

GCCA +



THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE



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SCALING UP PACIFIC ADAPTATION (SUPA)

Palau In-Country Consultation
20 May 2019

Penthouse Hotel, Koror, Palau

Consultation Report



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



USP
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE
SOUTH PACIFIC

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Executive Summary

The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus - Scaling up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) is about scaling up climate change adaptation measures in specific sectors supported by knowledge management and capacity building. The 4.5 year project (2019-2023) is funded with EUR 14.89 million from the European Union (EU) and implemented by The Pacific Community (SPC) in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and The University of the South Pacific (USP), in collaboration with the governments and peoples of Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu.

The in-country consultation in Koror, Palau took place on Monday, 20th May 2019 and participants consisted of members of the National Climate Change Coordination Committee (NC4) who are representatives of line ministries and bureaus and the GCCA+ SUPA team from SPC and USP.

The consultation was successful in achieving all its objectives:

1. Introduce the project to national partners in Palau.
2. Select the sector, geographical focus and specific intervention(s) for scaling up in GCCA+ SUPA.
3. Identify next steps for 2019 for GCCA+ SUPA.

The implementing partners from SPC and USP introduced the project to the participants and clarification was made on the modalities for funds transfer, the eligibility of ‘research’ as an activity and the possibility of working with more than one sector.

The NC4 members presented their proposed scaling up activities and this generated a lot of discussion particularly where there were synergies or activities that could be implemented collaboratively. The NC4 members agreed on the health sector as the primary focus, with a provisional title “Enhancing human health and resilience” and the Ministry of Health as the focal point.

The SUPA activities in Palau will address the following interventions and actions in the 5-year Action Plan of the Palau Climate Change Policy:

- Intervention B.2 – Strengthen resilience within vulnerable communities including persons with disabilities;
- Action B.2.2 – Facilitate local food production within vulnerable segments of society (persons with disability, low income households, elderly, single mothers); and
- Intervention B.3 – Improve health services communication systems and preventative health services to build resilience to water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

The following scaling up activities were selected:

KRA 1: Reduced vulnerability to water-borne diseases

- Ministry of Health – replicate the Access to Safe Water project that was implemented in schools at the community level particularly at the community evacuation shelters.
- Ministry of Education – extend the macro and micro plastic program that is being implemented in schools.

KRA 2: Enhanced local food production systems to provide healthy diets

- Palau Community College – expand the following projects: (1) Women Empowerment Program (fast-fruited breadfruit trees) to five other states; (2) rabbit fish farming to two other states; (3) sustainable dry litter piggeries with complementary home gardens project to two other states.

KRA 3: Improved access and sharing of climate resilience information to/for schools and communities

- Bureau of Domestic Affairs – enhance the capacity of the local radio station so that they can broadcast from 13 more states.

Based on the scaling up activities identified, the NC4 members developed a first draft of the Concept Note. Next steps for 2019 (with tentative dates) were also identified.

Background



Group photo of Palau In-Country Consultation participants

Introduction

Climate change and natural disasters are among the greatest challenges jeopardising and undermining the ability of all countries, in particular Pacific countries, to achieve the sustainable development goals and reduce poverty. The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus – Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) project falls under the GCCA+ flagship initiative, which has three priorities: (i) mainstreaming climate change issues into poverty reduction and development efforts; (ii) increasing resilience to climate related stresses and shocks; and (iii) Supporting the formulation and implementation of concrete and integrated sector-based climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

The GCCA+ SUPA project is about scaling up climate change adaptation measures in specific sectors supported by knowledge management and capacity building. The 4.5-year project (2019 – 2023) is funded with EUR14.89 million from the European Union (EU) and implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC) in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the University of the South Pacific (USP) in collaboration with the governments and peoples of Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu.

The overall objective is to enhance climate change adaptation and resilience within ten Pacific Island countries. The specific objective is to strengthen the implementation of sector-based, but integrated, climate change and disaster risk management strategies and plans.

The three key outputs for the GCCA+ SUPA project are:

1. Strengthen strategic planning at national levels;
2. Enhance the capacity of sub-national government stakeholders to build resilient communities; and
3. Scale up resilient development measures in specific sectors.

The activities will adopt a gender-sensitive and rights-based approach throughout and will take into account lessons learnt and wise practices from the regional, national, sub-national and community-based projects and programmes implemented over the last decade.

The Action will contribute to the *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP)*, the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*, the *Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and the *Sustainable Development Goals*, especially Goal 2: zero hunger, Goal 3: good health and well-being, Goal 6: clean water and sanitation and Goal 13: climate action, Goal 14: life below water and Goal 15: life on land.



Palau developed the Palau Climate Change Policy and Action Plan for Climate & Disaster Resilient Low Emission Development in 2015. The vision of the Policy is “Happy, healthy, sustainable and resilient Palauan communities in a changing world.” By establishing the Policy, Palau is taking necessary steps to make its own national plans a reality and meet its obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other regional and international agreements. The Office of Climate Change is presently working with SPREP (as national implementing entity) to get funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to update the Palau Climate Change Policy.

