water, & infrastructure development

## **Demonstration Projects:**

- Pilot Site Vulnerability Assessments carried out, taking into consideration socio-economic factors.
- Samoa Integrated Coastal Protection Mechanism – the seawall and coastal replanting initiative carried out by the project and the communities

## **Communications and Capacity Building**

- Strengthening of national capacity in PACC countries – project management, technical assessments, communications etc



# Lessons learned: Advantages

- Lowers transaction costs (to the donor)
- Targets a wider group of beneficiaries/countries
- Sharing of scarce resources/capacity
- Allows for regional technical backstopping through pooling of regional experts – from a number of agencies
- Encourages cross-country learning/sharing of common solutions and experiences



## Lessons learned: Disadvantages

- One size wont fit all – each country is different
- Higher transaction costs to the project at the regional (additional management costs, high travel/communications costs)
- Set up of projects can mean that region as a whole only progresses as fast as the slowest country
- Complex reporting with multiple exchange rates and transactions



# Recommendations – for regional projects

- Project Design is crucial
- Include all stakeholders up front.
- Include training on reporting and M&E requirements up front, as part of inception phase
- Factor in higher management costs (travel, communications, double layer of charges)
- Allow for flexibility in terms of country progress – don't make progress of one depend on another
- Allow for regular project evaluations, site visits
- Build in adequate time/resources for on-going project support
- Build in resources for outside capacity