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# USAID CLIMATE READY

## FINAL REPORT

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PHOTO: ARIETA SOKOTA

# USAID CLIMATE READY

## FINAL REPORT

**Submitted to:**

USAID Philippines

**Prepared by:**

DT Global, Inc.

**Photo Caption:**

Fishing boat approaching the town of London on Kiritimati Island in the Line Islands group of Kiribati.

**Disclaimer:**

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## ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AE	Accredited Entity
AF	Adaptation Fund
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AML	Anti-money Laundering
BCP	Business Continuity Planning
CBFM	Coastal-based fisheries management
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCDA	Climate Change and Development Authority (PNG)
CCD	Climate Change Directorate (RMI)
CCD	Climate Change Division (Tonga and Fiji)
CCDRM	Climate Change Disaster Risk Management
CCDRR	Climate Change Disaster Risk Reduction
CCICD	Climate Change and International Cooperation Division (Fiji)
CEFI	Centre of Excellence for Financial Inclusion (PNG)
CEPA	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (PNG)
CFRU	Climate Finance and Resilience Unit (Solomon Islands)
CFT	Combatting Financing of Terrorism
CI	Conservation International
CLIN	Cost Line Item Number
CO	Contracting Officer
COP	Conference of Parties
CoP	Chief of Party
COP21/23/26	21 <sup>st</sup> /23 <sup>rd</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
COR	Contracting Officer Representative
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DAE	Direct Access Entity
DAP	Digital Accreditation Platform
DCC	Department of Climate Change (Tonga)
DCoP	Deputy Chief of Party
DCM	Deputy Chief of Mission
DECEM	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (FSM)
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)

DNPM	Department of National Planning and Monitoring (PNG)
DoE	Department of Environment (Fiji)
DoWH	Department of Works and Highways (PNG)
DPO	Disabled Persons Organization
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EDA	Enhanced Direct Access
EEA	Engineering Education Australia
Eoi	Expression of Interest
ESAP	Environmental and Social Action Plan
ESIA	Environment and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental & Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
EU	European Union
EWS	Early Warning System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FBDRRC	Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council
FDB	Fiji Development Bank
FRDP	Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
FSMDB	Federated States of Micronesia Development Banks
FSMPC	Federated States of Micronesia Petroleum Corporation
FY	Financial Year
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation)
GoK	Government of Kiribati
GoS	Government of Samoa
GoT	Government of Tonga
GoTv	Government of Tuvalu
GoV	Government of Vanuatu
GRMI	Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
IAE	International Access Entity
IGA	Institutional Gap Analysis

IPENZ	Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand (from April 2017 - Engineers New Zealand)
IPWEA	Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia
ISACC	Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JNAP	Joint National Action Plan (for climate change and disaster risk management)
KCFD	Kiribati Climate Finance Division
KNEG	Kiribati National Experts Group
KWRP	Kiribati Water Resilience Project
LoA	Letter of Agreement
LOE	Level of Effort
LOP	Life of Project
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCT	Micronesian Conservation Trust
MECDM	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (Solomon Islands)
MEIDECC	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communication (Tonga)
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (New Zealand)
MFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (Kiribati and Tuvalu)
MIE	Multilateral Implementing Entity
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement
MoE	Ministry of Economy (Fiji)
MoF	Ministry of Finance (Palau)
MoFNP	Ministry of Finance and National Planning (Tonga)
MoFT	Ministry of Finance and Treasury (Solomon Islands)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MWTI	Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure (Samoa)
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NC	National Coordinator (UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme)
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office (Fiji)
NIE	National Implementing Entity
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOL	No Objections Letter
NPO	National Planning Office (Tonga)

NSC	National Steering Committee
NTF	National Transport Fund (Solomon Islands)
NWS	National Weather Service (PNG)
OAS	Online Accreditation System
OEPPC	Office of Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination (RMI)
PIC	Pacific Island Country
PICTs	Pacific Island Countries and Territories
PIDP	Pacific Islands Development Program
PIF	Project Information Form
PIFS	Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
PMU	Program Management Unit
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
ProDoc	Project Document
PwC	PricewaterhouseCoopers
PVS	Performance Work Statement
R2R	Ridge to Reef
RC	Regional Coordinator
RedR	International disaster response and training NGO
RFP	Request for Proposals
RIE	Regional Implementing Entity
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
RoP	Republic of Palau
SAP	Simplified Approval Process
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SFPA	Senior CCA Finance & Policy Advisor
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIDS	Small Island Development States
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SoW	Scope of Work
SPC	The Pacific Community
SPEA	South Pacific Engineers Association
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program
SSI	Social Solutions International
STA	Samoa Tourism Authority



STTA	Short Term Technical Assistance
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TDB	Tonga Development Bank
ToC	Theory of Change
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
USP	University of the South Pacific



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

USAID Climate Ready, implemented by DT Global, was USAID’s flagship project designed to address climate change adaptation priorities in the Pacific. Implemented from November 22, 2016 to September 30, 2023, USAID Climate Ready worked collaboratively with 11 Pacific Island Countries (PIC) – Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu – to achieve their climate change adaptation (CCA) goals and become more climate resilient in ways that were country-driven, coordinated, inclusive, and equitable. During this seven-year project, USAID Climate Ready’s support enabled the implementation of more PIC focused adaptation interventions that mitigated disaster risks and built climate resilience.

**Context.** The geography, economy, and aquaculture of Pacific Islands makes this sea-level region both especially vulnerable to climate change, and one of the first regions to experience increasingly destabilizing impacts of climate change. Climate adaptation, which focuses on creating physical and political processes to adjust to current and future climate impacts (in contrast to preventing or reducing emissions), is crucial in the Pacific. The ability to access climate finance – local or international pools of financing deployed to fund climate adaptation or mitigation projects – is also a key aspect of PICs’ ability to manage climate change. USAID Climate Ready primarily focused its work in this area.

Guided by three project objectives, USAID Climate Ready collaborated with government partners and other key stakeholders across the Pacific region to draft and implement adaptation policies, facilitated access to climate finance from international adaptation funds through project preparation and accreditation support, and improved adaptation project management skills and systems.

**Achieving project outcomes and deliverables.** By the end of project, USAID Climate Ready had implemented 96 sub-activities across the 11 countries and met or exceeded its indicator targets. These included assisting in the development of **19 climate change adaptation policies**, plans, and strategies; supporting the accreditation of national and regional entities; supporting the preparation and submission of **86 project proposals**; mobilizing **US\$578.5m for climate resilience**; and training **2,563 people**, including **1,343 women (52%)**, to better manage and implement adaptation projects.

Furthermore, the Project also met or exceeded its deliverable targets. These included improving CCA projects, stakeholder awareness, and resiliency through support to policy, plan, and strategy development; supporting CCA mainstreaming within institutions and across sectors; strengthening capacity to access climate funds and develop and implement CCA policies and projects through partnerships and targeted technical support; and strengthening Pacific organizations to operate as more effective regional implementation entities.

**Mainstreaming GESI, localization, and sustainability.** The Project strongly supported gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) throughout implementation, including providing GESI expertise in the development of CCA policies, accreditation processes and project proposal preparation, and ensuring women's access to Project training courses. USAID Climate Ready promoted and advanced a localization agenda with local actors in the lead and by strengthening existing local systems. The Project advanced local capacity through accredited professional development training courses and mentoring arrangements between international and local experts when delivering technical assistance. With sustainability in mind, USAID Climate Ready worked closely with national and regional organizations that will continue to advance Project gains in project proposal preparation, accreditation, and capacity building.

USAID Climate Ready has generated valuable learned lessons related to policy development, accreditation, project proposal preparation, capacity building, GESI, communications, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) and adaptive management, and the value of being a trusted partner – these lessons are published on the USAID Climatelinks website. A general snapshot of USAID Climate Ready's achievements is provided below.



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# USAID CLIMATE READY

**GOAL:** Capacity of Pacific Island Countries is increased to adapt to negative impacts of climate change. USAID Climate Ready works with target Pacific Island Countries to achieve their climate change adaptation goals by assisting them to develop and implement climate action policies and plans in a manner that is country-driven, coordinated, inclusive and equitable.

USAID Climate Ready is focused on achieving three objectives:

- 1: Policy work necessary for achieving adaptation goals as identified in national adaptation plans is in place and in practice;
- 2: Improved access to international, multilateral climate change funds; and
- 3: Improved adaptation project implementation by building professional capacity and management systems.

**BUDGET**  
USD  
23,903,456

**DURATION**  
22 Nov 2016 -  
30 Sept 2023

**OFFICE LOCATIONS**  
The project has regional offices in Suva, Pohnpei and Port Moresby.

**COUNTRIES:** Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS – Project To Date

### Objective 1: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION POLICIES & LAWS IN PLACE AND IN PRACTICE



**19** Climate change policies supported addressing climate resilience.



**16** Strategies developed to enable effective climate change adaptation mainstreaming.



**42** Institutions with improved capacity to address climate change.

### Objective 2: IMPROVED ACCESS TO CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDS



**\$578.5m**  
Mobilized for climate resilience.



**86** Projects with facilitated access to finance.



**46** Institutions with improved capacity and accreditation to access climate finance

### Objective 3: IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECTS



**\$192.8m**  
Value of assets built / rehabilitated according to climate resilient codes.



**2,563**  
People including 1,343 women trained in global climate change adaptation.



**17** Tools and systems to strengthen project management, monitoring and reporting.

## LIFE OF PROJECT SUB- ACTIVITIES 96 SUB-ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN 11 COUNTRIES

#### Objective 1:

##### 32 sub-activities including:

- 32 sub-activities that strengthens domestic capacity to address climate change risks.

#### Objective 2:

##### 49 sub-activities including:

- 13 sub-activities that strengthen national /regional institutions to access climate financing including accreditation;
- 36 sub-activities that prepare bankable climate change adaptation investment proposals to access climate finance.

#### Objective 3:

##### 15 sub-activities including:

- 15 sub-activities that improve the capacity of government/ private sector officers to manage and implement adaptation projects.





# I.0 INTRODUCTION

## I.1 CONTRACT OVERVIEW

<b>Program Name:</b>	USAID Climate Ready Project
<b>Activity Start Date and End Date:</b>	November 22, 2016 – September 30, 2023
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	DT Global
<b>Contract Number:</b>	AID-492-H-17-00001
<b>Total Amount of Contract</b>	US\$ 23,903,456
<b>Name of Subcontractors:</b>	Social Solutions International
<b>Geographic Coverage (Countries)</b>	Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	November 22, 2016 – September 30, 2023

## I.2 CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

**Project context.** Following the landmark COP21 in December 2015, which resulted in the Paris Agreement, the Conference attendees agreed to provide substantial financing and support through international donors and funds to address climate change. As part of this movement, the USAID launched the USAID Climate Ready Project, which supported PICs as they adapted to climate change.

USAID Climate Ready worked with target countries – Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu – to ensure that policy frameworks and capacity were in place to effectively access and manage the additional funds. The ultimate outcome of USAID Climate Ready was to achieve tangible progress toward the implementation of an increased number of adaptation interventions that were aligned with PICs’ National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) so countries became more resilient to climate and disaster risks.



FSM - USAID DEPUTY MISSION DIRECTOR BETTY CHUNG VISITS USAID CLIMATE READY OFFICE IN POHNPEI (MARCH 2023).

**Project objectives.** The Project focused on achieving its Strategic Objective of **capacity of PICs increased to adapt to negative impacts of climate change** through three objectives.

- **Objective 1:** National, sub-national and sectoral policies, regulations and legal frameworks, and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals as identified in national adaptation plans are in place and in practice.
  - This was done by drafting, legislating, and implementing national, sub-national and sectoral policies, regulations and legal frameworks required to achieve adaptation goals as identified in NAPs.
- **Objective 2:** PICs’ abilities to access international, multilateral climate change funds increased.
  - This was done by working with PICs to access larger amounts of adaptation finance by developing and submitting fundable adaptation proposals to accredited Regional or Multilateral Implementing Entities (RIEs and MIEs), and where appropriate, pursue National Implementing Entity (NIE)/Direct Access Entity (DAE) status.
- **Objective 3:** Timely and successful adaptation project implementation increased by building professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor, and report on adaptation projects.
  - This was done by improving the skills and systems of relevant governmental entities and private sector project implementers to effectively manage, monitor, and report on the implementation of funded adaptation projects.

**Guiding policies and values.** USAID Climate Ready worked with target Pacific Island Countries to achieve their climate change adaptation goals by assisting them to develop and implement climate action policies and plans in a manner that was country-driven, coordinated, inclusive and equitable. To do so, the Project applied seven implementation principles:

- Prioritize climate financing as the principal project driver;
- Challenge PIC leadership to address policy gaps and social inequalities;
- Leverage counterpart exchanges to share experience and fill gaps;
- Support design and implementation of CCA projects at scale through practitioner-led initiatives;
- Link capacity building support to actual CCA projects;
- Leverage existing information and best practices to jump-start implementation; and
- Expand impact through e-learning and other innovative tools.

As programming values, USAID Climate Ready promoted gender equity and social inclusion, public/private partnerships, and effective coordination across donors and national governments.

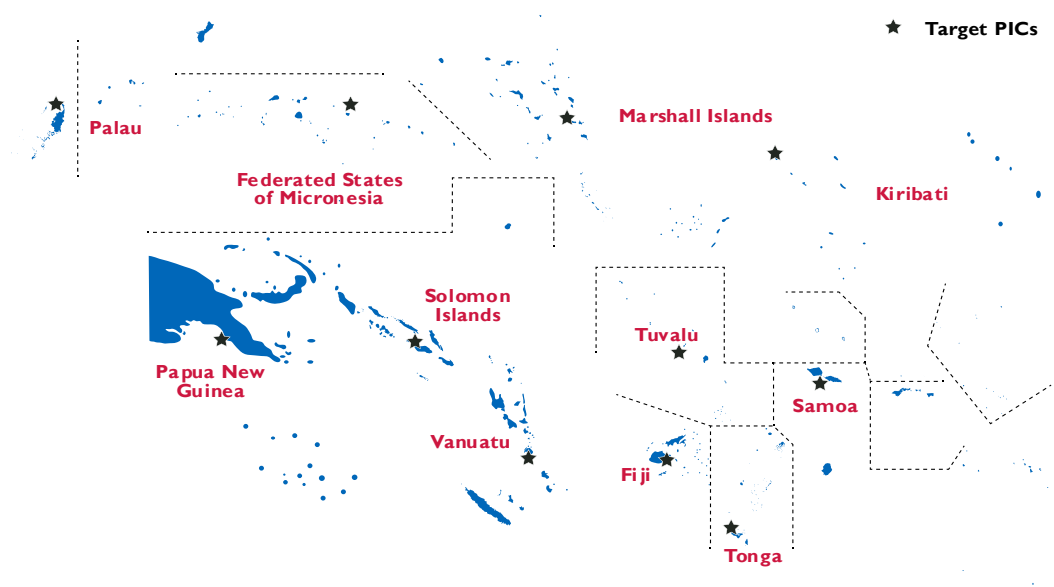
### 1.3 GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

USAID Climate Ready worked in 11 Pacific Island Countries and, for operational purposes, was divided into three sub-regions, which were serviced by three sub-regional offices: Port Moresby, Pohnpei, and Suva (which was co-located with the Project Field Office).<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 1-1: USAID Climate Ready Countries by Sub-Region**

Port Moresby Sub-Regional Office	Pohnpei Sub-Regional Office	Suva Sub-Regional Office	
Papua New Guinea (PNG) Solomon Islands Vanuatu	Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Palau Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)	Fiji Kiribati Samoa	Tonga Tuvalu

**Figure 1-2: Map of Pacific Island Countries Working with USAID Climate Ready**



<sup>1</sup> The Project received directives from USAID to cease direct engagement with Nauru in May 2017. However, the Project continued to provide support to Nauru through preparation of regional project proposals with regional organizations.





## 2.0 SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### 2.1 OBJECTIVES

#### **OBJECTIVE I. CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES AND LAWS IN PLACE AND IN PRACTICE.**

To ensure that appropriate enabling frameworks for the development of climate resilient projects are present, USAID Climate Ready worked with PIC governments to support the development and drafting of improved policies and plans and facilitated institutional arrangements that integrate climate change considerations.

**Policy, Planning and Institutional Capacity.** USAID Climate Ready supported the development of **19** policies, plans, strategies, and other significant guiding documents addressing climate change. These included National Adaptation Plans, Green Climate Fund (GCF) Country Programmes, Nationally Determined Contributions reports, Climate Change Finance Assessment Frameworks, strategic plans, and communication strategies.

USAID Climate Ready also supported the development of **16** strategies to enable effective CCA mainstreaming. These included approaches to assist government partners to integrate CCA – and key related concepts such as GESI and disaster risk management – across the programs and operations of



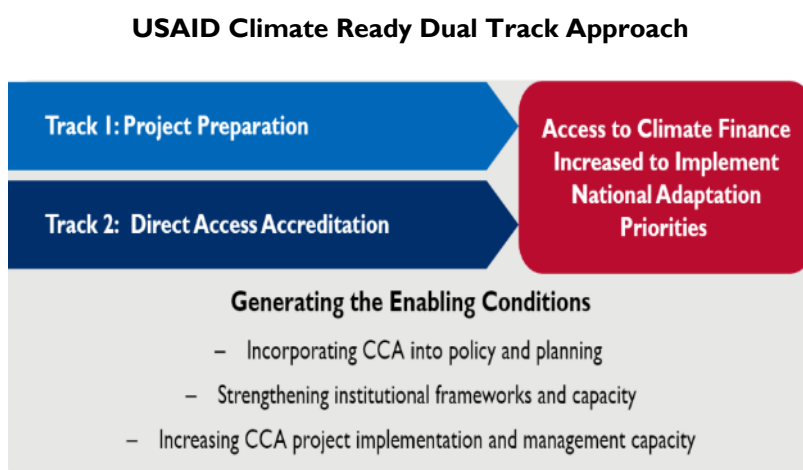
Public Service Commissions, Development Banks, environment departments, and infrastructure and waste management units. Moreover, USAID Climate Ready improved the capacity of **42** institutions to address climate change risks, including DAEs, national designated authorities, Ministries of Finance/Economy, Ministries/Divisions of Climate Change, environment and waste management departments, and national and municipal institutions responsible for public infrastructure and assets.

