



Climate Security in the Pacific Project

Project Board Meeting Minutes

16 November 2021

Date: 16th November 2021

Time: 10 am – 12.30 pm

Venue: Virtual Zoom Meeting / Lalaga Room, Level 7, Kadavu House, UNDP Pacific Office (Suva, Fiji)

Co-Chairs:

- UN Resident Coordinators
 - Fiji - Mr. Sanaka Samarasingha
 - Micronesia - Mr. Jaap Van Hierden
- UNDP - Resident Representative – Mr. Levan Bouadze
- IOM - Chief of Mission Micronesia – Mr. Salvatore Sortino
- UN Peacebuilding Fund – Chief – Mr. Brian Williams

Attendance:

Title	Names	Role	Organization
Mr.	Levan Bouadze	Resident Representative	UNDP
Mr.	Kevin Petrini	Deputy Resident Representative and Country Manager (Micronesia)	UNDP
Ms.	Yemesrach Workie	Deputy Resident Representative	UNDP
Mr.	Salvatore Sortino	Chief of Mission - Micronesia	IOM
Mr.	Brian Williams	Chief of Peace Building Fund	PBF
Mr.	Sanaka Samarasingha	Resident Coordinator (Fiji)	UN
Mr.	Jaap Van Hierden	Resident Coordinator (Micronesia)	UN
Mr.	Warwick Harris	Deputy Director - Climate Change Directorate	Gov. of RMI
Ms.	Andrea Muller	Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations	Gov. of RMI
Ms.	Angela Saunders	Head of IOM Sub Office, Marshall Islands	IOM
Ms	Sonja Bachmann	Team leader on Northeast Asia and the Pacific	DPPA APD
Ms	Stephanie Magalage	Associate Programme Officer	PBSO
Mr.	Mohammed Mozeem	Partnerships & Development Finance Specialist (Fiji)	UN
Mr.	Terio Koronawa	Acting Regional Security Advisor	PIFS
Mr.	Michael Kow	Security Advisor	PIFS
Mr.	Tomwa Tehumu	Project Country Coordinator – Kiribati	UNDP
Mr.	Choi Yeeting	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of President – Kiribati
Mr.	Saamu Tui	Project Country Coordinator – Tuvalu	UNDP
Mr.	Niuatui Niuatui	Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Finance	Gov. of Tuvalu
Mr.	Justin Shone	RSD Team Leader	UNDP



Ms.	Emma Sale	Project Manager a.i.	UNDP
Mr.	Giulio Fabris	Comms and Advocacy Specialist	UNDP
Mr.	Vinay Singh	Finance and Admin	UNDP
Mr.	Sharad Neupane	RBAP COSQA Desk Officer	UNDP
Ms.	Merewalesi Laveti	M&E Analyst	UNDP
Mr.	Magnus Prasaad	Information & Technology Management (ITM)	UNDP

Note Takers: Giulio Fabris / Vinay Singh

1. Welcome and opening remarks by Co-Chairs

- UNDP Country Manager and Deputy Resident Representative for the North Pacific, Kevin Petrini welcomed the participants to the first Project Board meeting for the Climate Security in the Pacific Project. The floor was handed over to the Co-Chairs.
- Co-Chairs highlighted the importance of the initiative at the regional and global level.
- The key points highlighted by the UN Resident Coordinator in Fiji Mr. Sanaka Samarasinha were:
 - The project is an outcome of the Boe Declaration and was designed after the visit of the UN Secretary-General in 2019.
 - The project has a catalytic nature and its implementation needs support from all stakeholders to move forward.
 - Given its importance, the project needs to give support to all beneficiaries at the advisory, policy and technical level.
- The UN Resident Coordinator in Micronesia Mr. Jaap Van Hierden pointed out how the project is critical in the Pacific context, as climate change represents an existential security threat to low-lying atoll nations.
- The UNDP Resident Representative Mr. Levan Bouadze underlined the importance of the security aspects of climate change in the Pacific context and the commitment required to meet the expectations, despite the challenges related with COVID19.
- The IOM Chief of Mission Micronesia Mr. Salvatore Sortino pointed out the strong ambition of the initiative and its focus on inclusiveness at the local level. He also highlighted the integration of the project with other initiatives in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.
- The Chief of the UN Peace Building Fund Mr. Brian Williams mentioned that the initiative is the PBF first project on climate security in the region. He mentioned that project has a catalytic nature and should set an example for more initiatives at the regional level. He also pointed out the importance of women and youth inclusion, as well as the catalytic effect not only in terms of resources but also on policy changes.
- The Country Government Representatives from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kiribati and Tuvalu gave their opening remarks, underlining the importance of the project successful implementation at the national level.
 - The Deputy Director of the Climate Change Directorate from the Republic of the Marshall Islands Mr. Warwick Harris expressed his appreciation to the UN Secretary General and the Peace Building Fund and highlighted the vital role of the project in the development of the National Adaptation Plan.
 - The Senior Policy Advisor from the Office of President of Kiribati Mr. Choi Yeeting pointed out the link between climate change and security in the Kiribati context, mentioning that the importance of the project and focusing on food security and issues over boundaries due to sea level rise.



