

Zooming SUPA Session 1

21st July 2020, 12:00 – 1:30pm

Introduction

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 SUPA project has three main outputs:

- Output 1 led by SPREP covers knowledge management;
- Output 2 led by USP covers capacity building; and
- Output 3 led by SPC covers scaling up measures in specific sectors.

Work on Output 1 only started in April 2020, so this work is in the preliminary stages. The presentations during the Zooming SUPA sessions will not cover the knowledge management output. There are plans to have a separate virtual session on knowledge management at the end of 2020.

The 'ZOOMING SUPA' is a series of virtual meetings for the 10 SUPA countries to share activities and experiences in SUPA. The first session focused on updates from RMI and Palau. Both countries focus on the Health sector. The session included representatives from Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, RMI, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tonga, the European Union, SPC, SPREP and USP. (Unfortunately Kiribati and Tuvalu were not represented at the virtual meeting). The list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

Country presentations

1. Republic of the Marshall Islands

- The RMI presentation was presented by Ms. Lilly Jureland and Mr. Dustin Langidrik.
- The project will scale up the Community Lifestyle Program in Majuro and Jaluit islands to enhance community and household-based atoll agriculture and foster lifestyle changes that improve wellness. The project will also develop a Climate Change and Health Policy and Action Plan.
- Work in RMI has started with the agriculture house-to-house survey, training of new health workers and walking club managers, health screenings in both Majuro and Jaluit, completion of desktop reviews for both Majuro and Jaluit and completion of training needs analysis for Jaluit. The training needs analysis will inform the resilience training that will also be implemented as part of the project.
- The people-centred approach is evident in project activities which include wellness activities for men in two communities and community sports leagues.
- Challenges include:
 - Dengue outbreak on Jaluit Island which limited movement;
 - COVID-19 restrictions which have impacted on delivery of supplies; and
 - coordination issues as there are many implementing partners.
- Q&A session:
 - Clarification on DUD area – DUD is the area in downtown Majuro.
 - Clarification on the Climate Change and Health Policy and Action Plan:
 - The RMI Government requested that SUPA revise the Health Policy to include more climate change considerations. The Climate Change and Health Policy and Action Plan will guide the activities of the newly established Environmental Health Unit.

- SPC, through its Climate Finance Unit is working with FSM to review and finalise the GCF concept note “Increasing resilience to the health risks of climate change in FSM”. Building on the FSM National Climate Change and Health Action Plan, there is a pressing need to transition from the current, highly vulnerable situation to a climate-resilient and sustainable health system with the capacity to prepare for and manage changing human health risks associated with vector-, water- and food-borne diseases over coming decades. The SPC Director North Pacific expressed that she would like to see where there are synergies in the work on national health and climate change action plans in development, or actioned across RMI, FSM and Palau, these can be discussed, strengthened and related opportunities identified to strengthen efforts and partnerships.
 - FSM expressed that they can share their National Climate Change and Health Action Plan with RMI.
 - Communication of project activities in-country – The team in RMI has developed short videos about project activities that are uploaded on YouTube and Facebook. Timely communication with local government is also key for ensuring the local government is informed about the project’s work in the communities.
- The RMI presentation is attached as Annex 2.