## OBJECTIVE 2. IMPROVE ACCESS TO CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDS.

To increase access to international and multilateral climate funds such as the GCF, Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Adaptation Fund (AF), the Project employed an integrated program of technical assistance and capacity building in a dual-track approach focused on project preparation and accreditation support to national and regional direct access entities.

**Project Preparation and Accreditation.** USAID Climate Ready supported the mobilization of **US\$578.5m** for CCA. This amount includes 18 large projects funded by GCF, GEF and AF (US\$565.5m) and one other source (Kiwa Initiative US\$5.6m) to improve health, food and water security, marine ecosystems, biodiversity, conservation, and natural resource management. The amount also includes small grants projects in FSM, Palau, PNG and RMI (US\$2.7m), GCF and AF readiness grants (US\$3.6m), and GCF and GEF Project Preparation Grants (US\$1.1m).

USAID Climate Ready supported the preparation and submission of **86 project proposals**, including **64 small grants proposals**. As well, the Project improved the capacity of **46 institutions<sup>2</sup>** to access finance through accreditation and project preparation/pipeline support. Refer to **Annex A** for a list of the 18 large, approved projects supported by USAID Climate Ready.



## OBJECTIVE 3. IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECTS.

To increase timely and successful adaptation project implementation, USAID Climate Ready built professional capacity needed across PICs and linked capacity building to ongoing projects.

**Training, Tools and Resources.** The Project trained project managers responsible for the implementation or rehabilitation of projects or assets valued at US\$192.8m. Further, USAID Climate Ready trained **2,563 people**, including **1,343 women**, in project management, resilience, procurement

2 Under an agreement with USAID, the same PIC agency can be counted more than once as long as they are only listed once a year and the work done is unique and different than what was carried out in the other years. Out of 46, there were 19 unique organizations.

and supply, climate finance, project preparation, conservation enforcement, M&E, and asset management. To do so, the Project worked in partnership with the University of South Pacific. For disaster response and business continuity planning (BCP) the Project worked in partnership with Chambers of Commerce. The Project produced **17** tools and systems to strengthen project management, monitoring, and reporting. These included BCP templates and training guides; a GESI in project management online training module, workbook, and checklist; assessment tools for scoring project proposals, a project management checklist, a small grants guide, country fact sheets with climate change data for proposal preparation, an M&E system, a GESI mainstreaming checklist for climate finance projects, and an Environment and Social Safeguards (ESS) toolkit for climate finance projects.



For a summary of key accomplishments and specific interventions and results across all of USAID Climate Ready’s target countries refer to **Annex B**.

## 2.2 TASKS

USAID Climate Ready team implemented **96 sub-activities across 11 countries** during the life of the Project. **Annex C** provides a list of the sub-activities that the Project implemented.

## 2.3 INDICATOR TARGETS

**USAID Climate Ready met or exceeded its indicator targets.** A summary of the monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) indicator targets and achievements by year for the life of the Project is provided in Figure 2-1 below.

**Figure 2-1: USAID Climate Ready MEL Indicators – Life of Project (Target and Actuals)**

#	Indicator	LOP Target	FY 17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	PTD	PTD
			Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Actual To Date	Total Actual
<b>IR 1: National, sub-national and sectoral policies, regulations and legal frameworks, and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals as identified in national adaptation plans are in place and in practice.</b>											
1.1*	Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance (EG.11-3).	15	0	1	3	6	6	2	1	19	127%
1.2	Number of plans, strategies or tools developed or improved to enable effective CCA mainstreaming.	12	0	1	2	2	4	6	1	16	133%
1.3*	Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change risks as a result of USG assistance (EG.11-2).	40	2	2	3	7	17	11	0	42	105%
1.4	Number of policies and institutions that support access to funds including through collaborative partnerships and targeted technical support.	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15	100%
<b>IR 2: PICs' abilities to access international, multilateral climate change funds increased.</b>											
2.1*	Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for climate change as a result of USG assistance (in millions) (EG.11-4).	\$500m	0	1.65	24.75	27.24	146.50	275.50	102.87	578.51	116%
2.2	Number or programs, projects and activities with facilitated access to climate finance.	40	0	4	9	25	23	12	13	86	215%

#	Indicator	LOP Target	FY 17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	PTD	PTD
			Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Total Actual	Actual To Date	Total Actual	% of Target
2.3	Number of institutions with improved capacity to access climate finance, including through twinning partnerships.	16	1	4	5	8	8	10	10	46 <sup>3</sup>	287%
<b>IR 3: Timely and successful adaptation project implementation increased by building professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.</b>											
3.1	Value of assets (e.g., infrastructure, roads) built/rehabilitated according to climate-resilient codes and standards as a result of USG assistance (in millions).	\$175m	0	4.00	35.50	86.10	67.24	0	0	192.8	111%
3.2*	Number of people trained in global climate change adaptation supported by USG assistance (M/F) (EG.1 I-1) (number of women in brackets).	500	72 (31)	329 (150)	592 (276)	628 (302)	508 (339)	369 (200)	65 (45)	2,563 (1,343)	513%
3.3	Number of tools and systems that strengthen project management, monitoring and reporting.	16	0	4	7	3	3	0	0	17	106%

\* USAID high priority standard indicators

<sup>3</sup> Under an agreement with USAID, the same PIC agency can be counted more than once as long as they are only listed once a year and the work done is unique and different than what was carried out in the other years. Out of 46, there were 19 unique organizations.

## 2.4 DELIVERABLES

USAID Climate Ready had a total of 13 contractual deliverables. Figure 2-2 details the achievement of each of the 13 deliverables comprised of output and outcome-level targets.

**Figure 2-2: USAID Climate Ready Deliverables Achievements**

No.	Deliverable	Achievement
<b>Objective 1: National, sub-national and sectoral policies, regulations and legal frameworks, and institutional arrangements for achieving adaptation goals as identified in national adaptation plans are in place and in practice.</b>		
1	At least 15 CCA policies and laws increase PIC resiliency to climate change impacts through improved projects and stakeholder awareness.	19 climate adaptation policies, laws, plans and strategies in eight countries (Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, PNG, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu) developed and/or adopted contributed to improved CCA projects and stakeholder awareness on CCA leading to improved climate resilience.
2	CCA mainstreamed across sectors creating framework for improved plans and projects.	Supported CCA and GESI mainstreaming within institutions and across sectors that has created frameworks that are allowing for development and implementation of improved plans and projects in six countries (Fiji, FSM, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga).
3	Climate finance policies and institutions support accelerated access to funds including through increased collaborative partnerships and through targeted technical support.	15 climate finance policies addressing gaps in GCF accreditation processes contributed to improved capacity to access funds through collaborative partnerships and targeted technical support.
4	Human and institutional capacity of at least 40 PIC agencies result in development and implementation of CCA and climate finance policies.	42 PIC agencies in ten countries have improved capacity (Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu) in CCA, DRM and GESI contributing to the development and implementation of climate adaptation and finance policies.
<b>Objective 2: PICs' abilities to access international, multilateral climate change funds increased.</b>		
5	At least six PICs increased capacity to attain direct access entity (DAE)/international access entity (IAE) accreditation.	Three organizations accredited as DAEs (Micronesian Conservation Trust – MCT, Fiji Development Bank – FDB, and the Pacific Community – SPC) and organizations in seven countries have increased capacity to achieve national DAE accreditation.
6	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) and/or other regional organization perform as a capable RIE.	SPREP, SPC, and MCT supported to operate as more effective RIEs.
7	PICs design and implement at least 40 projects that benefit vulnerable groups, including women.	86 projects designed and submitted for approval that benefit vulnerable groups, including women through the provision of GESI technical assistance.
8	PICs access international, multilateral climate change funds totalling at least \$500M.	US\$578.5million mobilized/approved which will be used to support initiatives to build and strengthen climate adaptation and resilience in the Pacific.

No.	Deliverable	Achievement
9	At least eight sustained partnerships for climate change/disaster risk reduction, policy/plan formulation, mainstreaming and accessing climate financing with national governments, non-government agencies, private sector organizations, academia, and multilateral organizations.	Eight sustained partnerships for climate change/disaster risk reduction, policy/plan formulation, and mainstreaming and accessing climate finance developed.
<b>Objective 3: Timely and successful adaptation project implementation increased by building professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.</b>		
10	PICs effectively managing private sector implementation of CCA projects that benefit vulnerable people and women.	11 PICs and over 30 institutions with improved capacity to implement and manage CCA projects that benefit vulnerable groups, including women due to USAID Climate Ready-sponsored training courses.
11	Private sector using new project management tools and systems to effectively implement CCA projects that benefit vulnerable people and women.	17 tools and systems developed to support effective implementation of CCA projects that also address and benefit vulnerable populations.
12	Sustainable partnerships that support capacity development of CCA professionals.	Seven sustainable partnerships supported to build the capacity of CCA professionals, including USP and IPWEA with government agencies.
13	Existing e-learning platform strengthened at University of South Pacific on fee-for-service basis.	USP using a strengthened e-learning platform for Project Management, Procurement & Supply, Project Preparation and Resilience courses





## 3.0 CROSS-CUTTING ACHIEVEMENTS

### 3.1 CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

USAID Climate Ready’s overall objective was to have PICs become more resilient to climate change and disaster risks. Resilience is the ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards, and/or climate change, to resist, absorb, accommodate, recover, and transfer the consequences of a hazard event or of climate change in a timely and efficient manner. This includes through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions (Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific – FRDP, 2016). Resilience is not a fixed end state but is a dynamic set of conditions and processes.

Therefore, the Project developed a Resilience Scorecard tool to help determine country resilience. The Project developed this Scorecard based on the FRDP, which was endorsed by the Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2016. The Resilience Scorecard was applied during FY22 and FY23 across 10 countries.

The Scorecard assessed resilience against three aspects within the FRDP – goals, stakeholder service groups, and factors that influence resilience. The level of resilience was assessed as: none, planned, limited, or good. Overall, countries felt that their level of resilience was limited, meaning that they were implementing resilience actions but that these actions were not widespread. An analysis of country resilience against the three FRDP aspects is provided below.





SAMOA – DRONE SURVEY OF A SITE WITHIN THE PALAULI CATCHMENT, LOCATED ON SAMOA'S LARGEST ISLAND, SAVAI'I. RIVERBANKS ARE DOMINATED BY THE MERREMIA VINE, WHICH IS QUICK TO OUTCOMPETE NATIVE SHRUB AND TREE SPECIES IN THE EVENT OF LAND CLEARING FOR AGRICULTURE PURPOSES OR NATURAL DISASTERS. THIS FOOTAGE INFORMED A USAID CLIMATE READY-SUPPORTED BIODIVERSITY PROJECT PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNDP WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE GEF (CREDIT: JAMES ATHERTON, USAID CLIMATE READY TECHNICAL CONSULTANT).

- Three inter-related **Goals** that need to be actively pursued by all stakeholders:

- Goal 1 - Strengthened integrated adaptation & risk reduction
- Goal 2 - Low-Carbon Development
- Goal 3 - Strengthened disaster preparedness, response, and recovery

Countries rated Goals 1 and 3 similarly and felt that the achievement of these was done relatively well at the higher end of the limited rating. However, Goal 2, which is associated with low-carbon development, was considered to be significantly lower and perhaps represents the priority for adaptation work in PICs rather than mitigation.

- Four **Stakeholder Servicer groups** that need to support and encourage building resilience:

- National and Sub-National Governments
- Civil Societies and Communities
- Private Sector
- Regional Organizations and Development Partners

Countries rated Regional Organizations and Development Partners, as well as Civil Society and Communities, as providing the most support to resilience efforts. They then rated National and Sub-National Governments lower down the scale. Lastly, they rated the Private Sector much



lower on the scale. This indicates the lack of large private sector organizations across the Pacific and a lack of involvement of any private sector organizations in resilience related work.

- **Eight factors that influence resilience:** institutional; political; cultural; social; environmental; human; economic; and physical.

Countries rated culture as the most significant positive influence on resilience, followed by politics, institutions, human, and social factors. Factors with the lowest influence were economic, physical, and environmental factors. In general, countries felt that the Pacific cultural beliefs were relevant to promoting resilience and that the leadership in countries was providing good direction towards achieving resilience. However, issues associated with access to markets and employment, existing infrastructure and the use of natural resources were not leading to improved resilience.

The Project did not rank countries as the data was collected in confidence and used to identify trends across all countries. The data could be used to discuss with countries about their next steps towards resilience and where support could be provided to continue to build resilience.

## 3.2 GESI

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*“What we are doing right now is making sure when we are assessing a loan, we look at how it is affecting a young person, people with disabilities, people that are singularly heading a family. It’s looking at it from economics as well as social and that for us is what development financing is about. That’s what we are doing with the support of USAID Climate Ready.”*

Fiji Development Bank

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USAID Climate Ready viewed GESI as a pathway to program quality to ensure GESI considerations throughout its various activities and approaches to service delivery. Without intentional focus on GESI, partners have stated that GESI may not have been covered as well in activities.

- **Support to GESI-sensitive CCA policy development.** USAID Climate Ready provided technical assistance that led to the mainstreaming of GESI into partner policy and operations through the development and socialization of GESI action/implementation plans and mainstreaming checklists.
- **Support to GESI components of accreditation processes.** USAID Climate Ready supported the development of GESI and ESS policies required of accreditation by climate finance organizations.
- **Support GESI-sensitive project proposals and designs.** USAID Climate Ready led on GESI components of project proposal preparation by providing technical support from trusted local experts who understand the Pacific context and cultural sensitivities and drew on this knowledge to embed GESI into design. The GESI assessments, policies, and action plans produced through this work will guide implementation once projects are approved for funding. As well, USAID Climate Ready supported local women's groups, youth groups, and rural organizations to prepare adaptation

project proposals for UNDP’s GEF Small Grants Programmes in FSM, Palau, PNG, and RMI. These were smaller organizations than ones the Project generally targeted, but the Project felt that these groups would not otherwise be able to access these climate funds.

- **Production of tools to assist government and non-government actors address and mainstream GESI.** USAID Climate Ready produced GESI knowledge products for broader sharing and published them onto the USAID Climatelinks website. These GESI-specific tools included: the “GESI Mainstreaming Checklist for Screening Climate Finance Projects” and the “GESI in Project Management” online training module and downloadable workbook.
- **Women’s participation at capacity building/training activities.** USAID Climate Ready stipulated a 50% gender balance in the courses it sponsored. When it fell short, USAID Climate Ready subsequently ran female-only cohorts to rebalance the gender ratio. This proactive approach is how of the over 2,500 people trained, 52% are female.
- **Gender-balanced consultant pool.** Forty-six percent of USAID Climate Ready’s short-term technical experts were female, allowing space for different approaches, perspectives, and voices to enable more inclusive activities and decision making.

### 3.3 LOCALIZATION

*“I think the USAID Climate Ready project has benefitted the Pacific a lot and certainly USP Pacific TAFE would like to continue this partnership in coming years.”*

USP Pacific TAFE

USAID Climate Ready advanced a localization agenda. The Project’s training activities strengthened local capacity to better plan, deliver, and manage adaptation projects once climate finance starts flowing.

USAID Climate Ready selected course participants for their involvement in the management of projects for which the Project helped to prepare the proposals or within Accredited Entities (or entities seeking accreditation).

Also, the Project supported local community-based organizations through technical assistance to prepare successful small grant proposals for adaptation funding and preparing practical guides to assist with small grant proposal preparation.

As well, over the life of USAID Climate Ready, the Project worked to build the capacity of local consultants to leave a legacy of technical skills behind after the Project’s end. This was particularly evident during Covid-19, which brought with it an opportunity to strengthen local capacity in countries that were



FIJI - AT THE HEART OF DISASTER RESPONSE IS PLANNING. DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT, MITIELI CAMA, POINTS OUT A REFERENCE TO HIS GROUP AS PART OF A SITE MAPPING EXERCISE DURING A USAID CLIMATE READY-SPONSORED TRAINING IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO BUILD LOCAL DISASTER CAPACITY (APRIL 2022).

closed to travel. As possible and appropriate, the Project paired locally-based consultants with international consultants in mentoring arrangements. In these scenarios, the international consultant provided the strategic direction and methodology, and the locally-based consultant implemented the field work (e.g., data collection, consultations, workshops and other stakeholder engagement). Notably, over the life of the Project, USAID Climate Ready engaged 80 consultants, 48% of whom were PIC-based (not including Australia, New Zealand or the US/Hawaii). This type of balance helped to ensure contextual appropriate support provision with which to progress sub-activities.

### 3.4 SUSTAINABILITY

*“We commend Climate Ready for the generous contribution in the development of this national planning instrument that will guide the implementation for Vanuatu to deliver on its national climate and disaster risk reduction policy priorities into 2030.”*

Vanuatu Government

USAID Climate Ready built sustainability through its partnership approach. The Project collaborated with national and regional organizations (e.g., Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific – CROP agencies, National Designated Authorities – NDA, and Direct Access Entities – DAE) on policy development, project proposal preparation, project proposal pipeline development, and advancing accreditation applications. The goal of this work was for these organizations to have the capacity, after the Project, to continue the work of accessing climate finance, implementing adaptation projects, and increasing resilience capacity in the Pacific.

