

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

*8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> July*

*Sofitel Fiji Resort and Spa, Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji*

**Special Session 1: UNDERSTANDING THE ROADMAP PROCESS &  
PRESENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF PMC, 19RDM, PCCR, SAM, RWSC  
MEETINGS HELD FROM 1 - 5 July 2013**

**Introduction**

The Pacific region is highly exposed to natural hazards of geophysical origin (including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis) and climate related origin (including cyclones, floods, droughts and landslides). Natural hazards often evolve into full blown disasters, due to the inherent vulnerability of Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs). Climate change exacerbates this vulnerability by causing long term damages to ecosystems on which people's livelihoods depend and intensifies the effects of certain climate and weather related natural hazards. Furthermore, it is likely that the adverse effects of climate change will continue to increase and that Pacific Island communities will be increasingly exposed to natural disaster risks in the future.

To address the serious challenges posed to sustainable development by natural disasters, in 2005 Pacific leaders approved the Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action 2005 – 2015 (commonly referred to as the Regional Framework for Action or RFA) and the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006 – 2015 (PIFACC). These regional instruments provide a policy framework to guide investments that aim to strengthen the resilience to climate and disaster risks at regional, national and sub national levels within PICTs. The RFA is the Pacific adaptation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 – 2015 which was adopted by 168 governments at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in January 2005. The PIFACC is aligned to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which came into force in 1994 and provides an overall framework through which countries can address the challenges posed by climate change. The RFA and PIFACC were both identified as imperatives for action under the Pacific Plan endorsed by Pacific leaders in October 2005.

In recent years there has been growing recognition of the significant overlaps between disaster and climate risks, which both contribute to increasing PICTs vulnerability and hinder sustainable development efforts. Accordingly, the majority of PICs (Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) have decided to either

implement an integrated Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Climate Change (CC) strategic planning approach, or programme implementation or even institutional governance arrangements as in the case of Vanuatu which established the Vanuatu National Advisory Board for Climate Change and DRM in 2012. Papua New Guinea decided to pursue a 'DRM Mainstreaming Programme' in 2010 and retains a separate identity for CCA activities, although it has developed an integrated approach to DRM and CCA at a provincial level. At community level, all countries have been implementing actions in different social/economic sectors that contribute to reducing both climate change and disaster risks.

The Pacific region has decided to support the development of a Pacific integrated regional strategy for DRM and CC by 2015. This decision was endorsed by the region in 2011 at the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management, the Regional Meteorological Services Directors Meeting, the SPREP Governing Council, the SOPAC Division Meeting and the SPC Committee of Regional Governments and Administrations. The new integrated strategy is to succeed the current two separate frameworks (the RFA and the PIFACC) and its formulation supports the development of the global post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the post- 2015 global Development Agenda.

The process describing the methodology and milestones in the development of the new integrated strategy, a regional synthesis progress report for the RFA and PIFACC and a compendium of DRM and CC case studies from the Pacific is referred to as the 'Roadmap'. The implementation of the Roadmap is to be led by PICTs through a Steering Committee and supported by SPC, SPREP and UNISDR, through a Technical Working Group. In terms of the major outputs of the 'Roadmap' the following are the targeted completion dates:

- Integrated regional strategy for DRM and CC: final draft completed by 31 March 2014
- Regional synthesis progress report for the RFA and PIFACC: final draft completed by 31 May 2015
- Compendium of DRM and CC case studies from the Pacific: 31 May 2015

The 2013 Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management & the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable is a significant event in the process of development of the integrated strategy, as it brings together the DRM and the CC 'communities' at a regional level for the first time, and provides an opportunity to collect feedback and perspectives on the Roadmap process from a wide variety of stakeholders and interest groups, including Pacific national representatives at different levels of government, NGOs, civil society organisations, the private sector, the scientific community, international, donor and regional organisations. The outcomes of these discussions will feed into the development of the integrated strategy.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this session is two-fold. Firstly, it will explain and clarify the 'Roadmap' process and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions and seek clarification regarding this process and the way in which they will be able to contribute to it.

Secondly, it will create an understanding of the outcomes of the meetings conducted in Nadi from 1 – 5 July and to facilitate the inclusion of key issues and recommendations in the Declaration of the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for DRM and Pacific Climate Change Roundtable.

### **Intended Outcomes**

- Participants understand the Roadmap process: The history, rationale, guiding principles, implementation arrangements, processes, deliverables, timelines and milestones
- Participants understand the purpose and aim of the Joint Meeting of the Pacific DRM Platform and Pacific Climate Change Roundtable
- Participants understand how they can provide input into the development of the Pacific integrated regional strategy for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change and to the other Roadmap deliverables.
- Clarity on the outcomes of the regional meetings held in Nadi from 1 – 5 July
- Identification of key issues and recommendations to be included in the Declaration of the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for DRM and Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

### **Format**

The session will include presentations in plenary and a Q&A session.

### **Session Coordinators**

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