

October - December
2013

Strengthening the Resilience of Our Islands and Our Communities to Climate Change Programme

Porokaramu akāmatutu'anga o te iti tangata i te tuatau manakōkore'ia no te tau'anga reva



ADAPTATION FUND



Office of the Prime Minister



Country: Cook Islands

Project Number/Code: 00079524

Project Title: Cook Islands SCRIC - AF

Executing Agency: Office of the Prime Minister

Period Covered: October - December 2013

Summary of Overall Progress for 4th quarter as at 31st December 2013

- National learning needs report operational.
- National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Policy publically launched
- Climate Early Warning and Information System projects (2 projects) ready for implementation
- Emergency Management Cook Islands ready to commence implementation of their projects
- Several Community Sustainable Development Plans (CSDP's) ready for final review and approval.
- "Rauti Para – ICT/ Climate Change ready for implementation
- Several SRIC CC Small Grants Projects ready for implementation
- Mangaia agricultural project ready for implementation
- Ministry of Health commence implementation of the vector borne control programme on all Pa Enea.
- Atiu, Aitutaki and Palmerston household water tanks projects ready for implementation in early 2014
- SRIC CC Programme presented at STAR meeting.
- UNDP representative Jaime Aguinaga visits Rarotonga to support and other UNDP projects in country.

Outcome 1: Strengthening and implementing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at national level

Output 1.1 - Effective and efficient support at National level

The learning needs report is utilised as a guide to implementing relevant DRM, DRR and CCA training (including technical) under the programme. This was used as a guide in designing the "Rauti Para" project.

Output 1.2 – National and sector policies

On 28th November 2013 the new DRM/ CCA policy was publically launched by the Office of the Prime Minister. Stakeholders from Rarotonga and some Pa Enuia in Government and Non-Government organisations attended to hear about the new policy and receive their copy of the policy. The policy forms part of the guiding framework for DRM, DRR and CCA activities in the Cook Islands.



Output 1.3 – Operational Climate, Early Warning and Information System (CEWIS)

Activity 1.3.4 – The CEWS Project for the installation of Automated Weather Systems (AWS) on the Pa Enuia, after many hours of planning and discussions, is ready to commence implementation of this two year project. This project includes the procurement, installation and training of operators for the Automated Weather Station hardware that will be installed on all Pa Enuia by mid-2015. The Cook Islands Meteorological Services will implement this with partners and manage this project.

Activity 1.3.5 – The CEWIS information hosting project, after many hours of planning and discussions with Emergency Management Cook Islands, is ready to commence implementation with all costs and agreements in place with implementing stakeholders. This task includes contracting a local TA to populate the GEO portal with existing data from stakeholders and prepare the same to display data received through the CEWS project (1.3.4). Emergency Management Cook Islands will implement this with partners and manage this project.

Outcome 2: Strengthening capacities for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the Pa Enuia

Output 2.1 – CCA/ DRR plans for each of the 11 Pa Enuia

Activity 2.1.1/ 2.1.2/ 2.1.3/ 2.1.4 & 2.1.5 – Planning for the development of Disaster Risk Management Plans for selected Pa Enuia, “Puna’s” (Rarotonga), National agencies, Tourism sector (Hotels/ Motels) including forming their respective Advisory committees to guide each stakeholder and audit their plans is completed. After many hours of planning and discussions, this 2 year project is ready to commence implementation. This task will be managed by Emergency Management Cook Islands.

Activity 2.1.6 – Assess and resource Emergency Operation Centres (EOC's) on the Pa Enuia. This project also includes training EOC managers and their teams. This project will be managed by Emergency Management Cook Islands. This 2 year project is ready for implementation.

Activity 2.1.7 - Prepare Community Sustainable Development Plans for each island task is managed by Pa Enea Governance Unit (PEGU) and is progressing with the new Executive Officers for each Pa Enea taking responsibility in consulting with their respective Island Councils.

Output 2.2 – Enhance capacity of Island Councils – Appoint, train and fund SRIC Focal points

Activity 2.2.1 - Technical/extension officers working at island level to complete training workshops. Agreements and Understandings are completed and ready for implementation. The “Rauti Para” is a joint co-financed project (SRIC CC/ GCCA) and includes training for Pa Enea stakeholders. This project will be managed by Climate Change Cook Islands and implemented over 2014.

Outcome 3: Implementing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures in the Pa Enea.

Output 3.1 - Small Grants Programme (SGP)

- ✓ Rakahanga SGP proposal for outboard motors ready for implementation. All required and relevant information to support proposal provided.
- ✓ Manihiki Agriculture SGP proposal for a “Hydroponic system” in Tukao village design completed. Land agreements have been obtained by the respective Island Council and this project is ready for implementation.
- ✓ Mangaia SGP “Home Garden” project proposal. This project is ready for implementation.
- ✓ Other SGP projects are in final approval.

Output 3.2 – Climate resilient agriculture and fisheries practices

- ✓ Mauke “cooler” – This project is in the final stages of having agreements in place.
- ✓ Coconut cold press plant concept received for Manihiki, Mauke and Atiu Pa Enea. These 3 projects still require more work before finalising, “use of location” discussions and agreements with stakeholders.
- ✓ The Mangaia Growers and Livestock Association Inc agriculture project is ready for implementation. This 2 year implementation project has completed full design and has received the needed support from agricultural stakeholders.