As well, USAID Climate Ready partnered with regional training institutions to deliver accredited courses. The Project’s partnership with USP Pacific TAFE benefitted not only course participants, but also USP Pacific TAFE, which has been able to refine existing courses and design new courses accessible to the broader privately paying Pacific population after the Project ends.



TONGA – JNAP SECRETARIAT STAFF MEMBER. USAID CLIMATE READY SUPPORTED THE JNAP SECRETARIAT IN ITS WORK TO ENHANCE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RESILIENCE CAPACITIES OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES (2021).



RMI – FORMER USAID PHILIPPINES, PACIFIC ISLANDS AND MONGOLIA DEPUTY MISSION DIRECTOR SEAN CALLAHAN PRESENTING PROJECT MANAGEMENT COURSE COMPLETION CERTIFICATES (2020).





## 4.0 LESSONS LEARNED

This section provides concise, insightful, and practical suggestions based on Project implementation experience. The following outlines the main lessons learned across eight topic areas organized by project objective:

- Policy Development;
- Accreditation;
- Project Proposal Preparation;
- Capacity Building;
- Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI);
- Project Communications;
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) and Adaptive Management; and
- Being a Trusted Partner.

## 4.1 OBJECTIVE 1: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION POLICIES & LAWS IN PLACE AND IN PRACTICE

### 4.1.1. POLICY DEVELOPMENT

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*“The Secretary for the Department [of Works and Highways] is now emphasizing the importance of the [Climate Change] policy and integration of climate change adaptation in all the infrastructure projects. The policy highlights the integration of gender which led to creation of a gender hot desk for a DFAT-funded Transport Support Program Gender Specialist – this change eventuated after the launching of the DoWH [Department of Works and Highways PNG] Climate Change Policy and Action Plan. This is one of the biggest achievements USAID Climate Ready has assisted in one of the biggest Departments in the country.”*

- PNG DoWH

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One of USAID Climate Ready’s Intermediate Results was to ensure that policies, regulations and legal frameworks, and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals as identified in NAPs were in place and in practice. Thus, the Project worked with Pacific Island Countries to develop 19 policies and plans and ensured that they were finalized documents and were acknowledged, approved, or endorsed by the relevant government bodies. However, when USAID Climate Ready started to evaluate how these policies were being implemented, it found that in most cases there was little progress to incorporate, mainstream, operationalize, or even use the policies to incorporate climate change considerations into day-to-day processes of governance. Therefore, the Project used an adaptive management approach to provide targeted assistance to strengthen PIC’s capacities to implement and overcome implementation barriers that had manifested themselves, particularly in the area of mainstreaming. Lessons learned include:



PNG – LAUNCHING THE USAID CLIMATE READY-SUPPORTED CLIMATE RESILIENCE POLICY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (JUNE 2022).

- When investing resources in policy development, it is essential to **adopt a lifecycle approach and to provide program support along the whole policy cycle** (formulation, implementation and monitoring, evaluation and learning) especially in areas of policy innovation.
- **Effective operationalization of a policy/plan needs to be supported and driven by senior managers in relevant government agencies.** Policy development activities should engage senior managers early in the process to encourage buy-in and ownership, and to ensure that they understand the need for the policy/plan and the relevance to their agency and its remit. These

senior managers will then be able to chart a course to operationalization, promote the policy and ensure it is embedded into procedures, practices and thinking.

- In the Pacific, CROPs organizations and PICs seek to drive their own change and improvement. Partners and projects seeking to support CROP agencies and PICs must first be perceived as being reliable, trusted, and effective, and committed to advancing the objectives articulated by the CROP agencies and PICs themselves. Without this trust and commitment, partners are not able to function effectively. The time taken for trusted relationships to form can impinge directly on donor timelines and expectations. **It is important for donors to be patient and respectful of how things are done in the Pacific, and to allow the CROPs and PICs to lead, which is key to any localization strategy.**
- In the Pacific, there are usually a limited number of staff in each department who are busy and pulled in multiple directions, so a reasonable timeframe is required to get things done. Development partners need to be sensitive to how government offices and staff function in small island developing states to avoid creating undue burdens on the agencies that are intended to be beneficiaries of the project. **Both donors and organizations need to accept and appreciate that the process will take longer than expected and allowances will need to be made for this.**

#### **Implementation Highlight:**

**Tonga – Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communication (MEIDECC).** USAID Climate Ready supported MEIDECC with the finalization of the Joint National Action Plan on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction 2018-2028 (JNAP 2). After the JNAP 2 was launched, the project provided technical, climate finance and communications support staff for the reconstitution of the JNAP Secretariat, whose primary responsibility is to administer and monitor the implementation of the JNAP 2. When USAID Climate Ready support ended, the JNAP 2 staff were employed by MEIDECC to continue the implementation of the JNAP2. The project’s support in this case demonstrated value to such a degree that the Government of Tonga brought the JNAP Secretariat on budget to continue its work on a permanent basis.

## **4.2 OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED ACCESS TO CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDS**

### **4.2.1. ACCREDITATION**

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*“USAID has been extremely helpful through Climate Ready’s support in the application process which makes me confident the Tonga Development Bank will meet the accreditation criteria of the GCF. And for me personally, I will have played my part in helping our Kingdom become more resilient.”*

- Tonga Development Bank

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Across the board, PICs have expressed eagerness to increase the amount of, and control over, climate finance directed to the region. However, while financing mechanisms have been created to support countries' adaptation efforts, access to project funds through the GCF can only be achieved through accredited entities (AE). While PICs have accessed GCF funds through International Accredited Entities, countries have expressed a preference to access funds by direct access to GCF through domestic and regional DAEs.



TUVALU - USAID CLIMATE READY REGIONAL COORDINATOR (CENTER, SEATED) WITH DEVELOPMENT BANK OF TUVALU PARTICIPANTS OF THE CLIMATE FINANCE CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP (JUNE 2023).

Notwithstanding the efforts of the three regional DAEs (SPC, SPREP, and MCT), the ability of countries to access climate finance through DAEs has been limited, despite a clear appetite for seeking accreditation for DAEs at the national level. The challenge is to strengthen the ability of countries to support the appropriate national entities to become accredited to increase access to, and control of, climate finance that can then be directed to addressing community, national, regional, and international climate goals.

GCF accreditation is a long, resource intensive process that requires significant up-front investment in people, time and money that will only pay off after several years, after the entity submits a successful project proposal. While PICs should continue to lobby GCF to explore ways and means to simplify the accreditation process for Pacific-based entities, the focus of the lessons presented here is on what countries themselves can do to better manage the overall accreditation process. Lessons learned include:

- **Countries and NDAs need an accreditation strategy.** Given the resources required to attain accreditation, countries need to think through and outline their accreditation strategy before embarking on the process to avoid wasting scarce human and institutional resources on accreditation processes that are likely to fail or else not generate any projects over the longer term. Countries tend to focus on the pipeline of projects in the expectation that funds will start flowing without recognizing the effort, resources and time involved in securing potential GCF funding both through accreditation and then project preparation. Countries have also tended not to consider which agencies and organizations have the greatest potential for advancing the goals articulated in climate strategies and policies (e.g., NAPs and NDC) in order to focus resources towards gaining accreditation for these entities. To avoid these pitfalls, countries should develop a clear strategy that involves identifying appropriate and complementary entities to support for accreditation that aligns with the climate goals outlined in national climate change policies, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and NAPs.
- **Entities considering accreditation should develop a strategy on how to approach the process.** At the same time, individual entities considering accreditation tend to underestimate the

time and resources required, leading to drawn out accreditation processes that progress only in fits and starts. To address this, entities considering accreditation should develop an entity-specific strategy on how to approach the process that includes:

- Detailing the pros and cons of accreditation for the entity (including alignment with the country’s accreditation strategy and consideration of the sizes and types of projects the entity will develop, the funding modality [e.g., grants, loans, guarantees], and the ESS risk level that these projects will require). All of these considerations impinge on the type of accreditation that the entity should aspire to.
  - Speaking with other organizations, both accredited and in the accreditation process, to learn about the process and whether it is worthwhile and appropriate.
  - Identifying the types of supporting resources that are potentially available (e.g., Readiness Funding, support programs implemented by USAID, UN agencies, GIZ, and other partners) and engaging with these programs.
  - Preparing a Gap Assessment (possibly using Readiness Funding<sup>4</sup>) to identify areas in need of strengthening and developing a complementary Action Plan that would include identifying internal resources to the organization and external support (such as that offered by USAID Climate Ready) needed for addressing gaps.
  - Clearly outlining how the process of accreditation can enhance other aspects of the entity’s operations so that investments in accreditation also improve the overall functioning of the entity (e.g., through the establishment of a GESI policy as in the FDB example).
  - Developing a resource matrix and timeline for the accreditation process to help ensure that adequate human and institutional resources will be available throughout the process.
  - At regular stages in the process, taking stock and re-assessing whether to continue to pursue, or not to pursue, accreditation.
- **Entities seeking accreditation must devote appropriate resources to the process and have it as a key part of their core activities and strategic direction.** The accreditation process is extremely challenging because it is time and resource-intensive and within PICs, local technical capacity to access funds is low/limited. Nominated AEs need to dedicate people, time and



PALAU – USAID CLIMATE READY SENIOR POLICY AND FINANCE ADVISOR WORKING WITH THE ACCREDITATION FACILITATION OFFICER, ON THE GCF DIGITAL ACCREDITATION PLATFORM ONLINE APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE TO THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND (MARCH 2023).

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4 The GCF Readiness Programme provides grants and technical assistance to NDAs and/or focal points and to strengthen DAEs. The objective is to enhance the capacity of national institutions to efficiently engage with GCF. Dedicated readiness funding may also assist countries in undertaking adaptation planning and developing strategic frameworks to build their programming with GCF.



resources to the accreditation process including using available readiness funding. The accreditation process must align with and reinforce the core work of the organization and its strategic direction. This will ensure that the organization will assign people, time, and money to support the process.

- **Autonomous agencies have greater ability to implement changes to meet GCF requirements.** Within the support for accreditation provided by USAID Climate Ready, experience has shown that making the necessary improvements tends to be easier for agencies with autonomy, meaning they do not operate in line with the constraints of Government policy, and likewise can avoid complex and time-consuming approval processes to institute new procedures required for accreditation.
- **Accredited Entities and aspiring AEs must have a clear pipeline of projects and be mindful of the resources needed to prepare projects once accreditation is achieved (in addition to resources needed to achieve accreditation).** Achievement of accreditation is a major accomplishment, but there is no guarantee that money will flow from GCF. Not all DAEs have had projects approved for funding, and even when they do have project ideas in mind, it can take up to five years for these projects to work their way through to GCF approval. In addition, the GCF itself has indicated that as many as half of all projects are abandoned during the Concept Note stage, representing significant waste of scarce resources. Having a clear pipeline of projects and an understanding of the financial and human resources required to see these projects through to approval is critical to taking the next step and utilizing the accreditation effectively to meet climate change adaptation objectives. Like accreditation, project preparation for DAEs needs significant investment of personnel, time and money. DAEs have access to Readiness funding to support Concept Note Development and the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) funding to support the development of full proposals.
- **NDA and their supporting staff should be adequately resourced and integrated into the Government bureaucracy.** Countries and NDAs need to be clear and deliberate about what institutions/organizations are advanced for accreditation and what they want to achieve from accreditation. This deliberation should consider how AEs can work together and complement each other in achieving national climate change goals. The NDA must be well resourced to undertake its work and it must transition from readiness funding to core Government funding and institutionalize the function within Government.

### Implementation Highlights:

- With support from USAID Climate Ready, the FDB, Federated States of Micronesia Development Bank (FSMDB), MCT and Ministry of Finance in Palau have all used GCF Readiness Funding to prepare Gap Assessments and Action Plans in early stages of their accreditation process. In Palau, the Gap Assessment and Action Plan developed for the Ministry of Finance informed Palau's Project Management Manual in meeting numerous aspects of GCF accreditation fiduciary and Gender and Environmental and Social Safeguard requirements.
- With support from USAID Climate Ready, both SPC and SPREP have successfully used their DAE status to get proposals approved and have developed a pipeline of proposals that have progressed through Concept Note approval, while also taking advantage of Readiness funding, with USAID Climate Ready support and PPF funding. USAID Climate Ready provided technical GESI and ESS expertise to SPC in preparing a GCF Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) project proposal in FSM. For more information, see this project *Success Story* on page 23.

- The MCT has integrated access to finance and climate change into its two most recent strategic plans with the support of USAID Climate Ready, addressing the rationale for accreditation and how this access to finance will be best utilized to further their goals. MCT also addressed the organizational changes needed to manage the increased flow of funds and mechanisms that will help them channel funds to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and communities dealing with climate change issues at grassroots levels.



TUVALU – CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS WEEK PARTICIPANTS WITH THE NEWLY LAUNCHED USAID CLIMATE READY-SUPPORTED NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN FRAMEWORK (CREDIT: TUVALU CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT).



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# SUCCESS STORY

## Climate Resilient Water Sources in the Pacific

Partnering with SPC to address water insecurity



Photo credit: Inter Press Services

Technical experts measure the salinity of groundwater wells on Vaitupu Island, Tuvalu.

***“I think it has been a great relationship that we’ve had with USAID. It helps us through the financing provided to extend our work and I think as a result, it’s been a really successful model... It’s critical to ensure that women and vulnerable groups are included because ultimately, they are the ones who benefit the most from that new and improved water supply.”***

*Water Resource Assessment  
Coordinator, SPC*

For most people living in developed urban areas, reliable water supply is taken for granted. This is not the case for people in the outer islands and atoll communities of the Pacific who for generations have relied upon groundwater as an important water source. A daily routine of travelling by foot to the nearest community well or creek to collect water for washing, cooking, and drinking is a way of life. And in many Pacific Island communities, environmental knowledge – essential for coping with natural disasters – has been passed down generations through oral traditions and practical experience.

In the Polynesian Island nation of Tuvalu, communities dig shallow holes in the ground where they can access fresh water. In Micronesia’s Marshall Islands, communities collect rainwater through holes cut into coconut tree trunks for drinking and cooking. A changing climate is, however, bringing new challenges to these Pacific Island communities with increased pressure on their freshwater resources.

The Pacific Community (SPC) has been working alongside PICs to develop, manage and protect water resources in ways that combine traditional knowledge with modern science. To assist SPC to amplify these efforts, USAID Climate Ready supported SPC in getting accredited to the Green Climate Fund. As a regional direct access entity, SPC has since been able to increase its support by bringing more climate finance into the Pacific.

The project has also partnered with SPC to prepare project proposals for climate finance organizations to strengthen water security across the Pacific. Together, USAID Climate Ready, SPC and the United Nations Development Programme developed the successful “Managing Coastal Aquifers Project” for Tuvalu, the Marshall Islands and Palau that was approved by the Global Environment Facility for US\$25million. The aim of the project is to improve the protection and equitable use of coastal aquifers.

USAID Climate Ready and SPC, together with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, also partnered on preparing the proposal for the “Enhancing water-food security and climate resilience in volcanic island countries of the Pacific” project. The proposal was recently approved by the Global Environment Facility for US\$29million. To be implemented in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, it aims to strengthen water and food security, as well as ecosystem services. It will also work to relieve pressure on over-exploited coastal aquifers by assessing and expanding the role of volcanic aquifers and by introducing sound groundwater governance and practices.

## 4.2.2 PROJECT PROPOSAL PREPARATION

*“With your team’s excellent work, all of the Small Island Developing States applicants were selected for the grants. Their proposals are much stronger than others due to your support.”*

Nature Climate and Energy, UNDP

USAID Climate Ready adopted a dual-track approach to accessing international climate finance in the Pacific Region. The first track centered on accreditation of national and regional direct access entities, while the second (project proposal preparation) focused on building the capacity of national government institutions to package projects to access international climate finance.

The Project has encountered the following challenges that have influenced the implementation of its approach to project preparation:

- AEs, particularly Pacific Region accredited government institutions and regional organizations, often do not have sufficient capacity nor project design resources to properly undertake a project design initiative.
- The international climate finance architecture is employed to deliver finance in packages in the millions and tens of millions of dollars, but in the Pacific, especially for community-led adaptation (which is most effective and which most easily allows for the leveraging of communities' social capital resources), the need is in the tens and hundreds of thousands, many orders of magnitude smaller than what is normally available from the GCF and other climate finance sources. Hence there are significant transaction costs in “translating” the large amounts that are available at the international level to the smaller packages that are more appropriate to local needs and manageable by community-based organizations. Currently there is insufficient institutional infrastructure to overcome this issue, creating a “missing middle” for financing locally led adaptation and resilience. However, the GCF Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) mechanism, which allows on-granting, shows promise in delivering funding in line with community-level needs and the capacities of smaller entities across PICS.
- International climate finance agencies have ever-expanding and oft-changing requirements and numerous layers to their review processes. As well, the sheer number of project concepts and project proposals under review has increased, meaning that it can take up to several years from initiation of project concept development to start-up of on-ground implementation of activities.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE “ENHANCING WATER-FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN VOLCANIC ISLAND COUNTRIES OF THE PACIFIC” INCEPTION WORKSHOP ATTENDING VIRTUALLY. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PROJECT PROPOSAL WAS SUPPORTED BY USAID CLIMATE READY (2021).



These issues and delays can be straining on the project development budgets of AEs, where work plan timelines often stall, delaying the projected submission dates to the funding agencies for review and approval.

