



THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE



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## SCALING UP PACIFIC ADAPTATION (SUPA)

Marshall Islands In-Country Consultation  
30 – 31 July 2019

Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands

## Consultation Report



Pacific  
Community  
Communauté  
du Pacifique



**SPREP**  
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional  
Environment Programme



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, Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tonga and Tuvalu.

The project design consultation took place in Majuro, Marshall Islands on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019. Participants at the consultation included Ministry of Health and Human Services (MOHHS), Canvasback Wellness Centre (CWC), Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce (MNRC), Taiwan Technical Mission (TTM) and representatives from Majuro, Arno and Jaluit atolls among others.

The objectives of the consultation workshop was all successfully achieved. The GCCA+ SUPA team from SPC and USP provided an overview of the project including the key result areas covered by the three implementing partners – SPC, SPREP and USP. A key message that was reiterated throughout the consultation was that the project will not be able to address all the climate-related issues in the selected sites but the outputs from the project can inform planning and implementation of future projects. An overview of the Community Lifestyle Programme (CLP) achievements implemented by the Canvasback Wellness Centre for the RMI MOHHS was also presented by the CWC Director. It was reiterated that USP's capacity building under GCCA+ SUPA would target the sub-national level and specifically in the sector that SPC will be working in.

Clarification was made to the group on the modalities for funds transfer for implementation and the possibility of working with more than one sector and the activities covered by the Euro 0.5 million. There were discussions within the group on maintenance and monitoring once projects have been completed. The meeting agreed that maintenance and monitoring should be the government's contribution to projects coming in to RMI and that government have considered steps on how to undertake this as a sustainability and exit strategy for the project.

The GCCA+ SUPA proposed activities in RMI would align with the:

- Tile Til Eo 2050 CLIMATE STRATEGY “Lighting the Way”
- Vision 2018: Strategic Development Plan Framework (2003-2018)
- National Climate Change and Health Action Plan (NCCHAP) 2012
- RMI Joint National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Management 2014-2018
- Climate Change Policy Framework 2011
- Climate Change Roadmap 2010
- National Strategic Plan (2015-2017)
- Food Security Policy (2013)

The consultation developed three project outputs:

Output 1: Enhance community and household-based atoll agriculture in selected atolls

Output 2: Foster lifestyle changes linking nutrition and wellness in 3 atolls.

Output 3: Mainstreaming climate and disaster risk into the health sector

Based on the project outputs and scaling up activities identified, the in-country partners together with SPC will develop a first draft of the Project Design Document (PDD) and submit it to SPC and EU. Next steps for 2019 were also identified.

## Background



*Group photo of participants for the RMI SUPA project design consultation*

## 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.



In 2003 the RMI Government launched “Vision 2018: The Strategic Development Framework” as the first segment of the Government’s Strategic Development Plan for the next 15 years. Vision 2018 provides the overarching framework for achieving RMI’s development goals and explicitly acknowledges that climate change will significantly affect the country’s future development.

The RMI *Tile Til Eo* 2050 CLIMATE STRATEGY “Lighting the way” (2018) and the National Climate Change Policy Framework (NCCPF) 2011, endeavours to support the RMI Vision 2018. The purpose of the 2050 Climate Strategy is to outline a long-term pathway for RMI to achieve its objectives for net zero emissions and 100% renewable energy, as well as to facilitate adaptation and climate resilience in a way that ensures the future protection and prosperity of the country and its women, men and youth. The NCCPF (2011) provides a blueprint to build resilience in partnership with RMI’s regional and global partners. The NCCPF was formally endorsed in 2011, and provides overarching national guidance and identification of priorities for tackling climate change challenges in the Marshall Islands.

Recognising the need for integration of climate change and disaster risks into development planning, RMI developed the RMI Joint National Action Plan (JNAP) for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management 2014-2018. The aim of the JNAP is to enhance the resilience of the Marshall Islands people. It does this through providing all stakeholders, from communities, to national level to regional and international levels, with a nationally owned and driven guiding action plan that identifies key national priorities for reducing risk and vulnerability in the RMI. The JNAP 2014-2018 is an important supportive element towards the achievement of RMI’s sustainable national development priorities.

