

SRIC-CC

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

*Porokaramu Akamatutu'anga I te iti Tangata no te tuatau manako kore'ia e te tau'i'anga
reva*



ADAPTATION FUND



Office of the Prime Minister



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Country: Cook Islands

Project Number/Code: 00079524

Project Title: Akamatutu'anga i te iti tangata no te tuatau manakokore ia e te tau'i'anga reva -
Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC - CC)

Implementing Entity: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Executing Agency: Office of the Prime Minister

Amount of Financing Requested: USD 5,381,600

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

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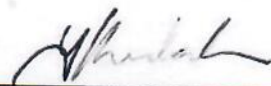
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Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AF	Adaptation Fund
AWS	Automated Weather Station
BTIB	Business Trade and Investment Board
CC	Climate Change
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCCI	Climate Change Cook Islands
CCD	Climate Change Division
CIG	Cook Islands Government
CIMS	Cook Islands Meteorological Service
CINCW	Cook Islands National Council of Women
CIRC	Cook Islands Red Cross
CIRESP	Cook Islands Renewable Energy Sector Project
CLEWS	Climate Early Warning System
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCD	Development Coordination Division
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMCI	Emergency Management Cook Islands
ENSO	El Nino Southern Oscillation
GADD	Gender and Development Division
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation
GPS	Global Positioning System
ICI	Infrastructure Cook Islands
IG	Island Government
JNAP II	Cook Islands Second Joint Action Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management 2016 -2020
LOA	Letter of Agreement
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MFAI	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MFEM	Ministry of Finance and Economic Management
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOE	Ministry of Education
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
NCD	Non-communicable diseases
NDA	National Designated Authority
NES	National Environment Service
NGO	Non-Government Organization
IE	Implementing Entity
NPM	National Project Manager

NSDC	National Sustainability Development Commission
NSDP	National Sustainability Development Plan
NZD	New Zealand Dollar
NZS	New Zealand Standards
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PAC	Programme Advisory Committee
PEG	Pa Enua Governance
PEGU	Pa Enua Governance Unit
PMA	Project Monitoring Assessment
PMU	Programme Management Unit
PPP	Programs/Projects/Partnership
PSGS	Purchase and Sale of Goods and Services
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SRIC-CC	Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TOR	Terms of Reference
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention Climate Change
USD	US Dollar
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