- Line government department/ministry officials delegated with the responsibility for working with AEs on project concept and proposal development often do not have the skills, expertise or time to adequately carry out this role, often delaying the project development process. As a result, at project closure, government counterpart departments/ministries have not built up the necessary capacity to serve as repositories for the tools and systems created for the better management of the design and implementation of climate adaptation projects.
- The growth of climate financing coming into the Pacific Region over the last 10 years has underscored the dearth of qualified national consultants and Pacific Islanders working regionally with sufficient technical skills and expertise to form part of accredited entity project design teams, which has only been aggravated over the past several years with the advent of covid-related travel restrictions on international-based consultants.

Key lessons learned by the USAID Climate Ready project include the following:

- **Successful project proposal preparation involves collaboration and leveraging of limited resources.** The Project developed a model to leverage its own limited resources and, at the same time, address the needs of Pacific-based national, regional, and international AEs by partnering in the provision of technical expertise to fill technical and resource gaps in project design teams. Over the life of the Project, USAID Climate Ready partnered in the development and approval of 18 large-scale climate adaptation projects that helped mobilize over US\$578m in international climate finance and in the process greatly improved the quality of these projects. The key to achieving these results began with building a solid track record of contributing high-quality technical expertise on a timely basis that supported AEs to develop approved concept notes and project feasibility studies, including through climate-related analyses of gender, environment and social safeguards, biodiversity, and health. The ongoing provision of these high-quality resources over the last seven years has allowed the Project to establish and maintain very close



FSM – REPRESENTATIVES OF MORT-PAC, AN ALL WOMEN ORGANIZATION IN CHUUK STATE, SIGNING A PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH UNDP GEF SGP. USAID CLIMATE READY ASSISTED IN THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE SUCCESSFUL PROPOSAL (2021).



VANUATU – PARTICIPANTS OF THE USAID CLIMATE READY-SUPPORTED “VANUATU COMMUNITY-BASED CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROJECT” COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT IN NIKAURA, EPI ISLAND. THE ASSESSMENT HELPED TO INFORM THE PROJECT PROPOSAL DESIGN AND THE PROPOSAL WAS SUCCESSFULLY APPROVED FOR FUNDING BY THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND (FEBRUARY 2021). CREDIT: NIKI KUAUTONGA.

working relationships with AEs working in the Pacific Region in coordinating, gaining trust, and staying abreast of collaboration opportunities in project preparation.

- **Small grant support provides a faster, cost-effective pathway to on-ground implementation.** To balance the lengthy timeframe from project initiation to project implementation for large-scale climate finance projects, USAID Climate Ready partnered with UNDP’s GEF-funded Small Grants Programme in the North Pacific (FSM, Palau, and RMI) and PNG, and with UNDP’s Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator. This partnership worked closely with community-based organizations (CBO) on the development of small-scale climate change adaptation projects.

This pathway proved a faster way to show visible results on the ground with a conception-to-implementation timeframe of generally around six-to-nine months. In this capacity, USAID Climate Ready supported small grant proponents in the development of over 60 community-based, small-scale projects in the range of US\$25,000-75,000. In addition, USAID Climate Ready has assisted AEs in accessing international funds for on granting to smaller organizations (e.g., through GCF’s Enhanced Direct Access mechanism). This mechanism builds a bridge between smaller entities and international climate finance and allows for the large funding amounts available at the international level to be “repackaged” as smaller grants that are more consistent with the funding needs of small organizations, while being within their management capabilities.

- **To effectively participate in the project development process, counterpart institutions need capacity strengthening.** It is not the role of government counterpart staff to know all the ins and outs of designing a project concept or proposal – that is the responsibility of the AE. However, it is worthwhile if government counterparts have sufficient knowledge to actively participate in the management of the project development process and be able to institutionalize at project closure the experience and lessons learned from preparing the project. To address this need, the Project, in collaboration with the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii, developed a guide on the process of compiling information into the successful design of a small grant proposal. The guide can also serve for larger types of projects for international climate finance. The guide contains chapters on the following:
  - Identifying and addressing the problem;
  - Developing a logical framework;
  - Making the “climate case” for a project;
  - Linking a project to existing policies and frameworks;
  - Incorporating gender equity, disability, and social inclusion issues;
  - Risk management; and
  - Monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and learning.
- **Effective technical assistance understands the Pacific context.** Successful implementation in the Pacific region requires contextual knowledge, particularly with respect to community based GESI assessments and Pacific government policies and procedures. It is also important to use technical assistance as a way of building the capacity of Pacific technical specialists. USAID Climate Ready made it a practice to engage qualified national consultants or regionally based Pacific Islanders to fill project design and/or other Project activities, such as policy development and accreditation support. Through this support, USAID Climate Ready contributed significantly to the development of local talent in line with the Project’s emphasis on localization. Out of 80 short-term technical experts employed during USAID Climate Ready, 48% were local and PIC-based consultants.

### Implementation Highlight:

- USAID Climate Ready partnered with the UNDP PNG Country Office to support more than 20 NGO and CBO partners in the development of climate adaptation project proposals for funding under UNDP’s GEF-funded SGP. One such project was the Community Adaptation and Empowerment Project for which USAID Climate Ready supported the Lufa Community Development Agency to develop the project proposal. The project was approved for US\$48,320, including co-financing, and improved food security for approximately 5,600 direct beneficiaries in PNG’s Eastern Highlands Province.

## 4.3 OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROJECTS

### 4.3.1. CAPACITY BUILDING

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*“Women bring a unique perspective to the process of developing and managing projects. Supporting more women to hone these technical skills will ensure that vital perspectives are more readily available to contribute meaningfully to the project management space here in the Pacific.”*

USAID Climate Ready-sponsored Project Management course participant

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USAID Climate Ready supported PICs to strengthen their capacity to adapt and respond to the adverse impacts of climate change. However, within PICs, local technical capacity to design and implement high-quality climate change adaptation projects is low. There is a concern that when climate finance starts flowing, the capacity to manage and implement quality CCA projects may not be adequate or locally available. Key project lessons learned include the following:

- **Effective and appropriate training partnerships are essential for strengthening local capacity to manage adaptation projects and business continuity planning.** At national consultations with target country governments and other stakeholders at the beginning of the Project, partners made it clear that they required accredited, professional upskilling opportunities, not one-off trainings or short workshops that often fall short for building sustainable technical capacities. The desire for courses delivered by reputable local or regional training providers was expressed as these institutions would be more appropriate and understand the local context better. Through effective training collaborations – particularly through the partnership with USP Pacific TAFE – USAID Climate Ready has been able to train over 2,500 people across the Pacific, 52% of them women. At least one third of people trained received a Certificate IV credential (i.e., a professional development certification).

USAID Climate Ready also partnered with the Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council (FBDRRC), the Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation and Chambers of Commerce from Fiji, Palau, Tonga, Samoa, and Vanuatu to facilitate trainings in disaster resilience and business continuity planning for

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The need to disaster-proof SMEs in the Pacific is critical. Through effective partnerships with key stakeholders, USAID Climate Ready compiled key guidance and resources into a publication that leveraged and adapted guidance from a range of resources, especially materials developed by the Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation, Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council, the Pacific Community, and the Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office. This collection of resources will build awareness on the concepts of disaster readiness and business continuity, and on the key steps for a business to become disaster ready.



FIJI - USP COURSE FACILITATOR (SECOND FROM LEFT) WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT COURSE GRADUATES (MARCH 2021).

- **Training is more effective if participant selection is targeted and learner support is Pacific Island-based.**
  - *Targeted participants.* USAID Climate Ready, in consultation with target country focal points, carefully selected participants from organizations throughout the Pacific responsible for the management and implementation of climate change projects. Participants also included people from the implementing organizations that the project assisted in preparing successful climate change adaptation project proposals, as well as participants from institutions that USAID Climate Ready provided GCF accreditation support to with the goal of strengthening direct access to climate finance. The Project took special care to think about capacity development not just for the individual participant, but also in terms of the individual's role within his/her organization and how that person could strengthen that organization. Once these participants were identified, the Project worked closely with USP Pacific TAFE to register them formally.
  - *Pacific approach to learner support.* The Project learned that it was essential to identify an institutional partner with good trainers who understand the Pacific context, could teach well, and who could support participants to get to the end of the course. USP Pacific TAFE has a cadre of course facilitators that has been able to do just that. In particular, during the Covid-19 pandemic when all courses had to be shifted to online modes, course facilitators had to levy extra patience and attention to ensure that learners did not feel isolated by creating virtual spaces for learning and team collaboration. Course facilitators also had to assist participants on how to use the online learning platform (Moodle). This ongoing support engendered not only a class experience, but a community feel to learning. The course evaluations showed that Pacific trainers made all the difference to a lot of learners and kept them engaged and enrolled. Partnership with USP has been one of the most effective and long-standing collaborations for the Project. See *Success Story* on page 29.



# SUCCESS STORY

## Building Resilience Capacity through Project Management Training in Partnership with USP



*Director of USP Pacific TAFE*

***“After graduating with a Certificate IV in Project Management, many of these women then got themselves enrolled into the Diploma in Project Management program feeling empowered I suppose. They felt that they wanted to know more, they wanted to learn more and some of them even experienced promotions in their workplaces and we felt really good knowing that the programs that we had delivered had actually contributed positively to the lives of the women.”***

In the Pacific, climate change is a reality that is seen, felt, and lived daily. Pacific Island Countries are among the planet’s most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, each facing threats to lives and livelihoods.

Since 2017, USAID Climate Ready has been supporting Pacific Island Countries to strengthen their capacity to adapt and respond to the adverse impacts of climate change. In partnership with the University of the South Pacific’s (USP) Pacific Technical and Further Education (Pacific TAFE), USAID Climate Ready has delivered accredited project management training courses across 11 Pacific Island Countries as part of strengthening local resilience through better management of adaptation projects.

This partnership has trained 520 people in project management, including 270 women. One of them is █████ from Fiji, who back in 2019 had just welcomed her newborn baby.

While she enjoyed the time at home with her newborn, █████’s aspiration to further her education and her humanitarian aid career was in the back of her mind. She came across an advertisement for the USAID Climate Ready-sponsored Certificate IV Project Management Practice course and it caught her interest. She applied and participated in the 2020 cohort.

As a result of this course, █████ secured new employment at a humanitarian NGO and worked her way up to a Humanitarian and Development Aid Project Manager. She credits this achievement to the Project Management training that provided her with the required knowledge and skills for the position. “I was able to gain confidence in my ability to become a leader and a Project Manager,” said █████.

█████, Director of USP Pacific TAFE, agrees that the partnership between USAID Climate Ready and USP Pacific TAFE has made a positive difference in the lives of participants, particularly women.

## 4.4 CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

### 4.4.1. GESI

The negative impacts of climate change are not gender neutral. Women and vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected. They already have limited access to resources, opportunities and decision-making power and climate change multiplies those inequities, risks, and hardships, driving their vulnerability increasingly upward. Further, the capacity to mainstream GESI considerations into areas where a difference can be made – for example policies and operations, project design, and project management – is low.

- **A two-pronged approach to GESI mainstreaming – i.e., embedding GESI into individual activities as well as across overall Project implementation – can produce more effective results.** To see greater gender equity and social inclusion, it is essential to actively and deliberately build it into programming, operations, and activities. Further, if GESI is not built in, it tends to be treated as an add-on that is not well integrated and hence less effective.



FIJI – CERTIFICATE IV PROJECT MANAGEMENT COURSE PARTICIPANTS FROM WOMEN IN MARITIME FIJI AT THEIR GRADUATION CEREMONY (2021).

#### Implementation Highlight:

- **Fiji – Fiji Development Bank (FDB).** The Project worked with FDB on the development and operationalization of its gender policy and to improve procurement processes to gain GCF accreditation. The FDB is not only accredited with the GCF as a national Direct Access Entity but now offers a greater range of services and loan products to women. Hence USAID Climate Ready’s close collaboration with FDB has enabled FDB to mainstream gender equity and social inclusion into its overall operations and lending practices See *Success Story* on Page 31.



FIJI DEVELOPMENT BANK - GCF GESI POLICY STAFF ORIENTATION  
USAID CLIMATE READY GESI ADVISOR, [REDACTED]  
DELIVERING TRAINING (2022).

# SUCCESS STORY

## Climate Change Adaptation and Inclusive Finance in Fiji



Fiji Development Bank staff serve customers at the Suva branch.



The USAID Climate Ready team worked with the Fiji Development Bank to develop and operationalize its gender policy to mainstream GESI considerations resulting in new finance products tailored for women and other vulnerable groups.

In Fiji, climate change-induced droughts, floods, and natural disasters can damage food crops, forcing women, who traditionally grow food, to work harder to meet their families' needs. When this occurs, girls are pressured to leave school to help their mothers. For these reasons and more, gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) is critical for resilient and sustainable climate change work. The Fiji Development Bank (FDB) recognizes this and is changing how it does business to improve access to finance for everyone.

With support from the USAID Climate Ready project, the award-winning FDB was the first development bank in the South Pacific to be accredited to the Green Climate Fund, the world's largest climate fund. In 2017, it became a Direct Access Entity, meaning it can submit funding proposals to the Green Climate Fund and oversee the funded projects. Such accreditation is a pathway for countries to gain access to funds that can enable them to act on their own climate change priorities.

For [REDACTED], who manages the bank's Climate and Eco Finance Division, the partnership is invaluable. "The partnership with USAID Climate Ready has been quite a successful one and a journey about collaboration—that's the beauty of this relationship we've had so far," said [REDACTED].

In 2019, USAID Climate Ready and FDB partnered again, this time to update and operationalize the bank's GESI policy, developed as a condition of Green Climate Fund accreditation. The GESI policy is based on strong global evidence that climate change adaptation and disaster risk management initiatives are more sustainable, equitable, and effective when GESI factors are mainstreamed into project design, implementation, and monitoring. It recognizes that climate change and disasters affect women, men, children, elderly people, people with disabilities, and people living in isolated and under-served areas in different ways. [REDACTED] says GESI is now part and parcel of development finance, and that the bank is working on mainstreaming GESI throughout its work.

FDB now offers a greater range of services and loan products to women, enabling them to build their families' resilience and reduce their vulnerability to natural disasters and the effects of climate change. As a result of the bank's commitment to being gender responsive and socially inclusive, CEO [REDACTED] said there's been an upward trend in the number of women customers accessing the bank's services.

#### 4.4.2. PROJECT COMMUNICATIONS

Climate change in the Pacific is a crowded space so it is imperative for USAID to show and tell what it is doing on a regular basis. Not only is it important for USAID to coordinate with other donors in the region, but also to be seen as supporting relevant exchanges of knowledge and information that can benefit Pacific people. By highlighting successful initiatives, other donors and Pacific partners can expand their knowledge, realize synergies, catalyze partnerships, and avoid duplication. Finally, while effective communication in a crowded region can be a challenge – it is important that donors and implementing partners generate meaningful and relevant content to the local context and culture.

- **There is local appetite for Pacific stories.** USAID Climate Ready has learned that Pacific people are keen to see one another in action and hear about each other’s achievements. Stories that show the local capacity and ambition of the Pacific are eagerly consumed and celebrated. It is important that such stories are accessible, visual, and distinctly Pacific, not generic or repackaged content from other geographies.

USAID Climate Ready has communicated largely via Facebook, which continues to be the most widely used social media platform in the Pacific with millions of subscribers. The posts that have resulted in the most views, impressions, and interactions have been short, avoiding most technical jargon and including photographs of people and places from the region. Compelling content showcases the way of life, culture, and unique challenges faced by Pacific individuals, communities, and organizations in a way that also informs audiences. Including specific location information such as village names and provinces so that the audience can gauge their degree of connection is also effective.

Further, to try to curb the increasing tendency of users to scroll quickly, USAID Climate Ready began to produce short-form videos (under two-minute clips) to accompany posts and longer stories. These videos have retained user attention for longer than photos and infographics. USAID Climate Ready is one of the few Pacific projects to use short-form video in Facebook posts. For example, a post with a video clip on its partnership with the Fiji Development Bank garnered close to 10,000 views on the USAID Pacific Islands Facebook page.

- **USAID needs to be regularly showing what it is doing in the Pacific.** For USAID to be recognized as an ally and an effective actor in climate change adaptation in the Pacific region, it needs to be regularly showcasing its work with organizations and communities. Since moving to weekly social media posts in the latter half of the Project, USAID Climate Ready experienced a noticeable increase in stakeholder awareness of the Project as evidenced by a rise in people telling Project team members that they have read about the Project’s activities and its achievements. Thus far, USAID Climate Ready has published over 300 social media posts on the USAID Pacific Islands Facebook page and a number of knowledge products and longer stories on Climatelinks, USAID’s global portal for climate-related information.

#### 4.4.3. MEL AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

USAID Climate Ready’s implementation period from 2016 to 2023 was marked by significant, rapid global changes and uncertainties. Administrative changes in the early years of the Project affected programming priorities, budget allocation and relationships with some target countries. The Covid-19 pandemic that followed shut down the region for up to three years; some borders remained closed until mid-2022. During this time, implementation was not simple and the Project needed to adapt and respond to the constantly changing circumstances. Key lessons learned include:



- **MEL can support adaptive management by promoting understanding during changing times and improving subsequent decision making and activities.** To ensure that the Project was learning from actions and making improvements as needed, the USAID Climate Ready team regularly and systematically documented the targets it achieved and conducted quarterly progress reflections together (e.g., How we are tracking? How much further do we have to go? Is this the best way to get there?).



KIRIBATI - USAID CLIMATE READY (VIA ZOOM) CONDUCTING ITS RESILIENCE SCORECARD EXERCISE – PART OF ITS DELIVERABLES EVALUATION – WITH KIRIBATI GOVERNMENT PARTNERS (2022).

The Project also maintained regular communication and engagement with Pacific stakeholders as part of its “Collaboration, Learning and Adaptation” approach. This involved developing and implementing activities/sub-activities closely with partners and conducting follow-up research (i.e., “Deliverables Evaluation” as described below) with partners to glean the outcomes of Project support, as opposed to waiting for outside evaluations. In these ways, the team was able to gather and use learning for improved implementation.