- The Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Finance from Tuvalu Mr. Niuatui Niuatui emphasized the key role of the project in addressing critical climate-related security issues in Tuvalu focusing on the inclusiveness of vulnerable groups such as women, youth and persons with disabilities.
- Introduction of the agenda of the day.

Agenda:

- *Role of Project Board (presented by Emma Sale)*
- *Presentation on overall progress (presented by Emma Sale, Giulio Fabris and Vinay Singh)*
- *Country presentations (Kiribati – Tomwa Tehumu, RMI – Angela Saunders, Tuvalu – Saamu Tui)*
- *Proposed Annual Workplan 2022 (presented by Emma Sale)*
- *Discussion and decision points*

Topic	Highlights
1. Role of Project Board <i>Presented by Emma Sale (Project manager a.i.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Board Structure – overview of the Project Board Organizational Structure. • Role of the Project Board – responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions in accordance with standards that ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. It is the highest level of decision-making authority and endorse pilots.
2. Presentation of overall progress <i>Presented by Emma Sale ((Project manager a.i.), Giulio Fabris (Comms Specialist) and Vinay Singh (Finance Admin)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milestones and regional and country level achievements (including communications) - please refer to PPT • Project progress by outcome – please refer to the PPT • 2021 Challenges – please refer to the PPT • Achievements for 4th Quarter 2021– please refer to the PPT • Financial Status – budget allocation, COPB target 2021, project delivery status, milestones
3. Country Presentations <i>Presented by Tomwa Tehumu (Project Coordinator – Kiribati), Angela Saunders (Head of IOM Sub-Office – RMI) and Saamu Tui (Project Coordinator – Tuvalu)</i>	Project implementation at the national level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiribati <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outcome of consultations (more than 200 people, engagement with KNEG) - Profiles of selected islands (Tamana and Marakei) - Please refer to PPT • RMI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7 consultation sites in vulnerable islands - Current activities (consultations and inclusive approach) - Please refer to PPT • Tuvalu <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community consultations and engagement with Technical Advisory Committee - Pilot initiative site (Nui Island) proposed pilot initiatives - Please refer to PPT
4. Proposed Annual Workplan 2022 <i>Presented by Emma Sale (Project Manager a.i.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of outputs, activities and associated budgets for 2022 (2,443,749 USD). • AWP presented was for the full calendar year 2022. • Potential new initiatives for regional cooperation in 2022.

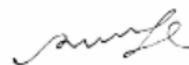


<p>5. Decision points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No-cost extension (operational and non-operational). • Proposed demonstration activities and profiles in the three countries. • Proposed construction activities • Annual Workplan 2022.
<p>6. Discussion main points <i>Discussion facilitated by UNDP Resident Representative Mr. Levan Bouadze</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Board agreed for requesting a no-cost extension for 6 months (July – December 2022) in accordance with the PBF guidelines (apply in April/ May 2022) two to three months before the current end date of the project in July. • The Project Board approved the proposed Annual Workplan for 2022, agreed to have only one terminal evaluation and welcomed the list of potential new initiatives for regional cooperation in 2022. • The proposed construction pilot initiative in Kiribati was discussed during the meeting. While acknowledging the interest from Kiribati in undertaking construction works, the project board executive (UNRCOs and UNDP) raised serious concerns on encouraging such an initiative, considering the tight timeframe and the issues and risks associated with construction activities. It was also understood that undertaking infrastructure/ construction works was not in the spirit or intention of the project design and associated pilot projects. Such considerations would also trigger changes to the project document and risk rating of the project on top of the need for further extension to the project duration. This was supported by the representative from PBSO. Therefore, the Project Board did not endorse the request under the pilot project for construction works in Kiribati. The Representative of the Kiribati Government and UNDP agreed on working together to find alternative solutions for the pilot initiatives.
<p>7. Conclusion</p> <p>The Project Board Meeting was well received by all the participants, who had the opportunity to assess the project results, discuss and make decisions on the No Cost Extension, the terminal evaluation and way forward for 2022.</p>	
<p>8. Attachments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PPT Presentations. - Zoom Meeting recorded session (Passcode: q1JC8u=F). 	

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 Signature:C94F5724G8A4BE...
 Name: Emma Sale
 Title: Project Manager – Climate Security Project

Approved By



Levan Bouadze

Resident Representative

14 - Dec 2021