2. Palau

- The Palau presentation was presented by Mr. Joseph Aitaro and Mrs. Carol Emaurois.
- The project will enhance water catchment systems at selected emergency shelters across 5 states, implement a water quality and vector-borne disease training program for communities in the 5 states, strengthen communication and outreach on climate resilience and provide training to Grade 7 and Grade 9 teachers in the monitoring of ocean and coastal pollution and its impacts on climate change and human health. The project will also complete a desktop review and conduct a training needs analysis in Airai State which will inform the resilience training for Airai State.
- Under SPC’s Procurement Crisis Response Procedures, the project has procured a vehicle to house and transport radio equipment and staff to and from broadcasting sites. The project has also procured radio broadcasting and related equipment.
- The National Government of Palau has always practised a participatory and inclusive approach that addresses the rights of all community members for all projects. This is part of the National Government’s “cultural business model.”
- Challenges include:
 - prioritisation of project activities as the initial concept was too ambitious;
 - 2020 is an election year so there may be new leadership next year;
 - COVID-19 related challenges;
 - lack of clear guidelines on the scope of allowable activities and costs; and
 - difficulties with reaching and communicating with the team on the ground.
- Palau acknowledged the support of the EU and the GCCA+ SUPA teams (regional and national).
- Clarification sought on strengthening the radio station and how it relates to climate change and health – Radio broadcasts presently reach only two states in Palau. With the support from the GCCA+ SUPA project, radio broadcasts will reach an additional 12 states. The project will support the delivery of a series of live broadcasts relating to climate resilience. There are two planned surveys (pre and post evaluation surveys) by the Bureau of Domestic Affairs to gauge listeners’ understanding about climate change issues.
- Noted that countries are at different stages of finalising the project design documents.
- The presentation is attached as Annex 3.

Conclusion

The meeting ended with participants completing an online survey on their perception of the meeting and logistics. The result of the survey is attached as Annex 4. The next Zooming SUPA session is scheduled for 13th August 2020 where Fiji and Tonga, who both focus on coastal protection, will present.

Annex 1: List of Participants

No.	Country	Name	Ministry/Organisation
1	Cook Islands	Dr. Lara Ainley	Ministry of Marine Resources
2	FSM	Ms. Cindy Ehmes	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management
3		Mr. Sean Kadanged	RENI Project
4	Fiji	Mr. Amit Singh	Ministry of Waterways
5		Mr. Shivanal Kumar	Ministry of Economy
6		Mr. Rahul Tikaram	
7	Marshall Islands	Mr. Tanner Smith	Canvasback Wellness Center
8		Ms. Lilly Jureland	
9		Councilman Jina David	Majuro Local Government
10		Hon. Mayor Alington Robert	Jaluit Local Government
11		Mr. Dustin Langidrik	USP Project Consultant
12	Nauru	Ms. Erana Aliklik	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment
13		Mr. Reagan Moses	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment
14	Niue	Ms. Charlotte Pihigia	Department of Environment
15	Palau	Mr. Joseph Aitaro	Office of Climate Change
16		Mrs. Carol Emaurois	USP Project Consultant
17		Mr. Calvin Johanes	Ministry of Health
18		Ms. Makiei Franz	Ministry of State
19	Tonga	Ms. Filimoe'unga Aholelei	Department of Climate Change
20		Mr. Manu Manuofetoa	
21		Mr. Unaloto Puloka	USP Tonga Campus
European Union			
22	Ms. Jenny Brown		
23	Mr. Adrian Nicolae		
24	Shirleen Swapna		
Implementing Partners			
25	SPREP	Ms. Monifa Fiu	
26		Ms. Gloria Roma	
27		Mr. Semi Qamese	
28	USP	Mrs. Aliti Koroi	
29		Ms. Teresia Powell	
30		Mrs. Valda Hoerder-Howard	
31		Mr. Savneel Kant	
32	SPC	Ms. Lara Studzinski	
33		Dr. Gillian Cambers	
34		Mr. Sheik Irfaan	
35		Mr. Sanivalati Tubuna	
36		Mrs. Turang Teuea	
37		Mr. Zhiyad Khan	
38		Ms. Rigieta Rosa	
39		Mrs. Titilia Rabuatoka	

Annex 2: RMI presentation



SCALING UP PACIFIC ADAPTATION

LIFESTYLE CHANGES AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN RMI










GCCA+ SUPA First (Virtual) Steering Committee Meeting
July, 2020

1

Consultation and design process

- Selective areas: Majuro, Jaluit, Arno
- Consultations were conducted with Majuro, Jaluit and Arno leadership to determine which programs would be most appropriate for each atoll.
- Concept note developed by professional grant writers and consultations of MOHHS and community members involved in CLP.
- In July 2019, SPC and USP together with other partners meet on Majuro to develop the Project Design Documents. Arno and Jaluit atolls leadership was present for their input.
- Ultimately it was decided not to extend project to Arno as this would be too much work and spread the program beyond what staff could handle.