Two examples of MEL processes supporting adaptive management are outlined below.

- *Project Management Course Tracer Studies.* USAID Climate Ready employed tracer studies (i.e., follow-up surveys conducted over time) to assess the effectiveness of USAID Climate Ready’s project management courses delivered in partnership with USP Pacific TAFE and to measure the achievements against project indicators. The tracer studies also helped to bring to light the additional support learners needed, for example, when Covid-19 forced all courses online. The tracer studies identified that learners required: extra assistance in navigating Moodle (the online platform), lectures to be recorded in case learners’ connectivity dropped out, and more time to submit and upload assignments because many only had internet at work, not home. These matters were discussed with USP Pacific TAFE and strategies were developed together with the Project to improve the delivery of subsequent courses.

- *Deliverables (Outcomes) Research.* USAID Climate Ready had 13 Deliverables, including outcome areas. To document the achievements, the Project team developed a set of data collection tools and an associated data storage/analysis system. The USAID Climate Ready team used the tools to collect data from partner organizations and experts across the region. These data provided useful insights into partner perceptions on USAID Climate Ready support, what the Project was doing well and what needed improvement. Because the Project team undertook the data collection and analyses itself, lessons could be learned quickly and improvements readily actioned.



SOLOMON ISLANDS – A BOAT MARKET IN ONE OF USAID CLIMATE READY’S TARGET COUNTRIES, THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.



#### 4.4.4. TRUSTED PARTNER

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*“In the Micronesia region and beyond, MCT has become known even more widely for its critical role as the Accredited Entity for both GCF and AF. MCT has become known for being the smallest NGO to become accredited to both GCF and AF. MCT is positioned critically to serve the FSM and regionally to help leverage large climate finance resources to the Micronesia region. I would like the opportunity to thank again USAID Climate Ready Project for the tremendous support provided to MCT. I said it before and would like to reiterate that Climate Ready partnership support has been one of MCT’s consequential partnerships.”*

Micronesia Conservation Trust

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Like many organizations, USAID Climate Ready’s successes are heavily reliant on the effectiveness and achievements of its partnerships. Partnership was difficult during the early years when USAID was not as well-known in the Pacific and the governing Administration did not prioritize the climate crisis. Significant time (the first 12 months) was required to establish contact and relationships with host Pacific Island governments and key focal agencies as there were some initial doubts about the Project and its ability to mobilize climate finance. Later, the Covid-19 pandemic created challenges to relationship building and maintaining as in-person staff and technical consultant visits had to be replaced with new and remote approaches to service delivery.



PNG – USAID CLIMATE READY-SUPPORTED SMALL GRANT PROPONENT APPRECIATES USAID CLIMATE READY REGIONAL COORDINATOR’S ASSISTANCE WHICH LEAD TO AN APPROVED PROPOSAL (JANUARY 2023).

- **Trusted partnerships are based on mutual understanding, responsiveness, flexibility, openness and demonstrated value.** During the seven years of presence in the Pacific, USAID Climate Ready fostered its “trusted partner” status with Pacific Island Governments, development partners and Civil Society Organizations in the following ways:
  - **Build mutual understanding.** USAID Climate Ready kick-started its collaboration in the Pacific by organizing national consultations with numerous government institutions, regional organizations, and development partners in each of the Project’s target countries to better understand needs and goals. This exercise also helped to identify priority activities, which the Project subsequently implemented and supplemented through further consultations throughout the following seven years.

- **Be responsive.** USAID Climate Ready was able to respond quickly and positively to the self-identified needs of the government partners, stakeholders, and individuals through design and implementation of a wide range of activities in climate change policy and strategy development, access to international climate finance, and strengthening the capacities of Pacific Islands government institutions and citizens. Further, with offices and staff in PNG, FSM, and Fiji, USAID Climate Ready was well positioned to facilitate communication with local government agencies across the region and ensure the Project’s interventions were appropriate, adequate, and relevant to a country’s needs and priorities.
- **Be flexible to changing context.** Covid-19 was an opportunity to show how nimble the Project could be by adapting the way it delivered support. This included providing remote mentorship to local/in-country consultants to keep activities going and taking face-to-face trainings online or in blended modes.
- **Be open.** Through honest and open communication with stakeholders and governments across the region, USAID Climate Ready was able to strengthen its relationships and share the Project’s vision, goal, and objectives openly and transparently. USAID Climate Ready’s approach was to discuss issues openly and respectfully and identify areas of support in a participatory and consultative manner. The Project was always willing to listen to feedback and deliver better.
- **Demonstrate value.** One big advantage of USAID Climate Ready as a trusted partner was the Project’s ability to pull together and organize resources, such as technical specialists, to leverage and mobilize climate finance beyond what was required under USAID Project targets. The Project became well-known for adding value through the provision of complementary skills and high quality local and international expertise that also led to local capacity development. This support was provided with respect to existing laws, policies, practices, plans and customs of partner countries and integrated into the existing systems and processes of Pacific agencies.



## 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the USAID Climate Ready lessons learned and implementation experience, the following are recommended ways to resolve some of the main constraints encountered by the Project. These can also be viewed as potential opportunities for future programming.

**DAE Accreditation.** Pacific countries are interested in having at least one national organization as an AE to access GCF funding rather than continuing to rely on regional or international AEs. However, the accreditation process is long and difficult and requires significant resources and commitment. Therefore, it is essential to continue to provide technical assistance and capacity development for DAE accreditation in the following ways:

- Support access to GCF readiness grants to fund accreditation-related processes, while advocating with GCF for a more streamlined application process.
- Support the development of accreditation strategies, gap assessments and address identified gaps to assist PICs in identifying entities that are best positioned for implementation.
- Assist agencies and organizations aspiring to accreditation in mainstreaming CCA and GESI across policy and operations to meet GCF requirements for policy implementation.

**Project Proposals.** The main mechanism to deliver climate finance to the Pacific is through projects funded by international climate finance institutions. AEs submit proposals that cost significant amounts of money and require specialized technical inputs to prepare, so that they meet the high-level requirements demanded by these institutions. Therefore, these AEs will continue to seek support with technical assistance to prepare project proposals in the following ways:



- Support the development of funding proposals/project pipelines that address adaptation priorities articulated in NAPs, NDCs, and other climate/disaster risk reduction related strategies, plans and frameworks to increase country ownership, as well as the bankability of projects.
- Improve availability and use of climate data and information to meet the GCF's rigorous requirements for a compelling "climate rationale" for proposed projects, and to ensure that projects effectively address climate risks and impacts.
- Prioritize the preparation of GCF EDA projects which enable on-granting of funds in smaller amounts in line with the need and capacity of local implementing organizations and build the capacity of local organizations to design and effectively implement projects through these on-granting mechanisms.

**Small Grant Programs.** There are several grant programs across the Pacific that fund community level activities involving CBOs and small NGOs. While the funding is welcome and builds capacity to adapt at the community level, these programs provide minimal assistance to groups to prepare project concepts and project proposals. Moving forward, these locally rooted organizations provide effective entry points for building community resilience in the Pacific in the long term, but they require capacity strengthening, technical advice, and technical resources targeted specifically to their needs. USAID Climate Ready provided technical support to these groups and prepared several practical guides to assist with small grant proposal preparation.

This type of support enabled community groups to access funds, build their capacity to apply for future grants, and build the resilience of their community in a manner that is inclusive and sensitive to local context and culture. Ideally, grant programs would provide more assistance to CBOs and NGOs with the preparation of proposals but if not, then projects such as USAID Climate Ready can support small grant proposal preparation and establish links with community-based implementation mechanisms.

**Climate Change Adaptation Priorities.** Pacific Island Countries have been advised to prepare NAPs and NDCs to guide the design and implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation measures across priority sectors. While there is significant support to prepare NAPs, there is much less support for the development of financing plans that identify viable public and private sector sources for implementation. Hence one of the most effective ways for USAID to build on the success of USAID Climate Ready is to support countries in advancing national adaptation planning and implementation and to engage with other relevant actors to further accelerate the financing needed for implementation. Key elements of this support could include:

- Finance strategies for implementing NAPs and NDCs including cost estimates for priority initiatives, and potential financing modalities (e.g., grants, own-source revenues, blended finance, other).
- Fund aspects of country NAPs and other relevant strategies and leverage partnerships with entities such as the US Development Finance Corporation, multilateral banks, and private sector financiers.

**Project Implementation Capacity.** As climate finance begins to flow through approved projects, strong local capacity to manage high-quality adaptation projects will be required to ensure effectiveness and timely compliance with the often complex reporting requirements of climate financiers. USAID Climate Ready has worked with regional training institutions that deliver practical courses and context appropriate online, face-to-face, or in blended modes, and as such improved local and regional capacities needed. Given the importance of localization – which requires local ownership and implementation by skilled Pacific Islanders – continued support to strengthen implementation capacity through regional training institutions is essential.

**Private Sector.** Attracting private sector investment for climate change initiatives in the Pacific remains a challenge and solutions need to be cognizant of the specific context across SIDS. The small market size and perceived and real risks in the enabling environment (e.g., high transaction costs, volatile economic growth, limited capacity) continue to stymie private sector interest. To date, private sector investment in the Pacific has focused primarily on clean energy and mitigation solutions—those with increasing demand, clear business cases, and return on investment (e.g., solar panels, wind turbines, batteries). While there is significant room to scale these investments, finding ways to de-risk and accelerate needed investment in adaptation will be critical to the survival of the PICs. To meet the adaptation funding gap, blended finance shows potential, but to date there has been little application of blended finance instruments in the Pacific, as well as knowledge and technical capability to structure projects that meet private sector requirements and return on investment.

To address these issues, USAID Climate Ready’s work could be built upon by strengthening PICs’ abilities to access public funding (e.g., GCF) as leverage to de-risk private sector investment in climate adaptation and collaborate with private entities and equity funds already accredited to GCF. Another track for further engagement with private sector may build on USAID Climate Ready’s work with local Chambers of Commerce and Business Resilience Councils in promoting business continuity planning and resilience for Pacific SMEs. Future support to SMEs in the Pacific may include identifying and promoting relevant adaptation solutions (technologies, products, services) and related financing needed to address SMEs’ vulnerabilities to climate change impacts and risks to their operations and value chains.



PALAU – PALAU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVES AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPANTS ATTEND A BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLANNING WORKSHOP DELIVERED REMOTELY BY WELLINGTON REGION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE TRAINERS THROUGH USAID CLIMATE READY SUPPORT (2022).

**Competing Timeframes.** Donor-funded projects have specific implementation timeframes but often when dealing with government and other organizations across the Pacific, the staffing levels, staff capacity, the competing priorities and other limited resources make it difficult for government agencies to comply with these timeframes. Therefore, donor projects and development partners need to adjust their timeframes in an adaptive manner to align with these conditions and accept that the time taken to achieve certain outputs and outcomes may be longer than initially expected (or planned).

**Regional Cooperation and Learning.** Significant learning opportunities exist by having people from PICs share their experiences on how they did certain things in their country, be it project preparation, accreditation, training staff or promoting GESI. Therefore, it would be useful to identify climate leaders across the Pacific in Government, private sector (e.g., development bank networks) and civil society, along with sustainable regional platforms to further support learning exchanges and collaboration.



## ANNEX B. SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY COUNTRY

### USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: FIJI

<b>Country:</b>	<b>FIJI</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

#### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

#### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Supported the accreditation of the Fiji Development Bank.
- 1,063 people, including 571 women, trained through courses on adaptation.
- Supported FDB in the adoption and implementation of GESI policies and operational plans to support adaptation goals.

#### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Results</b>
Support Fiji Development Bank (FDB) achieve GCF NIE accreditation (FIJ-17-12001) – provided ESS expertise to assist FDB in meeting GCF accreditation requirements for ESS risk assessments.	An ESS screening tool, certificate of compliance, and a guidance manual for ESS screening has been developed. An MoU was drafted by USAID Climate Ready laying out the roles and responsibilities of FDB and DoEnv in ensuring project concepts and proposals meet GCF ESS requirements. An MoU was signed between FDB and DoEnv to formalize the collaboration.
Technical support to the Fiji Climate Change Division, MoE (FIJ-20-11004) – provided GESI technical expertise to support the development of a GESI Policy and Action Plan in support of GCF accreditation requirements.	GESI compliance for accreditation has been achieved. On request, USAID Climate Ready assisted MoE to operationalize the GESI Policy and Action Plan. MoE has mainstreamed GESI into all aspects of its work including the new Strategic Plan.
Support to the Suva City Council to develop an Asset Management Strategy that incorporates resilience to climate change and disasters (FIJ-21-11005) – provided Asset Management technical expertise to assist SCC in the development of their Asset Management Strategy.	The final draft Asset Management Strategy has been approved and is being reviewed by Government for endorsement.
Support SPC to prepare and submit the funding proposal ‘Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity of Coastal Communities of Fiji to Climate Change through Nature-Based Seawalls’ (SPC/AF USD \$5.8M)	The proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.

(FIJ-23-12005) – provided technical assistance in ESS to support the development of the proposal proposals.	
Supporting Resilient Island Communities in Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu through the Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) Mechanism (SPC/UNCDF/GCF US\$47.5m) (REG-22-12015) – provided ESS/Gender technical inputs to assist in the development of the project proposal.	The proposal was submitted to GCF in April 2023 and is under review.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	The proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.
Support SPC/FAO to prepare and submit a full project proposal for 'Enhancing Water-Food Security and Climate Resilience in Volcanic Island Countries of the Pacific' (WELL Project - Water for Environment, Livelihoods and Life) (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu) (SPC, FAO, GEF US\$6m & Co-Finance US\$23m) (REG-21-12014) – as part of its support, the project provided GESI and ESS expertise to assist in the development of the approved project proposal.	The GEF approved the project for US\$6,000,000 in a GEF Trust Fund project grant and US\$23,151,489 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$29,151,489.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.
Support UNDP Pacific Small Grants Program to Build Resilience of SMEs (Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator) (AF) (REG-20-12010) – the project provided technical support to the shortlisted NGO to develop its project proposal application for submission to UNDP AFCIA.	USAID Climate Ready supported Smart Farms Fiji to submit a proposal for a US\$60,000 grant, which was approved.
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – provided ESS technical assistance to SPC, including drafting ESS policies required for seeking accreditation.	Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.
Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP's CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Climate Finance Training with USAID ADAPT and USP (FIJ-17-13001) – funded the course.	72 people, including 31 women, were trained.
Partner with Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council (FBDR) to support training in disaster resilience and business continuity planning for small and medium	525 people, including 353 women, representing SMEs trained in climate change adaptation and business continuity planning.

enterprises in Fiji (REG-17-13003) - developed training tools and templates for Business Continuity Planning and Green Recovery Planning and made plans for further roll out.	
Sub-Regional Workshop for Private Sector Development (PIFS) (REG-18-13004) – funded the workshop.	40 people, including 7 women, participated in the one-day workshop that trained people in accessing climate finance and especially the application process for the GCF Private Sector Facility, thereby improving private sector access to climate change finance.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.	51 people, including 20 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	175 people, including 97 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	48 people, including 11 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Procurement & Supply courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13010) – identified participants and funded cohort.	37 people, including 15 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP to conduct online training in Project Preparation for Government and NGO organisations (REG-20-13011) – identified participants and funded cohort.	15 people, including three women, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort – identified participants and funded cohort.	68 people, including 21 women, completed the course.
Contract registered training providers to deliver accredited on-line or blended courses in disaster preparedness tailored to achieve disaster risk reduction and improve climate change resilience in vulnerable countries (REG-21-13013) – partnered with RedR Australia to deliver intensive humanitarian practice/disaster preparedness and response courses.	32 people, including 13 women, were sponsored and completed the course,

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *GESI Training for FDB Leads to Development of Women-Specific Products*



*FIJI DEVELOPMENT BANK GENERAL MANAGER RELATIONSHIPS AND SALES TITILIA KAMIL (MIDDLE) WITH WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS (FROM LEFT) SEEMA MOHAN, SOFIA ALI, MELAIA ADI AND MAY FONG (SEPTEMBER, 2022) (PHOTO CREDIT: LAISA LUI, FIJI SUN).*

Only 11 percent of women entrepreneurs in Fiji were accessing products offered by the Fiji Development Bank due to access, inability to meet loan criteria, and rigid product outlines.

Since 2018, USAID Climate Ready has worked closely with the Fiji Development Bank to develop and roll out a Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Policy and Action Plan across its operations, as part of the Bank's Green Climate Fund accreditation conditions and as a base for addressing climate change adaptation. USAID Climate Ready's support included Gender Responsive Banking training for staff and management, and a review of the Bank's current products and systems. This led to FDB identifying the need for more tailor-made products geared towards women entrepreneurs and the development of a women-specific loan facility in August 2022. The new facility, which has since received over 1,600 applications thus far, is expected to raise the value of female loan applicants to at least 25 percent in the next three years to create a more conducive and gender-responsive business environment in Fiji.