Through the RMI 2050 CLIMATE STRATEGY and JNAP 2014-2018, RMI 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

By way of coordination, RMI has under the 2050 CLIMATE STRATEGY established its *Tile Til Eo* (TTE) Committee. The committee was established to facilitate the production of the 2050 CLIMATE STRATEGY; monitor the alignment and consistency of relevant legislation, policies and measures with the 2050 Strategy; overseeing the update of the 2050 Strategy every five years – including the goals it contains; monitoring progress towards achievement of RMI’s current NDC; and recommending the targets and goals of future RMI NDCs. Under the JNAP RMI established the National Climate Change Committee (NC3). The NC3 is responsible for ensuring progress on adaptation and mitigation elements of the JNAP, and to ensure new and emerging climate change initiatives in RMI are linked and integrated into JNAP priorities.

Key challenges to adaptation in RMI include:

- Technical capacity constraints in permanent positions to take on the task of managing climate change risks over the near and long term;
- Retention of skilled personnel in country through appropriate levels of remuneration and other means;
- Ensuring that gender-sensitivity and vulnerabilities of different community members are addressed in the implementation of climate change activities
- Limited access to international climate related assistance due to capacity and resource constraints at the institutional and country level
- Lack of long term climate finance strategy and strategy on wider means of implementation clearly setting out actions, timings and responsibilities.
- Lack of long-term predictable and adequate financing. Because private sector finance is particularly hard to secure in this area, public sector funding from the international climate donor and development sector must be the focus.
- Mainstreaming or incorporation of climate change and disaster risk management related issues into the national sustainable development strategy, sectoral and corporate plans and budgets.

The in-country consultations for the GCCA+ SUPA were held at the Robert Reimers Hotel, Majuro, RMI on 30 and 31 July 2019

## **Consultation objectives**

The consultations had the following objectives:

### SUPA Project design Consultation workshop 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July

1. Introduce the SUPA project to key stakeholders in RMI.
2. Hold a two (2) days consultation workshop with stakeholders to develop the Project Design Document for the GCCA+ SUPA project.
3. Finalization of the activities and budget for the Project Design Document
4. Identify next steps for 2019 for GCCA+ SUPA.

## **Consultation agenda**

The agenda is presented as Annex 1.

## **Participants**

The participants included representatives from:

- Ministry of Health, Canvasback Wellness Centre, Ministry of Natural Resources and Commerce, Marshall Islands Organic Farmers Association (MIOFA), Taiwan Technical Mission, NGO Marshall Islands Epidemiology and Prevention Initiatives and representatives from Majuro, Arno and Jaluit atolls among others ; and GCCA+ SUPA project team from SPC and USP

The list of participants is presented as Annex 2.

## **Consultation methodology**

### SUPA Project design Consultation workshop 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July

The consultation with the key stakeholders was co-facilitated by the SPC/USP SUPA project team and the Canvasback Wellness Centre-Majuro Director Mr. Tanner Smith. Mr Tanner Smith 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. He also provided overview of the achievements of the Community Lifestyle Programme (CLP) piloted in the RITA Area in Majuro.

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

- Funding – the Euro 0.5 million covers in-country consultations, staff needs, design and implementation of tangible on-the-ground scaling up measures, capacity building in the monitoring and maintenance of the scaled up measures and mainstreaming climate and disaster risk into the sector policies, plans and budgets.
- The roles and relationship between SPC, SPREP and USP – the three will work closely together as the USP component is focused on capacity building at the sub-national level within the geographical focus for the scaling up intervention and USP's capacity building has to be related to the sector selected by RMI and SPREP conducting an Impact assessment methodology of past climate change projects which can include projects implemented by the three organizations and other partners.

- 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

Following the presentation by the GCCA+ SUPA, participants were tasked with agreeing on the overall and specific objectives. This was followed by dividing participants into small groups to discuss and identify activities for the SUPA project. Discussions were focused on the selection of project sites and project activities.