2

Scaling up climate change adaptation

- The established project of CLP or Community Lifestyle Program has been running since 2015.
- The aim of the program is to help community members take ownership of their health.
- This program has evolved over the years and is now using Zone Nurses and Community Health Workers and Walking Club Managers to encourage and monitor progress in each village.
- Program shows success in helping to decrease rates of uncontrolled diabetes and hypertension and was selected to be scaled up with SUPA.





3

Key result areas for Outputs 3 and 2

GCCA+ SUPA Output 3: Key Result Areas			
1. Enhance community and household-based atoll agriculture in selected atolls	2. Foster Lifestyle changes linking nutrition and wellness in selected atolls	3. Mainstreaming climate disaster risk into the health sector	4. Coordination and communication
GCCA+ SUPA Output 2: Key Result Areas			
1. Capacity building needs analysis	2. Resilience training	3. Mainstream climate and disaster risk into local area development plans.	4. Build a community of practice

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Output 3: Progress

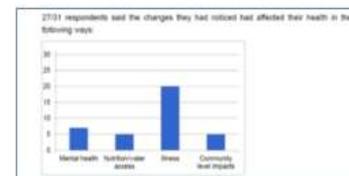
- 1st trip to Jaluit on Feb 24th 2020 for 1 week.
- Establish new walking club in Batkan Village on Majuro atoll in March 2020
- Conducted agriculture house-to-house survey in Majuro DUD area April 2020 – June 2020
- Health team's second trip to Jaluit in May 2020 to hire and train new health workers and walking club managers
- 2nd trip to Jaluit for agriculture team. Built and place 10 home gardens in Jabor and trained local MNRC extension agent.

Majuro Atoll	Jaluit Atoll
127 health screenings	98 health screenings
280 agricultural assessments done	100 agricultural assessments done

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Output 3: Progress (continued)

- A team from the Australian National University (ANU) has been contracted to prepare a Climate Change and Health Policy and Action Plan
- After a Climate Change Dialogue in January 2020, an assessment of the 2012 plan was conducted.



- ANU are now working with the Marshall Islands Epidemiology and Prevention Initiatives (MIEPPI) to conduct focus groups, mapping exercises and prepare a new policy and action plan.

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Output 3: Planned activities to December 2020

- Health and agriculture teams' 3rd trip to Imejj Island on Jaluit atoll in September 2020 to establish walking club and hire new health workers and club managers. Agriculture team will expand existing home gardens on Imejj Island.
- Village cleanliness competition - August 2020
- Village volleyball competition – July to August 2020
- Jaluit basketball tournament – end of 2020



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Output 2: Progress

2.1.1 Training Needs Analysis

- Consulted relevant stakeholders
- Completed 2 Desktop Reviews (MALGoV and JALGoV)
 - Identification of Change Agents
- Completed TNA (JALGoV)



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Output 2: Planned Activities to December 2020



- Working on Majuro Atoll Local Government's (MALGoV) Training Needs Analysis and Prioritization; Awareness Raising and Outreach Schedule
- Supporting both Local Governments to secure additional training funds in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders (MoCIA, History and Preservation Office; National Training Council; GEF Small Grants; Waan Aelon in Majel (Canoes of the Marshall Islands); NDMO etc
- Support JALGoV with Designing and developing their Disaster Management Plan - Organise further discussions with NDMO and CCD to ensure that CCDRM is mainstreamed into the Plan

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All outputs: People centred approach

