



Climate Security in the Pacific Project

2nd Project Board Meeting Minutes

26 May 2022

Date: 26 th May 2022	Time: 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
Venue: Virtual Zoom Meeting / Lalaga Room, Level 7, Kadavu House, UNDP Pacific Office (Suva, Fiji)	Co-Chairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP – Deputy Resident Representative – Ms. Yemesrach Workie • IOM - Chief of Mission Micronesia – Mr. Salvatore Sortino

Attendance:

Title	Names	Role	Organization
Mr.	Agus Wandu	Peace & Development Advisor	UNRCO Fiji
Ms.	Kay Schwendinger	Head of Resident Coordinator's Office	UNRCO Micronesia
Ms.	Yemesrach Workie	Deputy Resident Representative	UNDP
Mr.	Salvatore Sortino	Chief of Mission - Micronesia	IOM
Ms.	H.E. Amatlain E. Kabua	Ambassador of Republic of Marshall Islands, Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations	Gov. of RMI
Mr.	Asau Leama	Assistant Secretary of Ministry of Finance	Gov. of Tuvalu
Ms.	Ianeta Iorimo	Assistant Secretary of Office of the President	Gov. of Kiribati
Mr.	Michael Crowe	Security Advisor	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Ms.	Andrea Muller	Deputy Permanent Representative, RMI	Gov. of RMI
Ms.	Pepetua Latasi	Director, Climate Change Department	Gov. of Tuvalu
Ms.	Sonja Bachmann	Team Leader on Northeast Asia and the Pacific	DPPA APD
Mr.	Justin Shone	Team Leader, RSD	UNDP
Ms.	Angela Saunders	Head of IOM Sub Office, Marshall Islands	IOM
Ms.	Winifereti Nainoca	Deputy Team Leader, RSD	UNDP
Ms.	Emma Sale	Acting Project Manager, Climate Security Project, RSD	UNDP
Ms.	Serena Arcone	Climate Security Specialist, Climate Security Project, RSD	UNDP
Mr.	Kirata Tekiera	Climate Change Coordinator, Office of the President	Gov. of Kiribati
Ms.	Yoshiko Yamaguchi	Deputy Project Manager, Climate Security Project, RMI	IOM - RMI
Mr.	Saamu Tui	Deputy Project Manager, Climate Security Project, Tuvalu	UNDP
Mr.	Akuila Sovanivalu	Peace & Development Officer	UNRCO Fiji
Mr.	Giulio Fabris	Communications & Advocacy Specialist	UNDP
Mr.	Vinay Singh	Finance and Administration Associate	UNDP
Mr.	Andrew	Intern	UNRCO Fiji
Ms.	Sheenal Prasad	Information & Technology Management (ITM) Officer	UNDP



Note Takers: Emma Sale, Serena Arcone, Vinay Singh

1. Welcome and opening remarks by officials of the UN, Government, and regional organization

- UNDP Acting Project Manager, Emma Sale welcomed the participants to the second Project Board meeting for the Climate Security in the Pacific Project. The floor was handed over to the Chair.
- The Chair highlighted the project as an important initiative for the Pacific and the global community.
- The key points highlighted by the **Peace and Development Advisor of the UN Resident Coordination Office in Fiji, Mr. Agus Wandu**, were: the Pacific is the second region (apart from Africa) to receive support for the flagship project and is demonstrating good coordination with governments, regional organizations, and the UN agencies; opportunities arise for engaging women and youth, sustaining the momentum and future expansion, linking within the UN entity, the government programming, and the regional agenda; profiling of climate security risks could be implemented through national and regional action plans, which could be energized by high level forums; concrete support to atoll nations could be in the form of institutionalizing the Coalition of Atoll Nations on Climate Change (CANCC); the recently established Pacific Climate Security Network (PCSN) of Experts could be further supported to provide direction on climate security for the region; and climate-sensitive mediation requires support, of which the first training of its type will be done through the project.
- The **Head of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Micronesia, Ms. Kay Schwendinger**, commended the team for a successful virtual mission by the Peacebuilding Fund donor and highlighted forward-looking aspects including: showcasing concrete results (now that the concept has been proven) that demonstrate to donor community the catalytic effects of the project, and which donors we can attract to move this forward and broaden it out beyond atoll nations; linking with the private sector (via the SDG forum, global COMPAC); scaling-up project activities (per ECOSOC where everything needs to be big and we cannot be doing small pilots); strengthening CANCC partnerships; building climate security fundamentally across the board; and showing how the climate security work is about real investments.
- The **UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Ms. Yemesrach Workie**, underlined the importance of the security aspects of climate change in the Pacific context, the achievements made since the 1st Project Board meeting despite the challenges related with COVID-19, and the commitment required to successfully complete the project including support for a no-cost extension.
- The **IOM Chief of Mission Micronesia, Mr. Salvatore Sortino**, emphasized supporting the systematic inclusion of human mobility, through gathering evidence and data from communities including youth and women. He also highlighted the importance of integration with other initiatives in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and mentioned the project's pilot initiative for addressing loss of land and food insecurity in a displaced community.
- The **Country Government Representatives from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kiribati and Tuvalu** gave their opening remarks, outlining the grave realities of facing daily challenges of climate change underlining the importance of obtaining the right support from donors and development partners.
 - The **Ambassador of the Republic of Marshall Islands, Ms. H.E Amatlain Kabua**, recognized the importance of reviewing how the project has sought to take difficult discussions down to the local community level recalling how since 2007 the Pacific islands has been vocal and relentless in