By way of coordination, Palau has established its National Climate Change Coordination Committee (NC4) consisting of management level representatives from the different sectors. Palau has also developed its climate change portal (www.climatechange.palau.gov.pw) and information is being populated.

Key challenges to adaptation in Palau include:

- Raising public awareness about climate change risks;
- Technical capacity constraints and climate change education at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, short-term training, on-the-job training and job attachments are critical to address the capacity gap;
- Ensuring that gender-sensitivity and vulnerabilities of different community members are addressed in the implementation of climate change activities

The in-country consultation for the GCCA+ SUPA was held at the Penthouse Hotel, Koror, Palau on 20 May 2019.

Consultation objectives

The consultation had the following objectives:

1. Introduce the project to national partners in Palau.
2. Select the sector, geographical focus and specific intervention(s) for scaling up in GCCA+ SUPA.
3. Identify next steps for 2019 for GCCA+ SUPA.

Consultation agenda

The agenda is presented as Annex 1. Apart from completing the selection process and identification of next steps for 2019, the participants also worked collectively on a draft Concept Note based on the template provided by the GCCA+ SUPA team. The draft Concept Note was fine-tuned the day after the consultation by the Office of Climate Change, representatives of the selected sectors and the GCCA+ SUPA team.

Consultation participants

The participants included:

- Members of the National Climate Change Coordination Committee;
- Representatives of the Office of Climate Change; and
- GCCA+ SUPA project team from SPC and USP.

The list of participants is presented as Annex 2.

Consultation methodology

The consultation was facilitated by Xavier Matsutaro, National Climate Change Coordinator & Focal Point to the UNFCCC, Office of Climate Change, Palau. He welcomed the participants and the GCCA+ SUPA team

and gave time for introductions. He also provided a brief outline of the Agenda and expectations of the consultation. Previously in Palau decision-making on projects was conducted unilaterally by the national government. With the GCCA+ SUPA project and other recent projects however, Palau is taking a new approach where sectors will be given the opportunity to present their activities prior to a national decision being made and the consultation would facilitate this process.

The GCCA+ SUPA team then introduced the project to the participants and clarification was made on the following:

- Modalities for funds transfer – funds transfer can either be through a grant agreement between SPC and Palau Government or direct procurement/hire by SPC;
- The eligibility of ‘research’ as an activity – there is scope within GCCA+ SUPA for research but it can only be a small contributory component of the SUPA Output 3 actions and the research may be limited given the timeframe for the project; and
- The possibility of working with more than one sector – there is scope for working with more than one sector but it is important that the funds are not spread ‘too thin’ as we may run the risk of non-completion.

The NC4 members presented their proposed scaling up activities which are summarized below:

1. Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism – work with states to scale up clam farming.
2. Bureau of Domestic Affairs – enhance the capacity of the public radio station so that they can broadcast from 13 more states. This would require a mobile communication tool such as an equipped vehicle that can broadcast directly from communities.
3. Palau Community College – expand the following projects: (1) Women Empowerment Program (fast-fruiting breadfruit trees) to five other states; (2) rabbit fish farming to two other states; (3) sustainable dry litter piggeries with complementary home gardens project to two other states.
4. Ministry of Education – extend the macro and micro plastic program that is being implemented in schools where the students in Year 7 and 9 would identify macro and micro plastic pollution. The Ministry of Education completed the revision of the Science curriculum to integrate climate change into the curriculum in 2018. The macro and micro plastic program is moving from the curriculum revision towards actual integration.
5. Ministry of Health – replicate the Access to Safe Water project that was implemented in schools at the community level particularly at the community evacuation shelters. In the Access to Safe Water project, students were taught how to test for safe water and this has been integrated into the curriculum.
6. Palau Energy Authority – scale up the water wells project in Airai and Koror states by adding a solar pump to the wells and replicating it to Babeldaub.
7. Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs – mainstreaming activities that focus on the development of coastal zone management plans and specific policies on cultural resource loss as well as displacement due to sea level rise.

Following the presentations on the proposed scaling up activities, discussions were focused on the selection of a sector. The NC4 members agreed on human health as the primary focus, with a provisional title “Enhancing human health and resilience” and the Ministry of Health as the focal point. The NC4 members selected four activities and linked them to human health and the 5-year Action Plan of the Palau Climate Change Policy.

The scaling up activities in Palau will address the following interventions and actions in the 5-year Action Plan of the Palau Climate Change Policy:

- Intervention B.2 – Strengthen resilience within vulnerable communities including persons with disabilities;
- Action B.2.2 – Facilitate local food production within vulnerable segments of society (persons with disability, low income households, elderly, single mothers); and
- Intervention B.3 – Improve health services communication systems and preventative health services to build resilience to water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

The following scaling up activities were selected:

KRA 1: Reduced vulnerability to water-borne diseases

- Ministry of Health – replicate the Access to Safe Water project that was implemented in schools at the community level particularly at the community evacuation shelters.
 - Ministry of Education – extend the macro and micro plastic program that is being implemented in schools.
- KRA 2: Enhanced local food production systems to provide healthy diets

- Palau Community College – expand the following projects: (1) Women Empowerment Program (fast-fruited breadfruit trees) to five other states; (2) rabbit fish farming to two other states; (3) sustainable dry litter piggyeries with complementary home gardens project to two other states.