- Focus is on community members, farmers, health workers in Jaluit and Majuro
- Council members of JALGoV are representatives of their respective islands (9 elective wards: approx: 1800 total population); 33 members in total
- Pilot special wellness activities for men in 2 communities:
- SUPA project presented to Jaluit Youth Rally on Imroj Island (200 youths).
- Annual sports competitions in schools; and teacher participation in the Jaluit TNA; Community sports leagues



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All outputs: Challenges and how they are being addressed

- Dengue outbreak on Jaluit Island- this has been lifted, however there were limitations in movement
- Covid-19 lockdown – Challenges with international arrivals and delivery of supplies. The project team agreed to work with Jaluit first and ensure that as much as possible is done before further lockdowns and restrictions are imposed. Delaying of shipment for supplies
- Establishment of agricultural “Wicking System” – challenges with establishing this system include sea level rise and unexploded ordnance on Imej Island.
- .Coordination Issues – There are many different implementing partners: Canvasback Wellness Center, Ministry of Health and Human Services, USP-RMI team, Australian National University, MIEPPI, and so coordination is a challenge. A Grant Agreement has just been signed with Ministry of Health and Human Services to recruit a National Coordinator, and this appointment will facilitate coordination among the partners.

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Final comments and questions

- Kommol Tata! 😊

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Annex 3: Palau presentation



ENHANCING COMMUNITY HEALTH AND RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTERS IN PALAU



GCCA+ SUPA First (Virtual) Steering Committee Meeting
July, 2020

1

Consultation and design process

- **National consultations**
- The Office of Climate Change (OCC) serving as the Secretariat to the National Climate Change Coordination Committee (NC4) invited member agencies of the NC4 for the initial meeting on the 'Scope of the SUPA Project' and invited 'calls for interest' submissions of adaptation projects for "Scaling Up". In total of three NC4 meeting and eight Palau SUPA team meeting were conducted and we are still meeting....
- **Selection process for the identification of the sector for SUPA activities.**
- A total of eight proposals received, during the process of selection we learned several agencies of the NC4 are partners in the implementation of "Peoples Empowerment Project (PEP)." Secondly, we learned additional support needed to climate proof Evacuation Shelters with water catchment and training to reduce water vector diseases for both the shelters and in the communities. Third, MOE and Palau Conservation Society, CBO partnership with primary schools on coastal data collection to expire this year. Lastly, need to raise the community's understanding of CC, thus was decided to include at least one activity from each of the proposed activities into one SUPA project for Palau.

2

Selection of geographical areas:

- The EU and SPC expressed their concern, Palau's proposal was too ambitious citing the number of activities as a result the Palau SUPA "food security" members volunteered and withdrew the food security activities from the Palau SUPA project proposal
- The selection of sites was based on certain criteria in order to effectively implement the project in a two year period.
- Which states with promising adaptation project were in need of 'scale up'? Willingness of the state? Capacity and capability of the state? Which state have been provided with the least national adaptation support? History of working relationship between the state with agency or group of agencies? Assessment of the state's commitment to the project? Also, factors that might cause delays in the implementation of the Project such as, timeframe of the current political structure, conflicts with state activities, or community competing activities? If a positive COVID 19 case is confirmed in Palau, then overall implementation of Palau SUPA project will be delayed at lengthen depended on national circumstances.
- Based on the criteria the following five states were selected: Airai, Aimeliik, Ngatpang, Ngermenlengui and Ngardmau.

3

Concept Note (CN) and Preparation of Project Design (PPD):

- Since the project is to up scale, a challenge was to 'rethink and re word' languages from the other activities CN to conform with the SUPA CN. Another challenge, to articulate the language in CN to correspond with purpose and goal of each the activities so to align with the respective KRAs. While the PDD activities centered on allocation of funding support for each KRAs and again "fine tune" the description of activities with the a KRAs.
- Patience and endurance are needed for the exercise mentioned above...