bringing the climate security nexus to the global spotlight and directly into multilateral security architecture including at the UN Security Council, and suggested that the project should also be building resilience across the board for understanding gaps in inventories, addressing island-level security issues, share outputs of this projects in the traditional security base setting, and integrating climate security into national security policies.

- The **Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Finance from Tuvalu, Mr. Asau Leuma**, acknowledged the tremendous and inclusive work undertaken in Tuvalu so far with strong linkages to their national development plan, and highlighted that food insecurity is the main issue for Tuvalu – people have been forced to leave their homes and relocate due to severe coastal erosion causing land disputes, and acknowledged that climate resilient farming will also help overcome conflict over land and natural resources in Tuvalu.
- The **Acting Secretary of the Office of the President from Kiribati, Ms. Ianeta Iororimo**, re-affirmed that Kiribati recognizes the significant support of the PBF, emphasized that climate change is a daily threat in Kiribati that will last for generations to come, stressed that food security is the main issue for Kiribati and vulnerable groups are being prioritized through the project pilot initiatives on fisheries and agriculture, and suggested that they have the capacity to build capacity in the food security sector, with the right support believe they can implement and complete the pilot initiatives.
- The **Security Advisor from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Mr. Michael Crowe**, appreciated the close co-operation between PIFS and UNDP for the regional support together with IOM (especially Serena and Tim), highlighted that the sub-committee on regional security work is interested in engaging with climate security discussions, suggested that the launch of the regional assessment framework can be done through PIFS' existing processes and maximize on its convening power, suggested that climate security champions are nominated from each atoll nations to be voice at COP-27, and supported building a case for doing more on climate security and at scale.
- Introduction of the agenda of the day.

Agenda:

- *1st Project Board Meeting Minutes (presented by Ms. Yemesrach Workie)*
- *Overall progress and achievements (presented by - Emma Sale, Giulio Fabris, Vinay Singh)*
- *Country progress and achievements (presented by Angela Saunders, RMI; Kirata Tekiera, Kiribati; and Saamu Tui, Tuvalu)*
- *Regional support (presented by Serena Arcone and Tim Westbury)*
- *Areas for strategic intervention (presented by Emma Sale)*
- *Ideas for addressing climate security beyond the project (presented by Serena Arcone, and Angela Saunders)*
- *Discussion and decision points*

Topic	Highlights
1. <i>1st Project Board Meeting Minutes</i>	The meeting agreed to: (i) requesting a no-cost extension for 6 months (July-December 2022) in accordance with the PBF guidelines (apply in April/May 2022); (ii) approved the proposed Annual Work Plan for 2022, agreed to have only one terminal evaluation and welcomed the list of potential new initiatives for regional cooperation in 2022; and (iii) while it did not endorse the request under the pilot initiative for construction works in Kiribati, follow-up discussions were held with UNDP to find alternative solutions for the pilot initiative in the commerce sector.
2. <i>Overall progress and achievements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress by outcome – Activity completion rates are low, with outcomes 1 and 2 recording 20% and 22% respectively, while none is recorded for outcome