KRA 3: Improved access and sharing of climate resilience information to/for schools and communities

- Bureau of Domestic Affairs – enhance the capacity of the local radio station so that they can broadcast from 13 more states.

The NC4 members also prepared a draft Concept Note based on the sector and activities selected.

Planning the next steps in 2019 for GCCA+ SUPA

It was agreed that the NC4 members whose proposed activities had been selected would meet with the Office of Climate Change to complete the first draft of the Concept Note which would then need to be endorsed before submission to SPC. The tentative timelines for 2019 are given below.

- **Mid-June:** Palau, through the Climate Change Office, to submit the endorsed Concept Note to the Project Manager, GCCA+ SUPA.
- **Between now and July:** Implementing agencies to start working on their specific activity requirements and associated budgets.
- **July-August:** Consultation to develop and finalise the Project Design Document.
- **September-November:** Facilitate requirements for a Grant Agreement and get Grant Agreement signed off.
- **November:** Start implementation.

The meeting was concluded by Xavier Matsutaro who thanked the participants and the GCCA+ SUPA team.

Consultation evaluation

Participants completed individual evaluation forms; these have been compiled in Annex 3. The meeting objectives were met and 73% of respondents felt engaged and that their input was given full consideration. Concerning expectations of the consultation, 64% expressed that the consultation had met their expectations. Comments given by the participants were encouraging and insightful:

“Keep up the wonderful work.”

“Need more direction from Climate Change Office on priority focus areas given existing projects and other proposals in the pipeline.”

“Meeting well-planned and executed. Excellent lunch!”

Annex 1: Agenda



Consultation on the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus – Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) Project

20th May 2019, Penthouse Conference Room, Koror, Palau

AGENDA

Time	Agenda item	
8:30am to 9:00am	Registration	
9:00am to 9:15am	Welcome remarks	Xavier Matsutaro Dr. Gillian Cambers
9:15am to 9:30am	Group photo	Everyone
9:30am to 10:00am	Overview of SUPA and scope of support	GCCA+ SUPA Team
10:00am to 2.00pm	Each sector presents their activities for consideration Discuss and provide feedback Select activities for SUPA	National Climate Change Coordination Committee
1:00pm	Lunch	
2.00pm to 3.30pm	Next steps for 2019 and close of meeting	Xavier Matsutaro Dr. Gillian Cambers
<i>Note that we have the venue reserved until 3:00pm in the event that the process to select a project is prolonged</i>		

Annex 2: List of participants

Consultation on the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus – Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) Project

20th May 2019 at the Penthouse Conference Room, Koror, Palau

PARTICIPANTS LIST

No.	Name	Agency	Sex	Email
1	Ritter Udui	Ministry of Health	F	ritter.udui@palahealth.org
2	Gerald Tulop	Palau Energy Authority	M	
3	Sunny Nairmana	Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs	F	bac_req@palaunet.com
4	Shirley Tulop	Ministry of State	F	baulbei@gmail.com
5	Percy Rechelluul	Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism	M	pbrechelluul@gmail.com
6	Sarah Sugigama	Ministry of Education	F	sarahsugigama@palaumoe.net
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13	Fred Sengebau	Bureau of Agriculture	M	
14	Xavier Matsutaro	Office of Climate Change	M	xavier.matsutaro@gmail.com
15	Joe Aitaro	Office of Climate Change	M	jaitaro@gmail.com
16	Gillian Cambers	GCCA+ SUPA Project, SPC	F	gillianc@spc.int
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19	Titilia Rabuatoka	GCCA+ SUPA Project, SPC	F	titiliar@spc.int

Annex 3: Summary of consultation evaluation

Consultation on the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus – Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA) Project

20th May 2019 at the Penthouse Conference Room, Koror, Palau

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

Gender: Female – 7; Male – 4

Total respondents: 11

1. Meeting objective	5 (highest)	4	3	2	1 (lowest)
On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest, to what extent did the meeting achieve its objective i.e. selection of SUPA project activities?	4	4	3		
2. Participation	5 (highest)	4	3	2	1 (lowest)
On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest, did you feel engaged and that your input was given full consideration?	5	3	1	2	
3. Expectations	5 (highest)	4	3	2	1 (lowest)
On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest, did the consultation meet your expectations?	3	4	1	1	2
<p>Comments (if any):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Meeting well-planned and executed. Excellent lunch!</i>• <i>Need more direction from Climate Change Office of priority focus areas given existing projects and other proposals in the pipeline.</i>• <i>Keep up the wonderful work.</i>					