4

Identify the past projects or activities that are being Scaled up

- ACSE Piggery Project implemented by Grants Office – completed in 2019
- Breadfruit tree seedlings distribution funded by PEP and implemented by PCC-CRE
- Fruit bearing tree propagation implemented by Palau Community College – Community Resource Extension (PCC-CRE)
- Taro seedlings with high tolerance to salt water intrusion – PACC Project – PCC CRE/Palau Community Action Agency (PCAA).
- Rabbit fish aqua culture hatcheries implemented - Bureau of Marine Resources, Ministry of Natural Environment and Tourism
- Reduction of water vector borne diseases – Division of Environmental Health (DEH), Ministry of Health
- Updating of national radio station IT with CC capacity building – Bureau of Domestic Affairs, Ministry of State

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Output 3: Initial Key Result Areas

1 Reduce Vulnerability to Water and Water vector borne diseases in selected States. Training of both the state and community to take ownership of the in reduction of water borne diseases.	2 -Strengthen climate resilience through learning and outreach in Palau. Currently government owned radio station board casts to 2 out of 16 states in Palau. SUPA support will increase the radio station's board cast to 12 out of 16 states	3 -Increase Palau's food security resilience to Climate Change. Expand previous food security adaptation projects to other states including identify and promulgate and distribution of endemic fruit/starch bearing trees.	4 Coordination and reporting. First time for National Climate Change Coordination Committee (NC4) to actively engage in the decision making process by linking their existing adaptation activities to Palau Climate Change Policy (PCCP)
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Output 3: Finalized Key Result Areas

- KRA 1: Reduce vulnerability to water and vector borne diseases in selected states2 Establish water catchment systems at emergency shelters in Aimeliik, Airai, Ngardmau, Ngaremlengui, Ngatpang States.
- KRA 2: Strengthen climate resilience through learning and outreach in Palau3 Communication and Outreach programme.
- KRA 3: Coordination and Reporting.

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Output 3: Progress and planned activities to December 2020

- Grant agreement documentation between SPC and ROP in final review.
- Materials for the telecommunication equipment for the Palau Radio Station under KRA 2 have already been procured under SPC's crisis response procedures (the strengthened radio station will also broadcast information on how to respond to COVID-19).

The progress of our project will be depended on upon the signing of the grant agreement and initial drawdown of the funds so to purchase materials and equipment needed.

Depending on delivery of materials and equipment, Palau can commence implementation of their KRAs in September of this year.

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Gender consideration reflected in SUPA and Palau Climate Change Policy (PCCP)

- In the Health section of PCCP both section B.2 and B.2.2 references gender consideration. B.2 states " Strengthen resilience within the vulnerable communities including persons with disabilities (PWD)". B.2.2 " facilitate local food production within vulnerable segments of the society, PWD, low income households, elderly, and single mothers."
- National Government of Palau have always practice 'adopting a participatory and inclusive that addresses and the right of all communities members for all and new national project per our government's "cultural business model".
- MOH will conduct a training for the selected states taking into special consideration the elderly, people with disabilities (PWD) and single parents .
- MOH will highly encourage the participation of female state employees for the training but ultimate decision will be the state government's decision as to who and gender to attend.
- For now the state representative are consulted in the PDD but once the project commences the state representatives will be actively engage in the SUPA meetings.

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Output 2: Progress

GCCA+ SUPA Output 2: Key Result Areas

1. Capacity building needs analysis	2. Resilience training	3. Mainstream climate and disaster risk into local area development plans.	4. Build a community of practice
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- Consultation with the CC Unit team to assist with choosing a State to work in due to funding limitations
 - Arai State was chosen
- Consultation with Stakeholders
 - National
 - State Government
- Currently Completing Draft Desktop review of Arai State

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Output 2: Planned Activities to December 2020

- Finalize Desktop Review
 - Incorporate comments/feedback from Stakeholders and project team
- Planning for Arai State's Training Needs Analysis Consultation
 - Awareness raising with State Government Members
 - Identification and prioritization of key training needs/gaps
 - Development of training needs and training schedule
 - Way Forward

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Output 2: People Centered Approach

- Consultant undertook detailed and inclusive consultation during the review process
- Will ensure to include all relevant stakeholders in the upcoming Training Needs Analysis and follow up activities

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Challenges and how they are being addressed

Palau first challenge was we were too ambitious with the number of activities which resulted in deletion of the "Food Security" in the project.