Output 3.3 – Water management capacities enhanced

- ✓ During the ground assessments in the household water tank projects, what was evident is that “maintenance” of the water tanks and its accessories is the biggest challenge for people for a number of reasons. On some Pa Enea there are water committees of whose task includes the inspection (maintenance purposes) of water ground sources and storage facilities at the community and household level. The SRIC CC water projects will also include the strengthening or (some cases) development of these committees to continue these tasks. Specific activities include the development of specific water policies to manage this resource well within the respective community, training in water tank maintenance and the introduction of water conservation best practices.

Output 3.4 – Coastal protection enhanced

- ✓ Aitutaki concept proposal for coastal protection of the Amuri/ Ureia Villages. This project is still in very early design stages and there is no significant progress to report in this quarter.

Output 3.5 – Resilience of Tourism Enterprises enhanced

- ✓ No progress to report for this quarter.

Output 3.6 – Health support and vector borne control introduced

- ✓ The Ministry of Health project was signed and commenced implementation in this quarter. This project includes training in stringent surveillance and operations and procurement of resources to support vector control in all Pa Enea.



Official signing of the MOH – Vector Borne Disease Control (VBDC) project...pictured are; (seated) OPM Chief of Staff Mrs Elizabeth Koteka, Secretary to MOH – Mrs Elizabeth Iro, (back) MOH Director of Funding – Mrs Ana Mataitini & Planning and SRIC CC NPM.

The MOH - VBDC project started with training of the Pa Enea Health Officers in vector disease prevention, control and water safety. The workshop was held in Rarotonga.



Photo (above): Health Officers from the Pa Enea were brought to Rarotonga to attend the training in vector borne disease prevention, control and water safety. This was also a week of sharing experiences between the Pa Enea and Rarotonga community Health Officers.

Output 3.7 – Implement infrastructure projects

- ✓ Household water projects for Palmerston, Aitutaki and Atiu are ready to advertise the tender for supply. The project design resources include;
 - ☒ 6,000 litre plastic water tanks and
 - ☒ piping and
 - ☒ connection accessories,
 - ☒ construction of a 2400mm x 2400 mm x 150mm concrete water tank foundation andServices include freight, installation, project management and post installation inspection.
- ✓ The budget allocations for these three projects are well below the actual costs of today. Individual project allocation amendments are currently in discussions between the project team and UNDP. A cost sharing/ contribution discussion with Island stakeholders will also be a part of this.



Photo: Some households repair old concrete box water tanks to increase their water storage capacity using materials that are affordable to them. Here is a classic case of downpiping falling away from the house structure. During the assessment this was seen on many homes in Atiu and Aitutaki.



Photo: As seen with water tanks sitting on sand or soil bases...when water overflows from the tank, this erodes sand from the base causing the water tank to tilt towards the sand eroded end and eventually tearing under the strain of the unbalanced weight.

Output 4

Lessons learnt

- No progress to report in this quarter

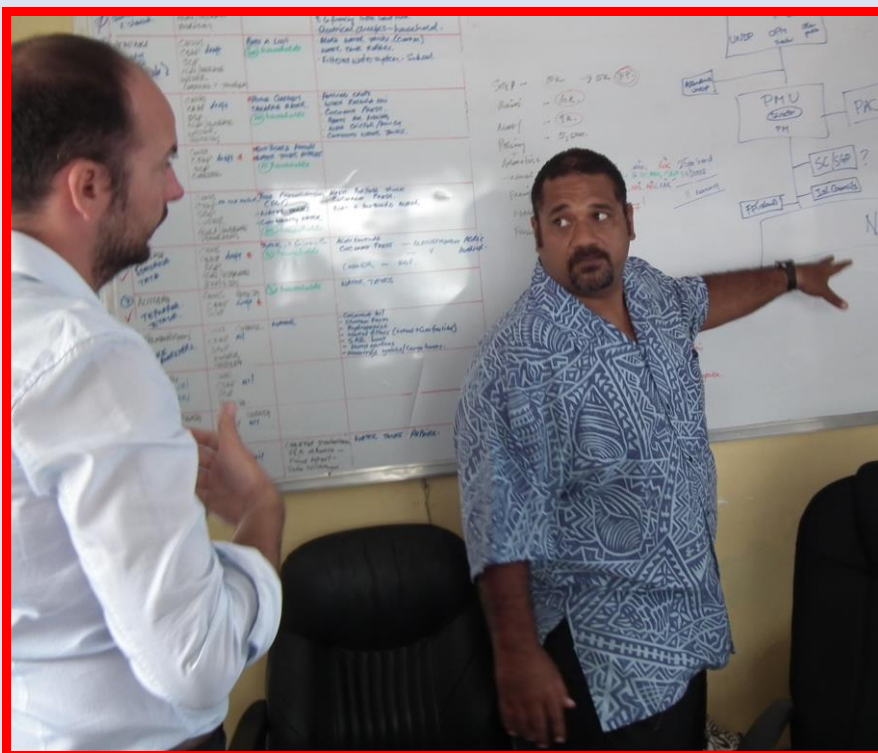
Project Management

SRIC CC Programme prepare to present at STAR Conference

The NPM presented the SRIC CC programme at the 30th STAR Conference in Rarotonga starting on October 5th- 8th 2013. The theme for the session is...**Large ocean states: challenges, opportunities and risks in developing non-living marine and on land natural resources.** Presentations at this conference included

UNDP representative – Jaime Aguinaga visits Cook Islands

UNDP representative Jaime Aguinaga visits Rarotonga to assist the PMU.



UNDP rep - Jaime and
the SRIC CC NPM in
“Planning” mode
Photo: PMU

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