Climate change impacts are not gender neutral. USAID Climate Ready's support to institutions across the Pacific like the Fiji Development Bank to strengthen gender and social inclusion through policy development and training has been vital to ensuring that the needs and perspectives of both women and men are included in climate action solutions.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: FSM

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Mobilized over US\$26.6m in climate finance for large and small adaptation projects through FSM-based Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT).
- Strengthened the capacity of MCT to access climate finance through accreditation, proposal preparation and organization development support.
- 79 people, including 34 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
Support to 'Practical solutions to reducing community vulnerability to climate change in FSM' (MCT, AF, US\$970K) (FSM-17-12001) – provided technical assistance to support the development of MCT's project proposal.	The project was approved in March 2018 for US\$970,000.
PCCFAF Climate Change Finance Assessment (FSM-18-11001) – provided technical assistance to analyze and draft the PCCFAF for submission to the FSM Government.	Helped prepare the final draft of the PCCFAF Climate Finance Assessment document, which was submitted to the FSM Government in February 2019, cleared for publication by Government in March, with a formal launch of the assessment scheduled for late October. Meanwhile the document is being widely used and consulted for its information and recommendations.
Support to Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) for the development of a Simplified Approval Process (SAP) project proposal for <i>Enhancing Food and Water Security in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)</i> (GCF US\$10m) (FSM-18-12004) – provided technical assistance to prepare the proposal and helped to develop an Operations Manual, as required the GCF.	The SAP was approved by GCF for US\$ 9,393,350 (including co-financing of US\$810,000). The Manual has been finalized, endorsed by MCT and cleared by GCF.
Support to the Vital Energy Group (formerly FSM Petro Corp) to achieve GCF Accreditation (FSM-21-12010) – provided Accreditation support (GESI and Fiduciary) to assist FSMPC's accreditation process.	Final draft policies for GESI, ESS, and internal financial controls have been produced which will help in the pathway toward accreditation.
Support to the FSM National Council on Climate Change Sustainable Development (CCCSD) to	The CCCSD Council reviewed and adopted, by unanimous vote, the Rules and Procedures for the



mainstream CC and GESI (FSM-21-11003) – the project developed a set of recommendations for Rules and Procedures for review and adoption by the Council.	Council, which will also strengthen its ability to mainstream climate change into national programs and policies.
Support FSM NDA to develop a National Climate Change Communication Strategy and build capacity to implement it (FSM-21-11004) – provided technical assistance to develop the NDAS's Communication Strategy.	A final Communication Strategy for the NDA was endorsed, thereby strengthening the NDA's ability to communicate more effectively about climate change risks.
Support to sub-grantees through Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) small grants program under the Adaptation Fund Project and the UN GEF Small Grants Program (FSM-19-12005) – the project worked with proponents to develop and submit proposals.	Assisted FSM NGO and municipal government project proponents in the development and submission to MCT of nine small grant project proposals addressing CCA that will access climate finance under the small grants facility that MCT established as part of the AF Project <i>Practical Solutions for Reducing Community Vulnerability to Climate Change in the Federated States of Micronesia</i> (also a supported sub-activity of USAID Climate Ready).
Support UNDP/GEF Small Grants program to prepare project proposals (UNDP, GEF) (FSM-20-12006) – the project worked with proponents to develop and submit proposals.	16 project proposals were developed and submitted, and a total of US\$682,985 was approved.
Provide technical support to strengthen the MCT to enable it to address climate change risks (FSM-20-11002) – the project provided institutional strengthening technical support to MCT on progressing their organizational development.	Detailed analyses and the development of actions for strengthening MCT's institutional capacity informed the formulation and approval of the MCT Strategic Plan 2022–2026. This development, operationalization and approval of the MCT Strategic Plan also supports MCT's re-accreditation with the GCF, improving its access to climate finance.
Support to SPC to prepare a GCF EDA proposal for the project "Climate change adaptation solutions for local authorities in the Federated States of Micronesia" (SPC, GCF US\$17m) (FSM-20-12007) - provided technical support (GESI and ESS expertise) to support the preparation of the project proposal.	The project's proposal preparation support assisted in securing US\$19.7million from GCF.
Support SPC to prepare and submit a project proposal for 'Increasing resilience to the health risks of climate change in the FSM' (SPC, GCF, US\$9.6, co-financing US\$0.4m) (FSM-21-12008) – provided technical inputs related to health, GESI, and climate to assist in preparation of the proposal.	Work on the proposal is in-progress and is expected to be submitted in 2024.
Support UNDP to prepare and submit a project concept (PIF) and full proposal for a 'Multi-focal area biodiversity conservation and land degradation project' (UNDP, GEF-7, US\$6.40m, co-financing US\$TBD) (FSM-21-12009) – provided technical support to prepare the PIF and, subsequently, the project proposal.	USAID Climate Ready's support secured a US\$200,000 Project Preparation Grant from GEF upon approval of the PIF and mobilization of project development is underway.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	The proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.

Support OneReef to prepare a project proposal for 'Community-based Fisheries Management in Micronesia: applying Nature-based-Solutions to address climate adaptation, food security, and biodiversity maintenance' (OneReef, Kiwa Initiative, US\$5m) (REG-23-12016) – the project provided technical expertise and assistance in the preparation of the project proposal.	The proposal was approved for US\$5.5m (EUR5m).
Provide post-accreditation support to MCT (FSM-18-12002) – the project assisted MCT to complete its application for re-accreditation.	The reaccreditation application was submitted, and a positive response is expected soon.
Provide GCF NIE accreditation support for Federated States of Micronesia Development Bank (FSMDB), as appropriate (FSM-19-12003) – the project provided technical assistance to complete the GCF accreditation proposal.	The FSMDB President expressed gratitude to USAID Climate Ready for its support and indicated that the Bank did not need further support and its accreditation proposal is now with GCF.
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS expertise, including drafting policies required for GCF accreditation.	To strengthen SPC's application for GCF RIE accreditation, USAID Climate Ready drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.
Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP's CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Submission of the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.
Support MCT to prepare and submit the project proposal 'Preparing the Enabling Environment and Building Organizational Capacity for the Implementing and Executing Agencies in Micronesia' through GCF's Enhanced Direct Access facility (FSM, Palau and RMI) (GCF, US\$10m) (REG-19-12006) – the project provided CCA and gender technical expertise to develop and submit the project proposal.	USAID Climate Ready support developed the Gender Assessment and Action Plan, and an Environmental and Social Action Plan for MCT's project proposal. This proposal was approved for US\$9.9m
Support UNDP Pacific Small Grants Program to Build Resilience of SMEs (Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator) (AF) (REG-20-12010) – the project provided technical support to the shortlisted NGO to develop its project proposal application for submission to UNDP AFCIA.	USAID Climate Ready support led to the successful submission of two grant proposals for the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (US\$60,000) and Sokehs Menin Ketengensed (US\$125,000).
Partnership with MCT to support delivery of Project Preparation and Cost Benefit Analysis for small grants training in the FSM (FSM-18-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	31 people, including 14 women, completed the five-day USAID Climate Ready-sponsored training course in FSM in Project Preparation in May 2018.

<p>Support tuition fees in conservation training for Protection Officers to attend Guam Community College Marine Terrestrial Law Enforcement Academy to improve performance and enforcement of Protected Area Networks (REG-17-13002) – funded the course.</p>	<p>10 people from FSM completed and graduated from the 2.5-month USAID Climate Ready-sponsored certificate course from the Marine &amp; Terrestrial Conservation Law Enforcement Academy.</p>
<p>Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course (Phase 1 online mode &amp; Phase 2 blended mode) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.</p>	<p>Six women completed the course.</p>
<p>Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG 17-13001) - identified participants and funded cohort.</p>	<p>32 people, including 14 women, completed the course.</p>

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *FSM Signs First GCF Project with USAID Climate Ready Support*



FSM - SCREENSHOT OF THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND WEBSITE DETAILING FSM'S PROJECT APPROVAL (MARCH 2021).

As climate change continues to affect communities in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), USAID support assisted FSM's national climate change body, the Micronesian Conservation Trust (MCT), to access funding from the Green Climate Fund for US\$9.4million, including US\$820,000 in co-financing, for the first time ever.

The USAID Climate Ready Project provided considerable technical assistance toward the development and writing of the project proposal entitled “The *Climate Resilient Food Security for Farming Households Across the FSM*,” including working with MCT to conduct consultations with National Government, Non-Governmental Organizations and farmer groups.

As national organizations will be the implementing and executing entities, this country-owned and country-driven project aims to assist farming households across the country strengthen resilience to climate change impacts. It is expected that approximately 68,250 people in farming households will directly benefit from the project.



## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: KIRIBATI

<b>Country:</b>	<b>KIRIBATI</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Strengthened the capacity of the Kiribati Climate Finance Unit.
- Mobilized US\$57.47m in climate finance from GEF for the ‘Enhancing ‘whole of island’ approach to strengthen community resilience to climate and disaster risks’ project in Kiribati.
- 78 people, including 41 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
PCCFAF Climate Finance Assessment (KIR-17-11001) – provided technical assistance to analyze and draft the PCCFAF for submission to the GoK.	The final draft was submitted to the GoK for formal endorsement.
Support Kiribati Climate Finance Division to develop the Kiribati Strategic Framework and Country Programme (KIR-20-11003) – provided GESI and ESS technical support to the Kiribati Climate Finance Division.	The Kiribati Strategic Framework and Country Programme was submitted to the GoK for formal endorsement.
Support SPREP/AF to prepare and submit the project proposal ‘Enhancing the resilience of the outer islands of Kiribati’ (SPREP – AF – US\$8.3m) (KIR-19-12004) – the project provided technical support to develop and submit the project proposal.	<i>N/A – The proposal is unlikely to be resubmitted as SPREP and GoK do not have this as a priority.</i>
‘Enhancing ‘whole of island’ approach to strengthen community resilience to climate and disaster risks’ (UNDP, GEF US\$8.925m, co-financing US\$45m) (KIR-17-12001) – provided technical assistance to prepare and submit the project proposal.	The proposal was approved for US\$57.47m in March 2020.
Assist with establishment of Climate Finance Unit (KIR-17-12002) – the project provided technical assistance to the KCFD to develop key documents and templates, including Standard Operating Procedures and a Communications Plan.	USAID Climate Ready improved institutional capacity and the GoK’s to operational processes to access climate finance.

Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	The proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (REG-17-12002) – the project provided Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management expertise and drafted the required policies and plans for SPC's accreditation to the GCF.	Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.
Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – the project provided technical assistance to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP's CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Building Resilience of Health Systems in Pacific Island LDCs to Climate Change (UNDP, GEF US\$17.85m, co-financing US\$76.0m) (REG-17-12004) – the project provided technical assistance to develop and prepare the project proposal for submission.	The proposal was approved for US\$78.66m.
Support UNDP/AF to prepare and submit the project concept and proposal of the 'Building the resilience of Persons with Disability to Cope with Climate Change in the Pacific Region' project (AF US\$10m) (REG-19-12008) – provided technical assistance to develop and submit the Concept Note.	This proposal is still looking to be funded.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.	33 people, including 16 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP to conduct online training in Project Preparation for government and NGO organisations (REG-20-13011) - identified participants and funded cohort.	2 people, including 1 woman, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – as part of this the project identified participants and funded cohort.	33 people, including 18 women, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012).	7 people, including 4 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course (Phase 1 online mode & Phase 2 blended mode) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005).	3 people, including 2 women, completed the course.

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *Kiribati Access to Climate Financing Strengthened through Partnership*



*STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK AND COUNTRY PROGRAMME CONSULTATION WITH NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN KIRIBATI (MAY 2021).*

Kiribati is one of the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change. Limited resources and capacity compound the challenge to adequately address this significant threat.

USAID Climate Ready supported the Republic of Kiribati to enhance its access to climate finance through the development of the first Climate Finance Strategic Framework and Country Programme (SFCP). The SFCP, which aims to leverage funds from the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund, outlines and guides Kiribati's climate finance programming priorities from 2021-2023.

USAID Climate Ready provided significant technical expertise in Gender Equity and Social Inclusion, Environmental and Social Safeguards, and Program Development to support the Climate Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MFED) to analyze existing and pipeline project priorities, current climate finance governance arrangements and processes, and climate fund opportunities. This technical support included participatory and inclusive stakeholder consultations with members of government, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and communities. These consultations informed the development of an Environment and Social Safeguards Report and Gender Assessment Report, along with accompanying toolkits. The findings of these reports were incorporated into the draft SFCP, ensuring its gender and social inclusivity.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: PALAU

<b>Country:</b>	<b>PALAU</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Strengthened the capacity of the Ministry of Finance to access climate funds through accreditation support, including mobilizing a US\$1,890,246 GCF Readiness Grant.
- Mobilized over US\$434,000 in climate finance from the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme for community-based adaptation projects.
- 75 people, including 52 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
Support MOF to improve draft Project Management Manual for GCF NIE accreditation (PAL-18-12001) – the project assisted in the compilation and lodgement of accreditation documentation.	Section 1-3, 6 (Environmental and Social Safeguards) and 7 (Gender) of the accreditation application were completed. Work on Section 4 (Basic Fiduciary Standards) and Section 5 (Specific Fiduciary Standards) required further work. The MOF is aware that it can access readiness funds to complete the accreditation application.
Support proponents of the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme to prepare quality proposals for funding (UNDP GEF US\$1m) (PAL-19-12002) – the project assisted proponents to develop and submit proposals.	This support led to the preparation and submission of eight proposals. A total of US\$434,303 has thus far been approved.
Support to the National Designated Authority (NDA) of the Republic of Palau (RoP) to finalise a GCF Readiness Grant Proposal for submission to the GCF Secretariat (PAL-20-11001) – the project provided gender, ESS, and specialized fiduciary expertise to meet the criteria within the MoF's <i>Project Management Manual of Rules and Procedures</i> .	Strengthened the Ministry of Finance (MoF)'s capacity to conduct detailed analyses of MoF and other climate finance institutions in Palau and developed actions outlined in the approved GCF Readiness Grant for strengthening these institutions.
Support to the Ministry of Finance and the National Designated Authority (NDA) of the Republic of Palau (RoP) to prepare a GCF NAP Readiness Grant Proposal for submission to the GCF Secretariat (PAL-20-11002) – the project support MoF and the NDA to prepare the NAP proposal.	The proposal was approved for US\$1,890,246.
Support OneReef to prepare a project proposal for 'Community-based Fisheries Management in	The proposal was approved for US\$5.5m (EUR5m).



<p>Micronesia: applying Nature-based-Solutions to address climate adaptation, food security, and biodiversity maintenance" (OneReef, Kiwa Initiative, US\$5m) (REG-23-12016) – the project provided technical support to finalize the project proposal for submission.</p>	
<p>Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.</p>	<p>The proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.</p>
<p>Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.</p>	<p>Submission of the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.</p>
<p>Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental &amp; Social Safeguards &amp; Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC's accreditation to the GCF.</p>	<p>Developed the Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.</p>
<p>Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.</p>	<p>This work has strengthened SPREP's CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.</p>
<p>Support MCT to prepare and submit the project proposal 'Preparing the Enabling Environment and Building Organizational Capacity for the Implementing and Executing Agencies in Micronesia' through GCF's Enhanced Direct Access facility (FSM, Palau and RMI) (GCF, US\$10m) (REG-19-12006) – the project prepared a Gender Assessment and Action Plan and an Environmental and Social Action Plan as part of the project proposal.</p>	<p>This proposal was approved for US\$9.9m</p>
<p>Managing Coastal Aquifer Systems in selected Pacific SIDS (Palau, RMI &amp; Tuvalu) (SPC, UNDP, GEF, US\$19.7m) (REG-19-12005) – the project completed a gender equity and social inclusion analysis, which would form the basis of a GESI Action Plan and Budget to guide gender and social inclusion mainstreaming during project implementation.</p>	<p>The proposal was approved by GEF for U\$24.87m.</p>
<p>Partnership with MCT to support delivery of Project Preparation and Cost Benefit Analysis for small grants training in the FSM (FSM-18-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.</p>	<p>23 people, including 17 women, completed the five-day USAID Climate Ready-sponsored training course in Palau in Project Preparation in May 2018.</p>
<p>Support tuition fees in conservation training for Protection Officers to attend Guam Community College Marine Terrestrial Law Enforcement Academy to improve performance and enforcement of</p>	<p>2 representatives, including 1 woman, from Palau graduated from the 2.5-month USAID Climate Ready-sponsored certificate course from the Marine &amp; Terrestrial Conservation Law Enforcement Academy.</p>

Protected Area Networks (REG-17-13002) – as part of this the project funded the course.	
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course (Phase 1 online mode & Phase 2 blended mode) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	3 women completed the course.
Partner with national Chambers of Commerce to support training in disaster resilience and business continuity planning for small and medium enterprises (REG-19-13007) – identified participants, established training plan and funded training.	27 people, including 19 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) - identified participants and funded cohort.	16 people, including 10 women, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended courses in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	4 people, included 3 women, completed the course.

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *USAID Strengthens Business Resilience in Palau*



*PALAU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVES AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPANTS ATTEND A BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLANNING WORKSHOP DELIVERED REMOTELY BY WELLINGTON REGION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE TRAINERS THROUGH USAID CLIMATE READY SUPPORT (JULY 2022).*

In the Pacific, the private sector is largely comprised of small and medium-sized enterprises, which are particularly vulnerable to the threats of natural disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change. They generally lack the resources to invest in disaster risk reduction and contingency planning.

USAID Climate Ready partnered with the Palau Chamber of Commerce and Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (New Zealand) to deliver essential training and information on Business Continuity Planning for local businesses in Palau.