- National election year so new leadership next year. OCC with support from members of the Palau SUPA team to submit the "SUPA Summary Report" to the Transition Committee, if needed, meet with the new elected leaders.
- COVID 19 – to date Palau is "COVID 19 free", however, if a single case is confirmed then SUPA implementation will depend on the national directives.
- What would have saved time: Clear guidelines on allowable costs, clear definition of Scope of Activity as to what activities are permitted and not permitted to reduce prolong of PDD process, correspondence time between implementing partners, Lead Agency with SPC and EU.
- Coordination and Communication: difficulties with reaching and communicating with the team on the ground
- COVID-19: Difficulties encountered by the Output 2 Project Coordinator (North) to visit and guide the consultant with conducting consultations.

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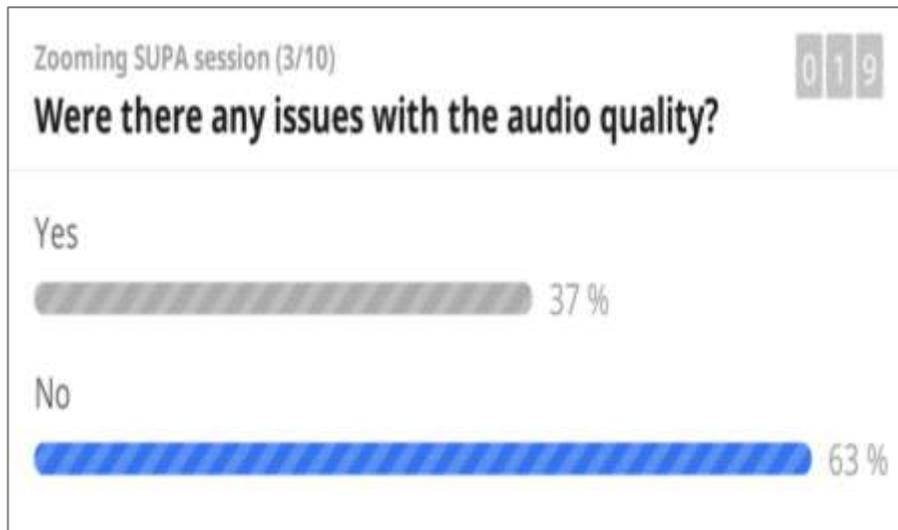
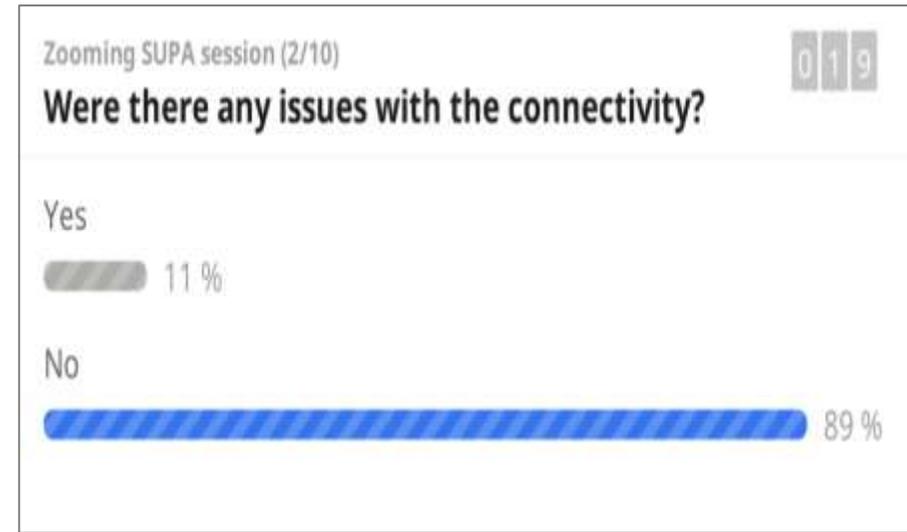
Final comments & questions

