

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ROLE OF SPC



Training Workshop on Mainstreaming Climate
Change in National Policies and Budgets

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Support for CC mainstreaming, institutional &
capacity building in the Pacific

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Presentation Outline



- Identify key climate change issues for the Pacific region
- Provide an overview of current SPC climate change activities
- Outline future role of SPC in assisting the PICTs to respond to climate change

Climate Change Impacts

- Climate change is a major challenge for the PICTs
 - They face significant socioeconomic, political and cultural impacts from climate change
 - CC is a broad-based development issue cutting across all sectors
- **Key impacts, examples include:**
 - Food and water security;
 - Extreme weather events: Increased risks to livelihoods and economic infrastructure
 - Health impacts
 - Coastal zones and
 - sea level rise.



Climate Change and SPC

- SPC activities cover most of the sectors that are vulnerable to climate change.
- These sectors include:
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, transport, communication, energy, water, disaster management, infrastructure, health
- Other sectors SPC works in include –
 - Human development, gender, culture, youth, education, human rights, statistics and geoscience

Important that climate change is mainstreamed into all programmes



Climate Change and SPC

- SPC is well placed to assist PICTs to identify and implement CC response measures
 - Large pool of specialist professionals
 - Capacity to undertake research and analysis on CC
- A range of CC activities already underway in many sectors SPC works in



Food Security

- Climate Change presents a major challenge to food security
 - Agricultural yields and production are adversely impacted, especially subsistence crops
 - Pacific fisheries production also face adverse impacts
 - Extreme weather events
- SPC continues to implement a range of activities to respond to these emerging issues
 - Pacific Fisheries Vulnerability Study
 - Climate Ready Crop Collection
 - Increasing resilience of farming systems





Water Security

- Climate change affects the availability and distribution of water across the Pacific
 - Maintaining adequate water supplies and quality has become an important adaptation focus
- SPC, through the SOPAC Division, is already assisting PICTs in CC/water areas which will grow in the next few years with a focus on
 - Capacity building to conduct water resources assessments & monitoring as a key component of sustainable resources management and coping with climate change
 - Capacity development to enhance the application of climate information to cope with climate variability and change



Extreme Weather Events

- Climate change is projected to increase PICT exposure to extreme weather events (cyclones, floods, droughts, storm surges)
- Huge implications for livelihoods and economies, especially economic infrastructure
 - Managing these risks have become an important component of PICT adaptation responses
- SPC coordinated Disaster Risk Management activities help PICTs manage risk, reduce vulnerability and build emergency relief capabilities



Infrastructure and Energy

- Climate change impacts on critical economic infrastructure (transport, energy systems, buildings)
 - enhancing infrastructure climate resilience and reducing exposure risk is an important focus
- SPC assists PICTS to identify infrastructure risks and response options
- SPC Energy programme makes an important contribution to reducing ghg emissions
 - Renewable energy and energy efficiency
 - Need to also address energy sector climate resilience

Other Key Activities

- SPC is also active in several other areas
- Forestry sector
 - Assist members to develop national forest inventories & inst. Capacities to access the emerging Reduced Emissions from Deforestation & forest Degradation (REDD) carbon credit markets (Fiji, Vanuatu, S. Islands) and other forest management activities
- Coastal zone management
- The Human Dimension
 - Gender and climate
 - Youth and Community Engagement
- Health – disease surveillance



Future Climate Change Engagement

- Development of a ‘whole of organisation CC Engagement Strategy’ that will focus on
 - Increased technical, scientific and policy support to members
 - Enhanced partnerships with other key regional and international stakeholders assisting the region on climate change
 - Strengthening the capacity of SPC’s technical and scientific services to support member’s climate change responses in sectors SPC works in



Future Climate Change Engagement

- SPC plans to build on existing CC assistance already being provided to the PICTs
 - necessary to ensure that SPC can help meet the CC assistance needs of member PICTs
- CC technical assistance to the PICTs will expand in the next few years via programmes funded by Australia, EU, Germany and United States
- SPC is undertaking internal CC awareness and engagement activities
- Working in partnership with development partners and CROP agencies on CC issues



Mainstreaming – what it could be

Outcome	Resilience of people and resources, systems and infrastructure that support livelihood
Implementing / Achieving outcome	Government Sectors, CS/NGOs/FBOs; Reg. / Internat. Stakeholders; Development partners
Overarching Framework to achieve outcome	NAPAs or Equivalent that is informed by ALL Issues, sectors
Managing the outcome	CEOs of sectors / ministries involved in CC, and national agencies working in CC related matters
Driving the outcome	Political leadership ad Commitment Cabinet Committee comprising all ministers of ministries whose work involve climate change issues

Major challenges

- Needs a new thinking paradigm – a mind-shift that mainstreams climate change considerations in all development planning at national / regional level
- Requires visionary political leadership and committed executive arm supported by secure level of resources
- Short-term / project funding approach have value but do not provide long-term sustainability
- Invest in longer-term outcomes through programmatic / budget support mechanisms

Conclusion

- SPC's approach to Climate Change is based on "*many partners, one team*". SPC is only one of many players.
- We are committed to provide increased levels of support to PICTs across the full range of sectors in which SPC works.
- We are also committed to be part of "*a well coordinated regional response*" mechanism supporting our members to address climate change



Thank you for your attention

