

JOINT MEETING
of the
2013 PACIFIC PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT &
PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ROUNDTABLE

8th – 11th July
Sofitel Fiji Resort and Spa, Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji

Side Event 11: Communication tools for climate adaptation and risk reduction

Introduction

The Cloud Nasara Pacific Climate Animation Project is an innovative new collaboration between Red Cross, the Australian Government's Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning Program (PACCSAP), the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department (VMGD), and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH "Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region Program" (SPC/GIZ CCCPIR).

The project aims to increase awareness of the science and impacts of climate variability in the Pacific, and to provoke discussion around how communities can take 'low regrets' actions to prepare for future El Niño and La Niña events and adapt to climate change.

Two short comical animations have been developed as communication tools. One animation provides an overview of climate processes and impacts in the Pacific region. The second animation focuses specifically on Vanuatu, as a pilot country. The animations are accompanied by a 'tool kit' which includes resources to assist facilitators in linking the information presented in the animation to decision making and action in relation to disaster risk management, agriculture, water management, health and climate change adaptation.

In addition to this, SPC & GIZ with funding from the Pacific-Australia Climate Change Science and Adaptation Program (PACCSAP) are producing a picture-based resource toolkit that will be used in schools and Technical and Vocational Education Training Institutions to teach climate change science, impacts and adaptation in the context of the Pacific region. This toolkit was produced in assistance with teachers and line ministries in Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu and Kiribati to deliver key learning messages relevant to climate change science and potential impacts in Pacific island countries and territories. The kit will also outline actions to mitigate the causes and to adapt to expected changes. The Pacific climate animation will also be featured in the picture based resource kit for schools.

This side event will present both projects and facilitate discussion about their usability and the wider implications for climate related communication in the Pacific region.

Purpose of the Session

This side event will present the outcomes of two large collaborations that have brought together diverse stakeholders working on climate change, disaster risk management and education with a view to integrated approaches to adaptation and risk reduction. It will outline how this type of collaboration, which builds upon participatory approaches to increase ownership and the strengths of organizations, can lead to products that are tailored to end user needs. The side event will discuss and make suggestions for key climate change and climate variability related messaging in the Pacific region which can be utilized in the use and production of future materials. Importantly, the session will also make recommendations on climate communications for consideration in the development of a future integrated DRR/CCA strategy.

Discussion

Key questions that will be discussed/ answered in the session are:

- How much time and what process is involved in producing a climate related communication and education product in the Pacific?
- How can the education kits be used in the Pacific region?
- What are appropriate climate messages to be delivered for risk reduction and adaptation outcomes?

Intended Outcomes

- Participants are familiar with the Vanuatu and Pacific climate animation products and the picture based climate education resource kit
- Participants have a greater understanding of the Pacific climate
- Participants feel confident in using the kits where relevant
- Participants will discuss climate messaging in the Pacific region
- Participants will make recommendations for consideration in the regional DRR/CCA integrated strategy

Format

The side event will contain a mixture of presentations, group work, and plenary discussion.

Session Coordinator

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