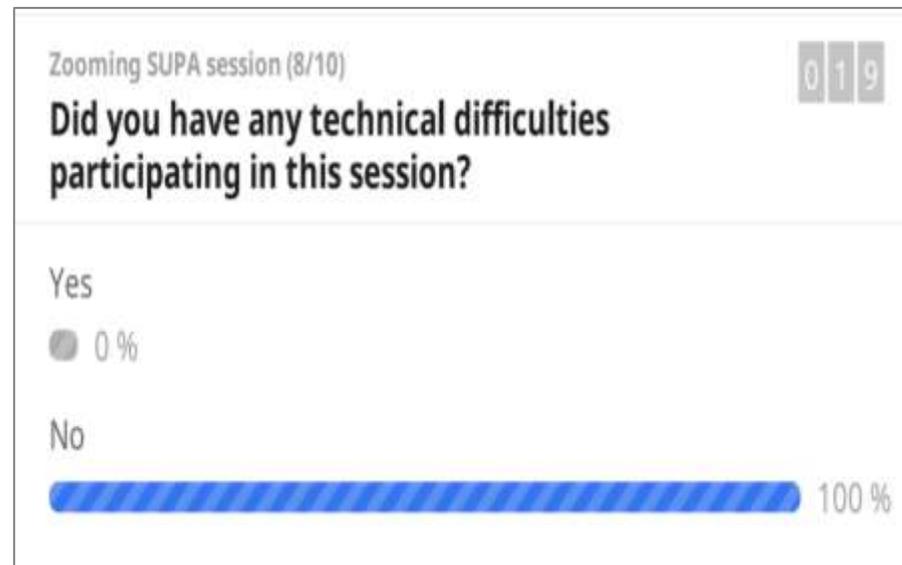
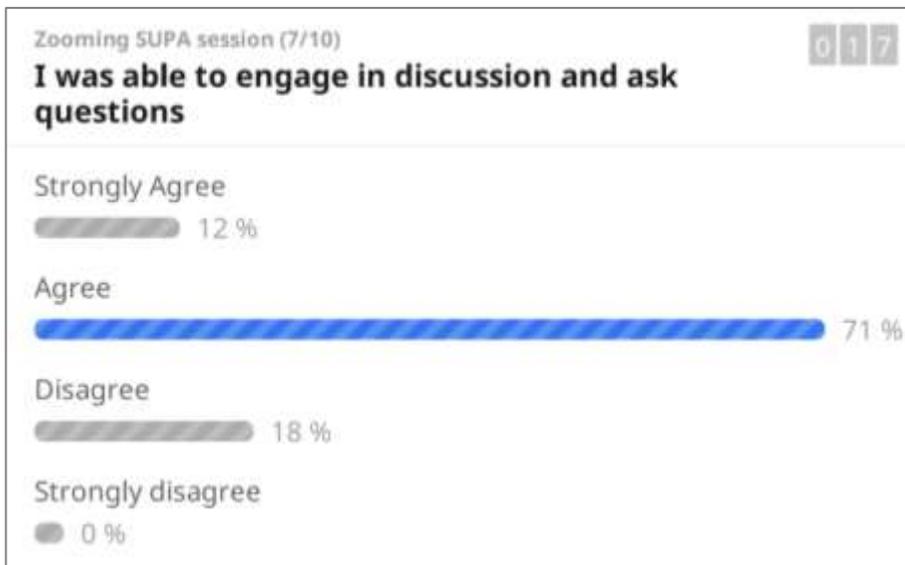
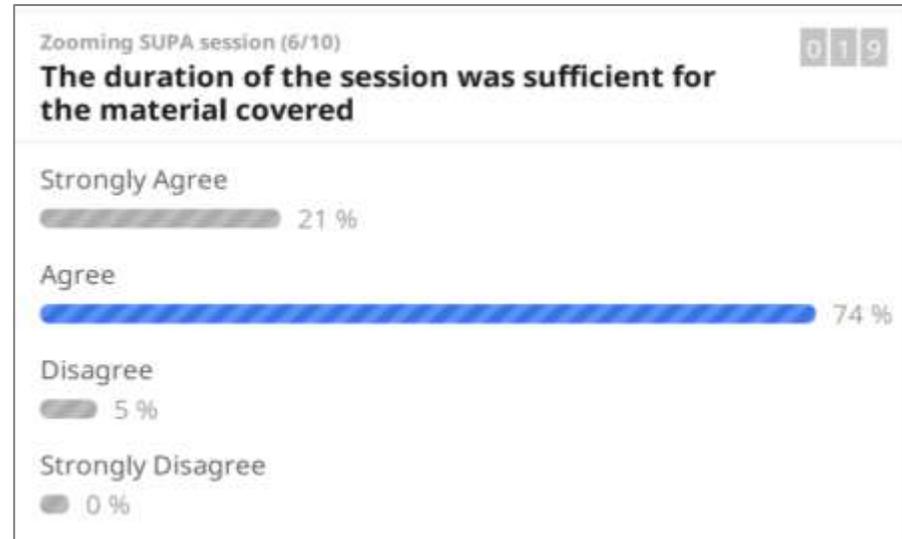


