

**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 2: The Framework Convention on Climate Change and its linkages to the
Roadmap**

Introduction:

When the FCCC was adopted in 1992 there was a distinct view that there needed to be a separation between consideration of manmade or anthropogenic causes of climate change and naturally caused GHG emissions, and that logically the same consideration should be given to the effects of climate change. This instigated a situation where consideration of adaptation measures to climate change had to be completely separated from disaster risk measures. This state of affairs continued up until 2006, at which time a number of stage 3 adaptation projects were being proposed, the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change included, that contained elements that could be seen as disaster risk management measures. The acceptance by the FCCC financial mechanism, the GEF, of these proposals as adaptation projects marked a sea-change in how the FCCC viewed the separation or linkages between adaptation and DRM.

Since then there have been further steps taken to improve on synergies between climate change and DRM. The JNAP process should be well known to Pacific DRM and climate change experts, but it was not so at the international level. National Action Plans for climate change are being prepared by all LDCs with funding under the convention. When the LDC Expert Group requested inputs on how to process these, SPREP and SPC submitted information from the JNAP process, and this now serves as a model for how to prepare NAPs. This is particularly important, as non-LDCs will now be invited to submit proposals for NAPs as well, which opens up further opportunities to utilize the JNAP framework.

Another important development is the work programme on loss and damage. Loss and damage has been an AOSIS priority since 1991 when Vanuatu submitted a proposal on behalf of AOSIS for an insurance proposal to be part of the FCCC. The 1991 Insurance Mechanism would consist of:

- International Climate Fund to finance measures to counter the adverse consequences of climate change.
- And a separate International Insurance Pool to provide financial insurance against the consequences of sea level rise that would be funded by major emitters on the basis of GDP and GHG emissions and that would be triggered by sea level rise parameters.

The mechanism was not included in the FCCC but there are references to it. At the time the question of liability for addressing impacts that could not be addressed through adaptation was a concern, in the context of a perceived lack of resources for adaptation. There are now fairly substantial resources for adaptation, but the increased scientific understanding over the years that climate change will be more severe requires a renewed look at what limitations there are to

adaptation. There may be some slow onset or extreme events that cannot be avoided or adapted to, and some recourse must be found.

In 2012, AOSIS pushed for the establishment of an International Mechanism at COP 18 (Doha) to address loss and damage from the adverse effects of climate change. The International Mechanism was proposed to sit under the UNFCCC and have three mutually connected components:

1. An Insurance Component to help SIDS and other particularly vulnerable developing countries manage financial risk from increasingly frequent and severe extreme weather events;
 2. A Rehabilitation/Compensatory Component to address the progressive negative impacts of climate change, such as sea-level rise, increasing land and ocean temperatures, and ocean acidification; and
 3. A Risk Management Component to support and promote risk assessment and management tools and facilitate and inform the Insurance Component and Rehabilitation/Compensatory Component.
- At the next COP the final decision on the institutional arrangements for this mechanism will be decided.

Climate change finance is another area of interest for the DRM community, and opportunities exist for ensuring that financing is available for synergies between adaptation and DRM.

Purpose of the Session:

Experience at the regional and national levels when it comes to issues under the FCCC, there is a lack of common understanding by the DRM and CC communities as to the relevance and importance of FCCC issues to both. Promotion of the JNAP process as the guideline for Pacific NAPs would allow for synergies and cross-cutting benefits, but requires awareness in relevant government departments that will apply for NAP funding. Loss and damage is also a case in point where clear linkages between DRM and CC have been made. The session will therefore explore the background to the evolution of adaptation in the FCCC, how loss and damage is a major issue for PICs, understand how current activities such as PCRAFI can contribute and give guidance to the international process, and establish some talking points in relation to the following:

- Why are we calling for the establishment of an international mechanism?
- Why do we consider some of the existing institutional arrangements inadequate to deal with an important issue such as loss and damage?

There will also be discussions on how climate change financing can synergize between adaptation and DRM.

Questions to guide the sessions **discussions** are:

1. What is known in the region about the loss and damage debate, including knowledge and research on slow onset and extreme event cc impacts
2. What are some good examples or lessons learned from processes such as PCRAFI and how can these be harnessed for enhancing the international discussions

3. Answering the two questions for the FCCC negotiators

Intended Outcomes:

- Enhanced awareness and profile for the JNAP process as a guideline for developing NAPs
- Awareness of the loss and damage issue and its current status
- Awareness of climate change financing opportunities
- Share of lessons learned from PCRAFI and others
- Networking of stakeholders involved in this area
- Inputs to the FCCC on loss and damage

Format:

The session will through key speakers followed by discussions and questions from the floor.

Session Coordinator

Netatua Pelesikoti

SPREP

netatuap@sprep.org