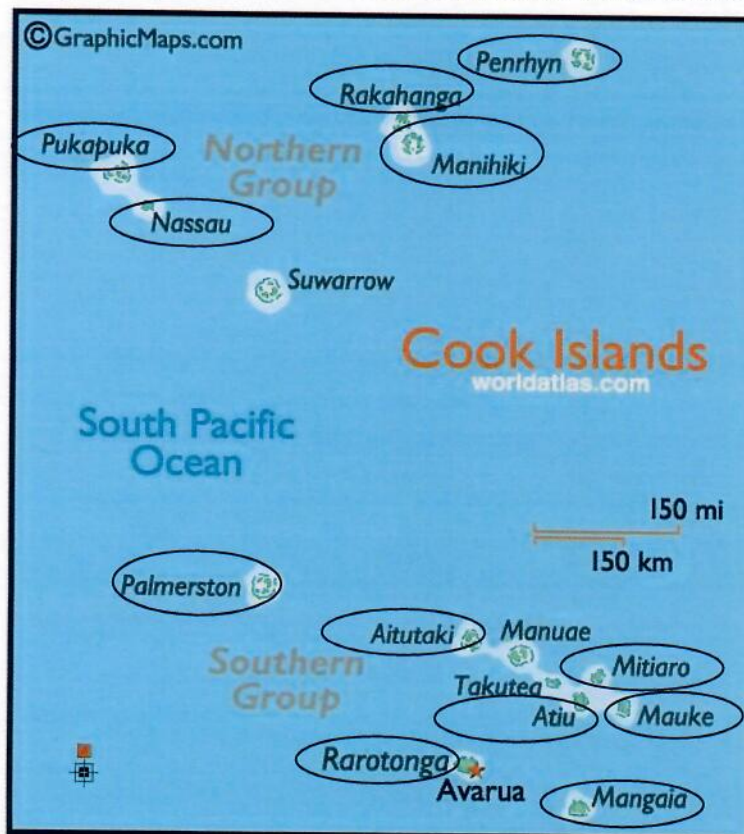
Executive Summary

This end of Project Report has been conducted as part of the Final Program Reporting of the UNDP/AF Project: “Strengthen the Resilience of our Island and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC-CC)”. The objective of this program is to enhance capacity, strengthen the ability of all Cook Island communities, and the public service, to make informed decisions and manage anticipated climate change driven pressures (including extreme events) in a pro-active, integrated and strategic manner. Project expected to achieve these through 4 major components.

Program aimed to address the problem by:

- Strengthening and implementing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at national level.
- Strengthening capacities for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the Pa Enua.
- Implementing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures in the Pa Enua.
- Climate change adaptation knowledge management.

Image 1 Map of Cook Islands. The circled islands are where project sites are located. Source: www.worldatlas.com



This report provides a final review of the project performance over the implementation period, its contribution towards national development goals including lessons learned. This report is divided into four sections. Section I covers project context; Section II covers summary of project results by output; Section III presents project implementation issues and Section IV presents financial status and utilization of project resources. Information in this report has been collected from Quarterly Progress Reports, Annual Reports, Midterm Evaluation, Terminal Evaluation, Project Files, Monitoring and Evaluation, Project Site Visits, Program Knowledge Materials and Project Stories.

Context

The Cook Islands is subject to highly destructive cyclones, intense rainfall events, and devastating droughts. The isolated populations in the Pa Enua (sister islands to the capital island of Rarotonga) are especially vulnerable to the anticipated changes in climate, including increased frequency and intensity of rainfall and tropical storms; rising and extreme sea levels and changing wind patterns; and hotter, drier weather.

The objective of this project is to strengthen the ability of all Cook Island communities, and the public service, to make informed decisions and manage anticipated climate change driven pressures (including extreme events) in a pro-active, integrated and strategic manner.

The program has a three pronged approach of sustainable island capacity building, supporting enhanced national policy and knowledge management capacities. It will ultimately focus on the implementation of the on the ground adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures at the community level in the Pa Enua. Through implementation of integrated and climate-resilient island development plans it will target all 11 inhabited island of the Pa Enua, and at least 2000 households and over 50 enterprises in the Pa Enua.

- **National level** - strengthening policy and institutional capacity and public awareness on climate change and disaster risk reduction, through conducting and updating climate risk assessments, enhancing climate early warning systems tailored to vulnerable sectors, training policy makers and technicians in the relevant government departments;
- **Pa Enua** - increasing the adaptive capacity of households and businesses and affected sectors, such as agriculture, water supply, tourism, health, fisheries, coastal management, and enhancing the adaptive capacity of local communities through engagement in island level CCA-DRM planning process linked with Island Plans and the JNAP, awareness-raising activities using different media and strengthening livelihoods through diversifying food production, processing and related subsistence and income-earning activities amongst local communities, improving protection of household and business assets, reducing the risks of disease and death associated with climate-related extreme events, and enhancing the resilience of terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems on which the communities, businesses and sectors depend.



Improving resilience of tourism enterprise in Mitiaro as Papa Tua's family make traditional Mitiaro medicine and oil for the market. *Image1: Melina Tuiravakai. CCCI.*

The project had 4 Components:

Component 1: Strengthening/Implementing climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) at national level.

National staff trained to improve delivery of CCA and DRM initiatives (*Output 1.1*) in order to integrate CCA and DRM into policies, related instruments, and work programs (*Output 1.2*), including the development of fully operational climate early warning and information systems (*Output 1.3*).