- Palau grateful for the invaluable support from EU and SPC GCCA team regional office
- Lessons Learnt – initially Palau too ambitious with number of activities which cause delays in the development of both the CN and PDD
- SPC GCCA regional team respond in a timely manner, despite the different Pacific time zones.
- Virtual meetings will become the 'norm' however, for future virtual meetings to please include EU representative in the meetings so any issues that may raise, at least EU will be on line to address our concern in a timely manner.
- OCC wishes to acknowledge and thank members of the Palau SUPA team: MOH – Mr. Gafaar Ucherbelau, Ms. Ritter Udui, and Mr. Calvin Johnnes MOE: Ms. Magaria Tellei, Debbie Ngata and Ms. Sarah Sugiyama MOS/BDA - Ms. Eunice Akiwo, Ms. Lorraine Franz and Ms. Shirley Tulop and the state representatives for their prompt responses and invaluable and unwavering support to ensure Palau implements the Palau SUPA project efficiently and effectively.

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Annex 4: Evaluation survey results





Zooming SUPA session (9/10)

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If you answered 'Yes' to the previous question, please provide details as appropriate.

- audio quality was generally ok but at times was a bit breaking up

Zooming SUPA session (10/10)

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Do you have any other comments or suggestions?
(1/2)

- Please we get copies of d ppt. Thanks.
 - Can we have in the morning around 10 FJ time
 - The timing could be improved to allow after lunch time for Fiji i.e. like late morning for Palau to accommodate the northern countries when they are participating.
 - Can we get copies of the presentation by the two countries please. Thanks.
 - Great job team ;)
 - The projects are still in the early stages so once countries are able to
- The discussions were valuable for us to follow through and it was indeed very convenient and easy to connect remotely and still be on the same page.

Zooming SUPA session (10/10)

0 1 1

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?
(2/2)

- start implementing more of their activities, then these sessions will likely become more relevant.
- more time given to present what progress was completed. especially with only two countries presenting. we had to leave out much of our progress presentation slides and many pictures/maps.
 - Thank you for this first session
 - It was a great virtual meeting and I was very happy to be part of this meeting and to
- learn more about what activities are taking place in Palau and RMI. Great team effort :)
- Thank you Gillian and all the Suva Team organizing and facilitating the first meeting
 - Presentations to stick to the appointed time