The meeting participants agreed that the selection of the “Community Lifestyle Programme” activities implemented and piloted by the Canvasback Wellness Centre in the Rita Area in Majuro Atoll to improve food security and health resilience for diabetic patients aligns with the national high-level decision prioritising food and health security where Goal 5 of the RMI JNAP 2014-2018 and National Climate Change Policy Framework (NCCPF) Goal 2 focusing on livelihoods, food and health security for building community resilience to climate change and disaster risks. It also aligns with the RMI National Climate Change and Health Action Plan 2012 that identifies several climate-sensitive health risks that will be addressed by the Community Lifestyle Programme. These include 1) malnutrition due to crop failures related to inundation and 2) obesity, circulatory disease, diabetes and related NCDs due to altered dietary patterns and dependence of processed foods and altered physical activity levels.

The meeting participants agreed that the GCCA+ SUPA activities would focus on 3 atolls namely Jaluit, Arno and the Delap-Uliga-Darrit area in Majuro atoll. Arno Atoll was selected because it is the closest atoll to the capital of Majuro (25 miles away and accessible by small boat), making implementation of the program feasible. Jaluit was selected by request of two Senators for that atoll who support the Wellness Center projects. The selection of the project activities and project sites was guided by the selections criteria’s developed by the SUPA project and RMI complementary criteria’s tailored to RMI’s context. The project activities and sites were selected based on the following rationale:

- The sector selected by RMI is one of the five sectors identified in the EU Delegation Agreement as priority sectors needing scaling up interventions for the SUPA project.
- The identified scaling up measure is an effective and tested measure that has elements of sustainability and can be implemented within the timeframe of the SUPA project.
- The selected scaled up measure has socio-economic benefits for the communities and can be implemented using an evidence-based people-centred approach.
- The selected measure to be scaled up fits within the scope of the SUPA project budget.
- The geography of the RMI with its scattered, low-lying atolls, makes its people highly vulnerable to disaster and climate risks.
- Future projections for climate changes show a very high confidence in the El Niño/La Niña patterns continuing through to 2100; added to which a very high confidence in the increase in mean and extreme temperatures, and in sea level rise will continue to increase the vulnerability of persons living in the RMI.
- The government of the RMI, through its policies, strategies and plans, places a high priority on strengthening food and health security.
- Adopting a people-centred approach will ensure that the principles of equality and equity are provided to all rights holders in the RMI.

There was discussions on maintenance and monitoring once projects are completed. It was highlighted that maintenance is the role of government and this must be stressed to line ministries when working with projects. SPC reiterated the importance of involving the primary beneficiaries or target communities of the project in decision-making processes, awareness and operation and maintenance training to ensure project sustainability and success learning from past project challenges.

It was also noted that monitoring after a project finishes is usually hindered due to lack of funding. The meeting agreed that maintenance and monitoring should be the government’s contribution to projects coming in to RMI.

The group identified activities for the project given the funding and time available. The activities in RMI will address some of the following strategic goals identified in the JNAP, which are a combination of those addressed in the DRM NAP and the national Climate Change Policy Framework (NCCPF):

Goal 1.	Establish and support an enabling environment for improved coordination of disaster risk management /climate change adaptation in the Marshall Islands
Goal 2.	Public education and awareness of effective CCA and DRM from local to national level
Goal 3.	Enhanced emergency preparedness and response at all levels within the Marshall Islands
Goal 4.	Improved energy security, working towards a low carbon future for the Marshall Islands
Goal 5.	Enhanced local livelihoods and community resilience for all Marshall Islands people
Goal 6.	Integrated approach to development planning including consideration of climate change and disaster risks

The meeting was concluded by Mr. Tanner Smith and Jaluit Atoll Senator Mrs. Daisy Alik Momotau who thanked the participants and the GCCA+ SUPA team.



*Photo of participants working in groups for SUPA project design consultation meeting 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019*

### **Consultation outcomes**

The meeting participants identified the following key activities for the project:

1. Conduct agricultural needs assessment and design agricultural measures in selected communities of Arno, Jaluit and Majuro
2. Establish existing home gardens in selected communities in Arno, Jaluit and Majuro atoll
3. Establish new exercise clubs in Arno, Jaluit and Majuro
4. Train and recruit health workers to do regular health checks and cooking classes
5. Purchase health screening equipment's for health workers
6. Pilot special wellness activities for men's group in selected communities
7. Review NCCHAP 2012 and prepare a new climate change and health policy and action plan
8. Data compilation, monitoring and evaluation of health checks

### **Planning the next steps for GCCA+ SUPA**

Tentative timelines are given below.