Component 2: Strengthening capacities for CCA and DRR in the Pa Enea
Harmonize CCA and DRR actions with island development plans (*Output 2.1*) and train key island stakeholders for planning and undertaking these initiatives (*Output 2.2*).

Component 3: Implementing CCA and DRR measures in the Pa Enea
Distribute small grants to all 11 Pa Enea and communities to implement CCA and DRR measures at island level (*Output 3.1*). Implement climate-resilient agricultural and fisheries practices in at least 5 islands (*Output 3.2*); enhance water capture/storage/management in at least 7 islands (*Output 3.3*); enhance coastal protection in at least 3 islands (*Output 3.4*); improve resilience of tourism enterprises in at least 3 islands (*Output 3.5*); introduce health support and vector-borne disease control techniques in at least 5 islands (*Output 3.6*); and implement infrastructure projects (*Output 3.7*).

Component 4: Climate change adaptation knowledge management, Share lessons learned and best practices with local and international communities through case studies, media, and school programs and curricula.



Working with Young Farmers to establish climate resilient Agriculture in Mangaia. *Image 2:*
Melina Tuiravakai, CCCI.

Project Summary

The Program Document was approved jointly by Government of Cook Island, AF and UNDP 15 May 2012 for the duration of five years. The Project was implemented by the Climate Change Coordination Unit and Emergency Management of Cook Islands, Office of the Prime Minister through Project Management Unit (PMU) with support from UNDP in close coordination with local government, various other institutions and local communities. UNDP as executing agency was responsible for the completion of activities like procurement, recruitment, monitoring, and financial disbursement. The Project has been executed in accordance with the standard rules and procedures of the UNDP NIM Modality. The Project budget is US\$ 6,015,278 of which US\$ 5,381,600 is the AF Grant and kind contribution equivalent to US\$633,678 is provided by the Government of Cook Islands.

Project Summary Table

Table 1 - As per requirements for Final Report, the Project Summary Table is provided below:

Project Summary Table				
Project Title:	Akamatutu“anga i te iti tangata no te tuatau manakokore ia e te tau“anga reva - Strengthening the Resilience of our Islands and our Communities to Climate Change (SRIC - CC)			
AF Project ID:	COK/MIE/Multi/2011/1/PD	at Endorsement (US\$)	at Completion (US\$)	
UNDP Project ID:	00079524	AF Fund:	5,381,600	5,381,600
Country:	Cook Islands	Govt of Cook Islands in Kind:		633,678.57
Region:	Asia Pacific	UNDP :		
Focal Area:	CCA	Other		
		Total Co-Financing:		633,678.57
FA Objectives, (OP/SP)	Multisector	Total Project Cost:	5,381,600	6,015,278.57
Executing Agency:	Office of the Prime Minister-Climate Change Division	Program Document Signature (Date Project Began):		01.05.2012
		Operational Closing Date:	Proposed: 1 May 2017	Actual: 1 May 2018

Performance Success

The objective of SRIC-CC Program was to enhance capacity of the Cook Islands communities, relevant government and the non-government agencies, develop knowledge base for informed policy formulation and program planning to address climate change driven impacts in a proactive, integrated and strategic manner. The project expected to achieve these through 4 major components.

Through the community based projects local/indigenous livelihoods were strengthened in the 11 islands Aitutaki, Atiu, Mangaia, Mauke, Mitiaro, Manihiki, Palmerston, Penrhyn, Manihiki, Nassau, Rakahanga and Pukapuka. These adaptation measures were based on a participatory and community based approach in improving the livelihoods of the Cook Islands communities in the Pa Enua through Agriculture and Marine, Water, Tourism, Coastal Management, Health, Capacity Building and Policy support for Climate Change/Disaster Risk Management. The consultation and implementation of the projects involved women and other vulnerable sections of the communities to ensure that their views were incorporated into the planning and decision-making process.