<p>(Please refer to power-point presentation)</p>	<p>3. Of the total 42 activities: 10 are complete, 21 are work-in-progress, 11 are planned for the no cost extension period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key achievements – consultations, awareness, PCSN, co-operation with PIFS, visibility, advocacy, climate security risk assessments. • Ongoing priorities – policy and advocacy support, community-based intervention through pilot initiatives, capacity building on climate security mediation, support to regional actors and CANCC, strategic dialogue, communication, and advocacy. • Updates on communications – products (articles, blogs, videos, podcasts, merchandize, banners, posters, infographics, briefing notes), focus for 2022, events (CANCC roundtable, climate security risk assessment workshops, development partners’ dialogue), advocacy from ASEAN and learning from the Pacific on policy approaches. • Financial status – 51% delivery of Tranche 1 (less than recommended 75% to qualify for Tranche 2): where 78% are actual expenses while 22% are commitments, 36% overall delivery with ~US\$2m to spend from June 2022 to February 2023 (UNDP and IOM are yet to spend ~US\$1.7m and ~US\$0.3m respectively).
<p>3. Country progress and achievements</p> <p>(Please refer to power-point presentation)</p>	<p>Project implementation at the national level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Republic of Marshall Islands – 36 consultations conducted; 522 people from 15 communities took part in awareness-raising events; social and emotional learning workshops conducted; 51 respondents to baseline survey (41% female); identified risk assessment pathways include loss of land and land conflicts, food, and water insecurity, challenges to blue economy, mobility, exposure to natural hazards, and territory, maritime boundaries, and statehood; pilot initiative on vertical aeroponic gardens will benefit 352 people (52% female) and address conflicts linked to food scarcity due to climate change. • Kiribati – More than 7 consultations conducted, reaching 200 people (44.5% female); 166 respondents to baseline survey; identified risk assessment pathways include loss of land, food, and water insecurity, challenges to blue economy, mobility, exposure to natural hazards, and territory, maritime boundaries, and statehood; pilot initiative on upgrading fishponds and agricultural nurseries will benefit 3,792 people (51% female) and address conflicts over natural resources. • Tuvalu – 13 consultations conducted reaching 510 people (54% female) including youth and people living with disabilities; engaging local NGOs to execute activities; 63 respondents to baseline survey (53% female); identified risk assessment pathways include loss of land, food, and water insecurity, challenges to blue economy, mobility, exposure to natural hazards, and territory, maritime boundaries, and statehood; pilot initiative on agricultural food cube gardening will benefit 494 people (50% female) and prevent claims over land threatening social cohesion.
<p>4. Regional support</p> <p>(Please refer to power-point presentation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional climate security assessment framework – contextualizes methodologies and builds on existing knowledge, evidence, and experience. • Endorsement – through the Forum Sub-committee on Regional Security. • Identified risk assessment pathways - loss of land, food, and water insecurity, challenges to blue economy, mobility, exposure to natural hazards, and territory, maritime boundaries, and statehood. • PCSN – Over 20 expert members from academia, regional organizations, think tanks, CSOs, and UN entities; a productive forum working towards a common understanding and entry points for joint advocacy.



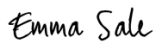
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Dialogue – planned for early August, to review initial findings of the regional assessment framework, deep dive assessments, and guide next steps for national implementation and approaches. • Deep Dive – focusing on gender and climate security, and limits to adaptation and impact to climate security.
<p>5. Areas for strategic intervention</p> <p>(Please refer to power-point presentation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project no-cost extension – support required from RMI, Kiribati, and UN agencies via endorsements of the revised project document and budget. • Embedding climate security into policies and budgets – support required for RMI and Kiribati to commence the consultancy work. • CANCC Support – response to offer of support required from RMI. • Mediation training – support for participating and endorsement of output. • Risk assessments – support for endorsing the country profiles and regional assessment framework. • Deep Dive – support for the assessments and endorsement of output. • Development Partner’s Dialogue – support for participating.
<p>6. Ideas for addressing climate security beyond the project</p> <p>(Please refer to power-point presentation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening policy work and support operationalization – expansion, institutionalization (CANCC), policy and strategies, science and decision-making, financing. • Regional support – dedicated capacity, securing sovereignty and territorial integrity, sector-specific assessments, sensitizing groups. • Advocacy – unified voice and global recognition as a security risk. • Supporting community climate security – localized solutions, conflict resolution mechanisms. • Capacity strengthening – identifying and addressing risks at local, national, and regional level.
<p>7. Decision points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress and achievements • Areas for strategic interventions • Ideas for addressing climate security beyond the project
<p>8. Discussion highlights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Board agreed to endorse the project no-cost extension and provide further support to specific strategic areas that require intervention. • The Project Board agreed to support the next phase and that concept notes and proposals could be developed during the no-cost extension period. • The Project Board recommended to highlight stories in high-level political forum, develop an acceleration plan, and consider allocating uncommitted funds to scale-up pilot initiatives and for national capacity development to prepare atoll nations to migrate externally with dignity.
<p>9. 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, areas for strategic intervention, and way forward for 2022 to 2023. The meeting agreed to convene the 3rd and last Project Board meeting in November 2022.</p>	
<p>10. Attachments: Power-point presentations</p>	

Recorded session:

<https://undp.zoom.us/rec/share/602VcoOIC7kWjmV3atImefdfc1n8SK3qAcaMRErZEfrL7j4ZoYKyveGGSZxIuCQ.7k4AMzLtYaO3yo9l>

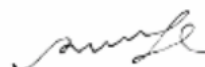
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Project Board Meeting

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 Emma Sale
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Project Manager
 15-Jun-2022
 May 2022

Approved By



Levan Bouadze

Resident Representative