- **End of September:** Project Design Document signed
- **End of November:** Service provider(s) to implement SUPA project identified
- **End of December:** Service provider(s) contracted
- **End of January 2020:** Implementation on the ground commences

### **Consultation evaluation**

The workshop participants completed individual evaluation forms, which, have been compiled in Annex 3. All (i.e. 100%) of the respondents felt that the meeting achieved its objectives, felt engaged and that their input was given full consideration and that the consultation had met their expectations.

## Annex 1: Agenda



**GCCA +**  
THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE

Funded by  
the European Union

Pacific  
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SOUTH PACIFIC

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

**30 – 31 July 2019, Robert Reimers Hotel, Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands**

#### Agenda: Project Design Consultation Workshop

<b>DAY 1 Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	
8.30am	Registration
9.00am	Opening of the workshop Introductions
9.20am	Overview of the workshop objectives
9.30am	Introduction to GCCA+ SUPA Project Discussion
10.00am	Overview of the achievements of the Community Lifestyle Programme 2015-2018 Discussion
10.30am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
11.00am	Review of health, food and climate change issues faced in Majuro, Arno and Jaluit
11.30am	Review of the framework of the SUPA project Indicators for success Agreement on overall and specific objectives
12.00 noon	Outline of the key result areas (KRAs)
1.00pm	<b>Lunch</b>
2.00pm	Small Group discussions: (1) identify specific activities under each KRA, (2) prioritise the activities, and (3) identify risk and constraints to project implementation.
3.30pm	Groups present back to the main group.
4.00pm	Recap of Day 1 and Outline of Day 2
<b>DAY 2 Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019</b>	
8.30am	Registration
9.00am	Small Group discussions: How to ensure the project results in behavioural change and the activities are sustainable after GCCA+ SUPA finishes
10.00am	Present back to whole group on behavioural change ideas and sustainability
10.30am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
10.45am	Next steps for GCCA+ SUPA in RMI
11.00am	Communicating the results
12.00 noon	Closing
	Workshop evaluation
12.30	Lunch
	<b>End of Workshop</b>

## Annex 2: List of Participants

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

#### RMI In-country Consultation for SUPA Project Design

30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 (8:30am – 4:00pm), Robert Reimers Hotel, Majuro, RMI

#### PARTICIPANTS LIST

Name	Organization/Agency	Sex	Email	Signature
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RMI SUPA Project PDD Workshop  
30 - 31 July 2019

DAY 2

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PARTICIPANTS LIST

RMI GCCA+ SUPA PROJECT DESIGN WORKSHOP

30 - 31 JULY, 2019

DAY 2

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Daisy Alita Mamotan	Senator	F	alitamamotan@yahoo.com	Daisy

## RMI SURF PROJECT DESIGN WORKSHOP

30-31 July, 2019

## DAY 2

**Annex 3: Summary of consultation evaluation**

**Evaluation Form**  
**RMI PROJECT DESIGN WORKSHOP**  
**30-31 July, 2019**

**Total responses:** Male 5; Female 8; Not specified 2

1. Meeting objective	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)
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?					15
2. Participation	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)
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?					15
3. Expectations	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)
On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest, did the consultation meet your expectations?					15
Comments (if any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It was nice to one of the participant in this conference, was a good start, and hope to continue this project</li><li>• Missed getting Arno more involved</li><li>• This kind of meeting will help RMI in terms of lifestyle and gardening</li><li>• Taking the project to outer islands I think is the right way to address NCD &amp; climate change with food security</li><li>• In the limited time available, I think the objectives were discussed very well</li><li>• Excited for the project</li><li>• Awesome program that we move forward to take ownership of especially with the focus of outer islands</li><li>• Presenter: Did a great job and took our attention and understanding</li><li>• This workshop was really great. We had a lot of good idea on what to do with the project with the help of the SUPA team. Thank you</li><li>• The goals and objectives of this project is highly important to improve the lifestyles of the Marshallese people is poor because of poor lifestyles. Thank Q!</li></ul>				