The training strengthens the local businesses' preparedness, response and resilience to disasters so that they can recover quickly and stay open for business.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: PNG

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Papua New Guinea (PNG)</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Strengthened the capacity of the Climate Change and Development Authority to effectively lead and coordinate climate change activities.
- Supported Department of Works and Highways to develop and launch its Climate Resilience Policy.
- Mobilized US\$10m from the Adaptation Fund for the ‘Adaptation of small-scale agriculture for improved food security of resilient communities in Papua New Guinea’ in partnership with SPC.
- Mobilized over US\$483,000 in climate finance from the PNG UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme for community-based adaptation projects.
- 198 people, including 87 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
Strengthen human and institutional capacity of CCDA (PNG-17-11001) – the project provided technical assistance to draft a readiness proposal.	Assisted CCDA to strengthen its capacity to effectively lead and coordinate climate change projects and programs by supporting the drafting of a Readiness Support Proposal for the GCF which was approved for US\$677,427.
Support CCDA to implement the activities in the GCF NAP Readiness Grant proposal (PNG-20-11002) – the project, through a consultative process with public and private sectors, assisted in the development of a NAP financing and investment strategy.	Completed and submitted a final draft of the NAP and baselines assessment report to CCDA and UNDP.
Support CEPA address climate finance in the Government of PNG’s State of the Environment Report (PNG-20-11003) – provided technical assistance to CEPA and SPREP to review and comment on the third and final drafts of the ‘Atmosphere and Climate’ theme of the SoE Report and on the SoE Report as a whole.	Completed the review of the executive summary, conclusion and recommendation sections of the SoE Report, ensuring that climate change was fully mainstreamed through the document and the associated thinking.
Support CCDA to prepare the climate change adaptation targets for the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to the UNFCCC (PNG-21-11004) – provided technical assistance to draft sections of the NDC.	Supported the development of the PNG NDC Review 2020 Report, and in particular the Adaptation Chapter.



Support CEPA to mainstream climate change into its Waste Management Policy and operationalize the policy within the agency (PNG-21-11005) – provided technical assistance to update the Waste Management Policy.	Supported CEPA to mainstream climate change for the first time into its Waste Management Policy.
Support Department of Works to develop its Climate Resilience Policy (PNG-21-11006) – the project provided technical assistance to DoWH to develop its Climate Resilience Policy and Action Plan.	This work is complete and the Policy and associated Action Plan were officially launched in June 2022.
Support GGGI and DFAT to mainstream climate change into provincial and sectoral development plans in three provinces (PNG-21-11007) – directly assisted GGGI in developing a guide to assist provincial government stakeholders in how to mainstream climate change and green growth measures into sector development plans.	The final version was presented at the GGGI staff retreat during Q1 of FY23.
Finalize assistance to CCDA following submission of GCF Readiness Grant Proposal and provide follow-on support to CCDA with implementation of GCF Readiness Grant (PNG-17-12002) – the project helped develop operational plans and manuals to strengthen CCDA's capacity.	By supporting the development of the GCF Country Programme, Annual Operational Plan and Guidance Manual, USAID Climate Ready has strengthened the capacity of CCDA to address climate change risks.
Develop public-private alliance between Government of PNG and PNG private sector entity (PNG-17-12003) – provided technical assistance to develop the CVA Toolkit for Upland Communities for CCDA and Oil Search.	Support in developing and submitting the final draft of the CVA Toolkit for Upland Communities of PNG has strengthened CCDA and Oil Search's ability to mainstream and address climate change in their community development initiatives.
Support design of climate change/agriculture project with Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL)/FAO (PNG-18-12004) – worked with DAL officials in hosting a GCF webinar to raise awareness on the GCF SAP process.	Improved DAL's capacity to access climate finance by facilitating DAL officers to participate in a GCF SAP concept preparation training, conducting a one-day theory of change workshop, and closely supporting DAL staff to draft and revise the GCF SAP concept note.
Support the rapid assessment of Direct Access Entity candidates nominated by the Government of PNG (PNG-20-12008) – the project assisted DoWH and DNPM to conduct rapid assessments of potential DAE candidates for GCF accreditation.	Rapid assessments of DNPM and DoWH have been drafted and are with the respective government department for review and further action.
Support the development of the full proposal of the 'Adaptation of small-scale agriculture for improved food security of resilient communities in Papua New Guinea' (SPC/AF USD \$10M) (indicator 2.1 & 2.2, D7 & D8) (PNG-22-12010) – the project provided ESS/Gender expertise to assist in development of the project proposal.	This proposal was approved for US\$10 million in AF grant financing.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	This proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall	Assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.

technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC’s accreditation to the GCF.	Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.
Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP’s CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
‘Coastal and marine ecosystem resilience to climate change program’ with SPREP and IUCN (GCF - PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu; US\$60m) (REG-18-12003) – provided GESI technical expertise to support project preparation.	Resubmission of this proposal to GCF is expected by latter 2023.
Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Adaptation Responses Through Climate-related information SMART Project (PNG-18-12005) – the project helped formulate the private sector engagement component of the project proposal preparation.	Developed a draft project proposal and began discussions with UNDP and the PNG NDA to revise the project proposal to respond to GCF comments.
Support UNDP/GEF small grants program to screen concepts and develop priority proposals for funding (PNG-19-12006) – the project provided direct technical assistance to proponents in the development of project proposals.	10 proposals were prepared, submitted and approved for US\$483,763.
Sub-Regional Workshop for Private Sector Development (PIFS) (REG-18-13004) on accessing climate finance - funded the training workshop.	40 people, including 7 women, trained in accessing climate finance and the application process for the GCF Private Sector Facility, thereby improving private sector access to climate finance.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course (Phase 1 online mode & Phase 2 blended mode) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	12 people, including 7 women, completed the course.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.	40 people, including 18 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	85 people, including 50 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Procurement and Supply course in blended mode (on-line and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-20-13010) – identified participants and funded cohort.	2 people, including 1 woman, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	5 people, including 1 woman, completed the course.

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *Climate Change Infrastructure Policy Leads Climate Resilience Efforts in PNG*



*DOWH SECRETARY, DAVID WEREH, GIVING HIS KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY LAUNCH IN PORT MORESBY (JULY 2022).*

Responsible for approximately 30,000 kilometres of roads in Papua New Guinea, the Department of Works, and Highways (DoWH) has witnessed rapid deterioration of road and bridge infrastructure due to climate change impacts.

USAID Climate Ready provided essential technical assistance to DoWH, resulting in the development of a landmark Climate Change Infrastructure Policy and Action Plan that calls for the integration of climate risks and resilience measures into corporate and strategic plans and across programmes and projects at the national and sub-national levels.

This Policy provides a pathway towards climate resilience and aligns to the Department's commitment as part of PNG's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). "We have made a commitment under the NDC to construct and rehabilitate 2,838 km of national roads and 2,171 bridges and culverts according to climate resilient codes by 2030," stated DoWH Secretary David Wereh. Secretary Wereh commended USAID Climate Ready for its continuous support in working towards improving its capacity to build resilient infrastructure.

The Policy also forms part of the accreditation requirements for the Department to become a Direct Access Entity to the Green Climate Fund, a process that was also supported by USAID Climate Ready technical assistance.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: RMI

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Republic of the Marshall Islands</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Mobilized US\$24.75m from GCF for the ‘Addressing Climate Vulnerabilities of the Water Sector in RMI’ in partnership with UNDP.
- Mobilized over US\$560,000 in climate finance from the RMI UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme for community-based adaptation projects.
- 55 people, including 26 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Results</b>
Addressing Climate Vulnerabilities of the Water Sector in RMI (GCF UNDP US\$24.7m) (RMI-17-12001) – the project provided technical support to the UNDP team to prepare and submit the project proposal.	The proposal was approved for a total of US\$24.75m.
Support Office of the Chief Secretary in carrying out a rapid assessment of National Implementing Entity Candidates including the Ministry of Finance, the Marshall Islands Development Bank and possibly Marshall Islands Marine Resource Authority (MIMRA) (RMI-19-12002) – the project provided technical support to conduct rapid assessments of three entities to determine the best equipped entity to apply for GCF accreditation.	Improved the capacity of the RMI Government’s Office of the Chief Secretary to access climate financing by collaboratively conducting a rapid assessment of potential accredited entities against the fiduciary, project management, environmental and social safeguards, and gender performance standards of GCF.
Support proponents of the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme to prepare quality proposals for funding (UNDP GEF US\$1m) (RMI-19-12003) – the project worked with proponents to develop and submit proposals.	Assisted in mobilizing over US\$560,000 from the UNDP GEF SGP through support to the preparation and submission of 10 proposals – nine were approved.
Support MCT to prepare and submit the project proposal ‘Preparing the Enabling Environment and Building Organizational Capacity for the Implementing and Executing Agencies in Micronesia’ through GCF’s Enhanced Direct Access facility (FSM, Palau and RMI) (GCF, US\$10m) (REG-19-12006) – the project prepared a Gender Assessment and Action Plan and an Environmental and Social Action Plan.	This proposal was approved for US\$9.9m
Managing Coastal Aquifer Systems in selected Pacific SIDS (Palau, RMI & Tuvalu) (SPC, UNDP, GEF, US\$19.7m) (REG-	The proposal was approved by GEF for US\$24.87m.



19-12005) – as part of this support, the project undertook a gender equity and social inclusion analysis, which would form the basis of a GESI Action Plan and Budget to guide gender and social inclusion mainstreaming during project implementation.	
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC’s accreditation to the GCF.	Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.
Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP’s CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	This proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.
Support OneReef to prepare a project proposal for 'Community-based Fisheries Management in Micronesia: applying Nature-based-Solutions to address climate adaptation, food security, and biodiversity maintenance' (OneReef, Kiwa Initiative, US\$5m) (REG-23-12016) – the project supported the finalization of the proposal.	The proposal was approved for US\$5.5m (EUR5m).
Support tuition fees in conservation training for Protection Officers to attend Guam Community College Marine Terrestrial Law Enforcement Academy to improve performance and enforcement of Protected Area Networks (REG-17-13002) – funded the course.	1 representative from RMI graduated from the 2.5-month USAID Climate Ready-sponsored certificate course from the Marine & Terrestrial Conservation Law Enforcement Academy.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.	24 people, including 10 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	26 people, including 15 women, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	4 people, including 1 woman, completed the course.

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *Building community resilience in RMI*



*WOTJE ATOLL, REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS (PHOTO CREDIT: ISAAC MARTY, THE MARSHALL ISLANDS JOURNAL).*

Wotje in the Republic of the Marshall Islands is a coral atoll consisting of 75 islands and approximately 860 people. Coastal erosion and sea level rise threaten local lives and livelihoods.

USAID Climate Ready supported the Wotje Seven Stars Jepta community group to prepare and submit a project proposal aimed at enhancing coastal protection and island biodiversity. The project was recently approved by the United Nations Development Programme Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme for US\$50,000.

The project will allow the community to build a natural coastal barrier using local materials and plants and to grow native food crops that will encourage sustainability and resilient agriculture practices appropriate for a changing climate. Almost half of Wotje's population is expected to directly benefit from the innovation.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: SAMOA

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Samoa</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Supported the development of the Samoa Tourism Climate Change Strategy which was endorsed by the Minister.
- Supported CCA mainstreaming into the Public Service Commission Sector Plan.
- Mobilized US\$22.36m from GEF for the 'Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural resources' project in partnership with UNDP.
- 291 people, including 152 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
Support mainstreaming of gender in public sector administration strategy of the Public Service Commission (PSC) and 'how to mainstream' climate change in the sector planning manual (MOF) (SAM-18-11002) – the project provided technical assistance to develop a <i>Guideline</i> and <i>Checklist</i> toolkit to mainstream CC/DRM into Government's Sector C plans for Climate Resilience and Investment Coordination Division (CRICD) of the Ministry of Finance.	Submitted the final draft of the <i>Guideline</i> and <i>Checklist</i> toolkit to CRICD for adoption by the Samoa Public Sector Steering Committee. Progress on this sub-activity will enable effective CC/DRM mainstreaming into Government's 14 sector plans.
Support mainstreaming CCA/DRR into the PSC Sector Plan (SAM-19-11003) – the project provided technical support to the Public Administration Sector Plan (PASP) review team with CCA/DRR.	The PSC Sector Plan was endorsed. CCA/DRM was adequately mainstreamed and integrated into the following key output documents: (i) Report: Assessment of the state of the Samoa Public Service (March 2019), (ii) Public Administration Sector Plan 2013/14-2017/18 Review, and (iii) Public Administration Sector Plan 2019/20-2023/24.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit a project proposal 'Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural resources' under the GEF 7 funding mechanism (GEF, US\$23.5m) (SAM-20-12001) – the project provided technical expertise specializing in biodiversity to support the internationally-based UNDP team prepare and submit the project proposal.	Assisted in preparing and submitting the full project proposal to the GEF Secretariat. The project was approved for US\$22.36m.
Technical support to CC/DRM to build resilience to climate change into the Samoa Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy	A final draft has been approved and is being reviewed by Government for endorsement.

(SAM-20-11004) –the project assisted in the review and update/development of the Strategy.	
Support the Samoa Tourism Authority to review and mainstream CC/GESI into its Climate Change Plan (SAM-21-11005) – the project assisted in the review and development of the Tourism Climate Change Strategy.	The final draft Samoa Tourism Climate Change Strategy was endorsed by the Minister.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	This proposal is expected to be submitted later in 2023.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Submitted the full ProDoc package to the GEF, who endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total of US\$103,220,668 in project financing.
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC’s accreditation to the GCF.	Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.
Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP’s CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.	27 people, including 14 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	22 people, including 11 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	27 people, including 26 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Contract Management/Procurement courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-20-13010) – identified participants and funded cohort.	25 people, including 16 women, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	49 people, including 22 women, completed the course.
Partner with national Chambers of Commerce to support training in disaster resilience and business continuity planning for small and medium enterprises (REG-19-13007) – identified participants and training plan and funded training.	140 people trained, including 62 women, in business continuity planning.



## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *USAID Works to Safeguard Biodiversity in Samoa*



DRONE SURVEY OF A SITE WITHIN THE PALAULI CATCHMENT, LOCATED ON SAMOA'S LARGEST ISLAND, SAVAI'I. RIVERBANKS ARE DOMINATED BY THE MERREMIA VINE, WHICH IS QUICK TO OUTCOMPETE NATIVE SHRUB AND TREE SPECIES IN THE EVENT OF LAND CLEARING FOR AGRICULTURE PURPOSES OR NATURAL DISASTERS (PHOTO CREDIT: JAMES ATHERTON).

There are a number of pressures on Samoa's biodiversity, an important one of which is invasive species, which have extensive and costly impacts, both financially, ecologically and culturally.

USAID Climate Ready partnered with the United Nations Development Programme to prepare a project proposal for US\$22.36 million called "*Enhancing integrated sustainable management to safeguard Samoa's natural Resources*", which was approved by the Global Environment Facility.

Through capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and integrated management of catchments from ridge to reef, the project will equip and empower local communities to safeguard Samoa's indigenous species, natural ecosystems and food production systems from invasive species and unsustainable land use practices. The project will contribute to protecting globally significant biodiversity and directly benefit 25,000 people across 60 villages.

# USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: SOLOMON ISLANDS

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Solomon Islands</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

## DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Supported the National Transport Fund to compile and lodge its GCF accreditation application.
- Mobilized US\$62.8m from GCF and GEF for country-wide adaptation projects.
- 114 people, including 41 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

## DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Results</b>
Support National Transport Fund (NTF) with GCF NIE accreditation (SOL-18-12001) – the project provided accreditation expertise to assist in the compilation and lodgement of accreditation documentation and revised the GESI Policy Framework and Action Plan 2023-2025.	The application was lodged and the GESI Policy Framework and Action Plan drafted, thereby supporting the NTF’s pathway to accreditation.
Support Climate Change Division to develop a National Climate Change Communication Strategy (SOL-21-11002) – the project provided technical assistance formulate and draft a national communications strategy.	The final draft Communication Strategy was adopted by MECDM and will guide how it communicates climate change information across the Ministry and to the public.
Support the MECDM in undertaking Integrated Vulnerability Adaptation (IVA) Assessment and Reporting in provinces in support of the National Adaptation Plans (NAP) and the Solomon Islands Integrated Vulnerability Assessment Database (SIIVA) (SOL-21-11003) – provided financial and technical support to assist the field assessment team in collecting and collating the data from the communities.	Assisted MECDM to produce the Integrated Vulnerability Assessment Report for Te Motu Province in support of the NAP preparation process. By assisting MECDM to undertake the IVA Assessment and Reporting in Te Motu Province, in support of the SIIVA and NAP processes, USAID Climate Ready improved MECDM capacity to address climate change risks.
Solomon Islands Community-Based Climate Resilience Project (SOLKAS) - formulation of a project proposal (Save the Children, GCF, US\$30m) (SOL-21-12003) – the project provided ESS and project development technical expertise to revise, finalize, and submit the project proposal.	The SOLKAS proposal was approved for US\$24,965,114 in GCF grant financing and US\$6,866,778 in co-financing for a total project value of US\$31,831,892.

<p>Safeguarding Solomon Islands endemic and globally threatened biodiversity and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly invasive alien species and unsustainable land use practices (SAFE Project) - formulation of a project proposal (UNDP, GEF 7, US\$7.8m + co-financing US\$19.7m) (SOL-21-12004) – provided specialized technical expertise in Sustainable Land Management and Invasive Alien Species to support project preparation.</p>	<p>The full proposal document was submitted to the GEF Secretariat and approved for US\$30,952,358.</p>
<p>'Coastal and marine ecosystem resilience to climate change program' with SPREP and IUCN (GCF - PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu; US\$60m) (REG-18-12003) – the project provided GESI technical expertise to support project preparation.</p>	<p>Resubmission of this proposal to GCF is expected by late 2023.</p>
<p>Supporting Resilient Island Communities in Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu through the Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) Mechanism (SPC/UNCDF/GCF US\$47.5m) (REG-22-12015) – the project provided ESS/Gender technical expertise to assist in project development.</p>	<p>The proposal was submitted to GCF in April 2023 and is under review.</p>
<p>Support SPC/FAO to prepare and submit a full project proposal for 'Enhancing Water-Food Security and Climate Resilience in Volcanic Island Countries of the Pacific' (WELL Project - Water for Environment, Livelihoods and Life) (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu) (SPC, FAO, GEF US\$6m &amp; Co-Finance US\$23m) (REG-21-12014) – the project provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to support project preparation.</p>	<p>The GEF approved the project for US\$6,000,000 in a GEF Trust Fund project grant and US\$23,151,489 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$29,151,489.</p>
<p>Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.</p>	<p>This proposal is expected to be submitted by late 2023.</p>
<p>Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.</p>	<p>USAID Climate Ready assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.</p>
<p>Building Resilience of Health Systems in Pacific Island LDCs to Climate Change (UNDP, GEF US\$17.85m, co-financing US\$76.0m) (REG-17-12004) – the project provided technical assistance to develop and prepare the project proposal for submission</p>	<p>The proposal was approved for US\$78.66m.</p>
<p>Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental &amp; Social Safeguards &amp; Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC's accreditation to the GCF.</p>	<p>Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.</p>

Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP’s CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.	38 people, including 16 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP to conduct online training in Project Preparation for government and NGO organisations (REG-20-13011) - identified participants and funded cohort.	2 people (male), completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	38 people, including 14 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	16 people, including 4 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Contract Management/Procurement courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-20-13010) – identified participants and funded cohort.	1 person (male) completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	19 people, including 7 women, completed the course.



## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *USAID Support to Community-based Climate Change Adaptation in the Solomon Islands*



*NGADELI VILLAGE IN TEMOTU PROVINCE, SOLOMON ISLANDS, IS THREATENED BY SEA LEVEL RISE (RADIO NEW ZEALAND).*

Children, youth, and rural communities in the Solomon Islands stand to benefit from a climate change adaptation project that was approved for US\$31.8 million from the Green Climate Fund.

USAID Climate Ready partnered with Save the Children Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands to prepare and submit the Solomon Islands Knowledge-Action-Sustainability for Resilient Villages (SOLKAS) project proposal.

The purpose of SOLKAS is to ensure that communities in the Solomon Islands have the information, skills, tools and resources to reduce their exposure to climate hazards and build sustainable and resilient communities and livelihoods in the context of climate change.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: TONGA

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Tonga</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Mobilized US\$16,249,685 for the Tonga Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods (R2R II) project.
- Supported the implementation of the JNAP2 throughout the life of the Project.
- Supported the Tonga Development Bank in its GCF accreditation process.
- 180 people, including 109 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
Strengthen Climate Change Trust Fund (TON-17-11001) – provided technical support to the revision and finalization of the JNAP II.	Supported the Department of Climate Change to edit the JNAP II and facilitate its passage to Cabinet for endorsement. In mid-June 2018, Cabinet and the Government of Tonga endorsed the JNAP II as Tonga’s strategic document for climate change and disaster risk management.
Support MEIDECC with implementation of recent GoT endorsement of Joint National Action Plan II implementation (TON-19-11003) – supported the establishment of three JNAP Secretariat positions – Climate Change Technical Officer, Climate Finance Officer and the Climate Change Communications Officer.	This support is now completed and sustained as the Government has now taken on funding these positions which will drive action and progress against the JNAP II.
Strengthening institutional arrangements and improving donor coordination to implement the JNAP 2 (TON-19-11004) – this support included reviewing the institutional arrangements for the effective implementation of JNAP 2 activities across Government, the private sector and NGOs.	Final drafts of the Desk Review and ToRs have been accepted by the Department of Climate Change.
Support the Department of Environment to review the draft National Biodiversity Strategic Environment Framework and mainstream CC/GESI (TON-21-11005) – provided technical assistance to revise and update the draft NBSF.	A final draft of the NBSF has been developed and is being reviewed by Government.

<p>Technical support to MoF and Tonga Development Bank with GCF Accreditation: Support conduct of the GCF GAP Assessment and implementation of GAP assessment recommendations (TON-20-12001) – the project provided technical assistance to support TDB to meet GCF DAE accreditation requirements, including the development of GESI and ESS Policies.</p>	<p>Final drafts of the GESI and ESS Policies, GESI Action Plan, and ESS Procedures and Guidelines have been approved.</p>
<p>Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit a project concept (PIF) for the second phase of the Tonga Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods (R2R II) (UNDP, GEF, US\$4.89m &amp; US\$20m co-financing) (TON-20-12002) – the project provided project development and gender expertise in the development of the concept and full project proposal.</p>	<p>USAID Climate Ready’s support secured a Project Preparation Grant of US\$150,000 to support project development. The full Tonga R2R II ProDoc was submitted to the GEF Secretariat in June 2023 and approved in September 2023 for US\$16,249,685.</p>
<p>Support UNDP/AF to prepare and submit the project concept and proposal of the ‘Building the resilience of Persons with Disability to Cope with Climate Change in the Pacific Region’ project (AF US\$10m) (REG-19-12008) – provided technical assistance to develop and submit the Concept Note.</p>	<p>This proposal is still looking to be funded.</p>
<p>Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the ‘Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change’ (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.</p>	<p>This proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.</p>
<p>Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.</p>	<p>USAID Climate Ready assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.</p>
<p>Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental &amp; Social Safeguards &amp; Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC’s accreditation to the GCF.</p>	<p>Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.</p>
<p>Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.</p>	<p>This work has strengthened SPREP’s CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.</p>
<p>Conduct training in Project Preparation &amp; CBA for government &amp; NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded cohort.</p>	<p>31 people, including 19 women, completed the course.</p>
<p>Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode</p>	<p>53 people, including 30 women, completed the course.</p>

(online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded cohort.	
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	1 woman completed the course.
Partner with national Chambers of Commerce to support training in disaster resilience and business continuity planning for small and medium enterprises (REG-19-13007) – identified participants, established training plan and funded training.	51 people, including 34 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP to conduct online training in Project Preparation for government and NGO organisations (REG-20-13011) - identified participants and funded cohort.	1 person (male) completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct M&E courses with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies and then work with individual countries to develop and operationalize appropriate M&E systems (REG-19-13009).	16 people, including 10 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Contract Management/Procurement courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-20-13010) – identified participants and funded cohort.	1 woman completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	16 people, including 9 women, completed the course.
Contract registered training providers to deliver accredited on-line or blended courses in disaster preparedness tailored to achieve disaster risk reduction and improve climate change resilience in vulnerable countries (REG-21-13013) – partnered with RedR Australia to deliver the Essentials in Humanitarian Practice course.	10 people, including 5 women, from key government agencies sponsored and successfully completed the course,

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *Tonga Development Bank Moves Closer to GCF Accreditation with USAID Support*



TONGA DEVELOPMENT BANK. (2022).

Adapting to and mitigating threats of climate change are costly challenges for Pacific Island countries.

In Tonga, USAID Climate Ready supported the Tonga Development Bank to meet some of the key requirements to become a Direct Accredited Entity to the Green Climate Fund. As part of this support, USAID Climate Ready provided technical assistance to develop GCF-compliant policies to ensure gender equity, social inclusion, and environmental and social safeguards are well-integrated across the Bank's programs and operations.

Through this support, USAID Climate Ready strengthened Tonga Development Bank's ability to achieve GCF accreditation and thus access to climate finance which will enhance Tonga's capabilities to combat climate change now and in the future.



## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: TUVALU

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Tuvalu</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Supported the Development Bank of Tuvalu in better understanding the process and requirements of GCF accreditation.
- 53 people, including 30 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Results</b>
Support Tuvalu CCD to prepare a National Adaptation Plan Framework (TUV-20-11001) – the project provided technical assistance to support Tuvalu develop its Tuvalu NAP Framework.	Assisted the DCC to develop and submit the final draft Tuvalu NAP Framework to the Minister (Ministry of Finance) and, subsequently, to Cabinet.
Technical support to the Development Bank of Tuvalu to build capacity with climate finance and examine possible accreditation (TUV-23-12002) – provided direct technical support and training on climate finance.	Delivered awareness training to DBT on accreditation types and pathways, CCA and GESI mainstreaming, and on concept note development and fiduciary standards required by accrediting institutions. Twenty people, including 15 women were trained during two rounds of training.
Building Resilience of Health Systems in Pacific Island LDCs to Climate Change (UNDP, GEF US\$17.85m, co-financing US\$76.0m) (REG-17-12004) – the project provided technical assistance to develop and prepare the project proposal for submission.	The proposal was approved for US\$78.66m.
Managing Coastal Aquifer Systems in selected Pacific SIDS (Palau, RMI & Tuvalu) (SPC, UNDP, GEF, US\$19.7m) (REG-19-12005) – provided technical assistance to undertake a gender equity and social inclusion analysis, which would form the basis of a GESI Action Plan and Budget to guide gender and social inclusion mainstreaming during project implementation.	The proposal was approved by GEF for U\$24.87m.
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC’s accreditation to the GCF.	Drafted a Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained accreditation in February 2019.

Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work has strengthened SPREP's CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	This proposal is expected to be submitted in late 2023.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Assisted UNDP to prepare and submit the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total project financing of US\$103,220,668.
Supporting Resilient Island Communities in Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu through the Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) Mechanism (SPC/UNCDF/GCF US\$47.5m) (REG-22-12015) –the project provided ESS/Gender technical assistance to support project development.	The proposal was submitted to GCF in April 2023 and is under review.
Partner with USP to conduct online training in Project Preparation for government and NGO organisations (REG-20-13011) - identified participants and funded cohort.	1 person completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012).	8 people, including 2 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Practice courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001).	24 people, including 13 women, completed the course.

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *USAID Strengthens Project Management Capacity in Tuvalu*



*AERIAL VIEW OF THE NARROW FUNAFUTI ATOLL ON THE LEFT SIDE IS THE PACIFIC OCEAN. ON THE RIGHT IS THE LAGOON AT THE CENTER OF THE ATOLL. (PHOTO CREDIT: CNN).*

Standing at an average height of only a few meters above sea level, the islands of Tuvalu are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Having the capacity to adapt is a matter of survival.

Twenty-four people, including 13 women, from Government and non-government organizations successfully completed the first diploma-level Project Management course cohort in Tuvalu sponsored by USAID Climate Ready. The intensive virtual course, run by the University of the South Pacific's Tertiary and Further Education department, covered essential aspects, such as project governance, time management, cost and procurement, risk management, communications, and team effectiveness.

Professional upskilling like this contributes to Tuvalu's overall efforts to manage climate change and strengthen resilience.

## USAID CLIMATE READY COUNTRY REPORT: VANUATU

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Vanuatu</b>
<b>Report Period:</b>	<b>Life of Project</b>

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Vulnerability to climate change threats and impacts.
- Lack of policies, regulations, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements necessary for achieving adaptation goals.
- Limited access to international and multilateral climate change funds.
- Limited professional capacity and management systems to coordinate, manage, monitor and report on adaptation projects.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Mobilized over US\$96.2m for country-wide adaptation projects.
- 417 people, including 207 women, trained through courses on adaptation.

### DETAILED INTERVENTIONS AND RESULTS

Intervention	Results
Review of Vanuatu's Climate Change Finance actions – PCCFAF/CPEIR report (VAN-17-11002) – as part of this the project provided technical assistance in the development of the review report.	The final version of the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) was published in June 2018.
Support NAB conduct a gap analysis of the Government of Vanuatu's status in regard to GCF requirements for environmental and social safeguards (ESS) (VAN-18-11003) – as part of this the project provided technical ESS assistance.	Produced the “ESS Toolkit for Climate Finance Proposals” to support Accredited Entities in identifying and assessing ESS-related risks against the main GCF standards and criteria.
Support Department of Climate Change (DoCC) to draft the Implementation Plan for the National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Policy (VAN-20-11004) – as part of this the project provided DRR policy development expertise.	Final draft of the CCDRR Policy Implementation Plan to guide the implementation of Vanuatu's CCDRR Policy was developed and accepted by the DoCC.
Vanuatu Community-Based Climate Resilience Project - formulation of the project proposal (Save the Children, GCF, US\$30m) (VAN-21-12003) – as part of this the project provide ESS expertise to develop the feasibility study and full funding proposal.	The full project proposal was approved for US\$32.7 million.
Support UNDP to prepare and submit the project proposal for the Vanuatu Coastal Adaptation Project #2 (VCAP 2) (UNDP, GEF/LDCF US\$14m) (VAN-19-12002) – as part of this the project provided project preparation expertise.	The full project proposal was approved for US\$63.4 million.
Support UNDP/AF to prepare and submit the project concept and proposal of the ‘Building the resilience of Persons with Disability to Cope with Climate Change in the Pacific Region’ project (AF US\$10m) (REG-19-	This proposal is still looking to be funded.

12008) – provided technical assistance to develop and submit the Concept Note.	
Building Resilience of Health Systems in Pacific Island LDCs to Climate Change (UNDP, GEF US\$17.85m, co-financing US\$76.0m) (REG-17-12004) – the project provided technical assistance to develop and prepare the project proposal for submission	The proposal was approved for US\$78.66m.
'Coastal and marine ecosystem resilience to climate change program' with SPREP and IUCN (GCF - PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu; US\$60m) (REG-18-12003) – as part of this the project provided GESI expertise during the proposal development process.	Resubmission of this proposal to GCF is expected by latter 2023.
Supporting Resilient Island Communities in Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu through the Local Climate Adaptive Living (LoCAL) Mechanism (SPC/UNCDF/GCF US\$47.5m) (REG-22-12015) – as part of this the project provided ESS and Gender expertise to assist in project development.	The proposal was submitted to GCF in April 2023 and is under review.
Support SPC/FAO to prepare and submit a full project proposal for 'Enhancing Water-Food Security and Climate Resilience in Volcanic Island Countries of the Pacific' (WELL Project - Water for Environment, Livelihoods and Life) (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu) (SPC, FAO, GEF US\$6m & Co-Finance US\$23m) (REG-21-12014) – as part of this the project provided GESI and ESS expertise during project preparation.	The GEF approved the project for US\$6,000,000 in a GEF Trust Fund project grant and US\$23,151,489 in co-financing for a total of US\$29,151,489 in project financing.
Support Conservation International (CI) to prepare and submit a project proposal for the 'Adapting tuna-dependent Pacific Island communities and economies to climate change' (CI, GCF, US\$80m. Co-financing US\$TBDm) (REG-21-12012) – provided GESI and ESS technical expertise to assist in the development of the project proposal.	This proposal is expected to be submitted by late 2023.
Support UNDP/GEF to prepare and submit the project proposal for mainstreaming climate change and ecosystem-based approaches into the sustainable management of the Living Marine Resources of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (UNDP, GEF, US\$10m) (REG-20-12011) – the project provided overall technical support to assist in the preparation and submission of the project proposal.	Submitted the full ProDoc package to the GEF Secretariat, which has endorsed the project in the amount of US\$10,000,000 in GEF Trust Fund and US\$93,220,668 in co-financing for a total of US\$103,220,668 in project financing.
Support UNDP Pacific Small Grants Program to Build Resilience of SMEs Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA) (REG-20-12010) – the project provided technical support to the shortlisted NGO to develop its project proposal application for submission to UNDP AFCIA.	Submitted the Santo Sunset Environment Network's full proposal for US\$124,980.
Support SPC with RIE GCF accreditation (Environmental & Social Safeguards & Project Management) (REG-17-12002) – the project provided ESS technical expertise to draft required policies and plans for SPC's accreditation to the GCF.	Development of the Social and Environmental Responsibility (SER) Policy, which SPC adopted in April 2018, and designed a SER Action Plan, including an Environmental and Social Management System. SPC gained RIE accreditation in February 2019.



Support institutional strengthening of RIE SPREP (REG-19-12007) – provided technical support to prepare climate change/resilience project proposals and build organizational capacity.	This work is underway and has strengthened SPREP's CCA project pipeline and its capacity in the area of ESS.
Conduct training in Project Preparation & CBA for government & NGO organisations (REG-19-13006) – identified participants and funded the cohort.	28 people, including 12 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Project Management Methods courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13008/REG-17-13001) – identified participants and funded the cohort.	41 people, including 16 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct the Certificate IV Resilience course (Phase 1 online mode & Phase 2 blended mode) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-19-13005) – identified participants and funded cohort.	23 people, including 9 women, completed the course.
Partner with USP/Pacific TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Contract Management/Procurement courses in blended mode (online and face-to-face) with candidates from Government, private sector and NGO agencies (REG-20-13010) – identified participants and funded cohort.	2 people, including 1 woman, completed the course.
Contract registered training provider to deliver accredited on-line or blended modules in asset management to build climate change resilience (REG-20-13012) – identified participants and funded cohort.	2 people, including 1 woman, completed the course.
Partner with national Chambers of Commerce to support training in disaster resilience and business continuity planning for small and medium enterprises (REG-19-13007) – identified participants and work/training plan.	321 people, including 168 women, were trained. 4 knowledge products were developed based on best practices of private sector engagement in disaster preparedness and response.

## A SUCCESS HIGHLIGHT

### *Strengthening Community Resilience in Vanuatu*



PROJECT STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS IN PORT VILA.

Vanuatu is considered to be the world’s most at-risk country to natural disasters. Severe storms, increased rainfall patterns, droughts and sea-level rise have seriously impacted people’s ability to farm and fish to meet their own daily needs.

To improve the adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities, USAID Climate Ready partnered with the United Nations Development Programme on the development of the project proposal, “Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu – Phase II (VCAP II),” which was approved by the Global Environment Facility for US\$63.4 million, including co-financing.

USAID Climate Ready also worked closely with Save the Children Australia and the Government of Vanuatu to develop the “Vanuatu Community-based Climate Resilience Project” which was approved for US\$32.7million (including co-financing) by the Green Climate Fund.

USAID Climate Ready provided technical experts to support the project proposal development, develop key gender equity and social inclusion and environmental and social safeguard policies, as well as in-country components of the project design process including stakeholder consultations.

The two projects will increase community access to climate information and early warning systems, as well as improve community resilience through the conservation of biodiversity and natural ecosystems, sustainable agriculture, and fishing techniques across of six provinces of Vanuatu.

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