CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN NIUE

GCCA+
THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE

Funded by the European Union

PUBLIC SEAL OF NIUE
NIUE

Scaling Up Pacific Adaptation (GCCA+ SUPA)

Enhancing water security and resilience to climate change in Niue

GCCA+ SUPA project engineer conducting a water maintenance training in Hakupu village, Niue

Project focus: Water sector

Project timeframe: 1 January 2019-30 June 2023

Project site: 9 villages in Niue

National implementing agencies:
Department of Environment, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, and Project Management and Coordination Unit

Beneficiaries:
Direct benefit: **500 persons**
Indirect benefit: **1,219 persons**

Project synopsis

The 'Scaling up water storage and water quality monitoring in Niue in response to climate change' project is expanding on previous water security interventions to establish effective backup water systems for households. Strengthening capacity for key government agencies such as Niue's Public Health Unit, in water quality testing, analysis and monitoring is another key component of the project.

How did this project address climate change adaptation in Niue

- Niue is a raised limestone island with no surface water and the entire population rely largely on the groundwater lens for potable water. The effects of climate change on temperature, rainfall, weather extremes, and sea level rise pose challenges for Niue, and the need for back-up water systems has emerged as a priority especially during prolonged power outages following storms and cyclones.
- The project focused on scaling up household water storage systems and the improvement of water quality monitoring and adopted a participatory and inclusive approach that addresses the vulnerabilities and the rights of the householders in Niue. Through the provision of training and water quality laboratory equipment, the project scaled up the technical and operational capacity of key government departments in the areas of water quality and infrastructure.

How did this project scale up climate change adaptation in Niue?

- Scaling up previous measures that had elements of sustainability: The project expanded household water security measures implemented through previous projects and focused particularly on 50 households across nine villages in Niue that are most vulnerable to water supply disruptions and shortages.
- Link to national priorities: The project was linked to the National Climate Change Policy (2009),and the Joint National Action Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (JNAP)2012.
- Socio-economic benefits for communities and the most vulnerable groups: This is evidenced by improved water access and sanitation at all times, especially during the cyclone season, power cuts and droughts through targeting households with vulnerable groups for selection of the improved measures. Capacity building, provision of equipment and specialized training at the national level also provided socio-economic benefits.
- Maintenance of the newly scaled up infrastructure: Training, tools and spare parts have been provided to the householders to maintain the new infrastructure.

Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

USP
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

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Project engineer connecting a tank to one of the selected houses

Training on water quality monitoring and air transportation of hazardous and infectious substances in Niue

Key Project Highlights

Scaling up backup water storage for households

- Conducting village inspections of household water storage systems.
- Developing selection criteria that address the needs of the most vulnerable for households where rainwater harvesting systems need installation.
- Interviewing households on rainwater harvesting needs and obtaining signed household agreements on the management on maintenance of the installed rainwater measures with the 50 selected households.
- Installation of rainwater harvesting systems at fifty selected households across nine villages in Niue.
- Provision of maintenance training on rainwater measures to the selected households in Niue.

Enhancing institutional capacity in water quality

- Providing water quality testing equipment to strengthen water quality testing and analysis capacity of the Public Health Unit.
- Supplying a vehicle to the Public Health Unit so that they can efficiently collect water samples from all communities in Niue.
- Building the capacity of the Public Health Unit and other relevant department in water quality testing and laboratory analyses.
- Delivering water awareness programmes to village councilors, communities and schools.

Buildingcommunity resilience

- Building the capacity of community and village leaders in climate resilience through training and workshops.
- Completing the Toi Village Disaster Plan and a Participants Needs Analysis to identify entry points for climate and disaster resilience.

Activities meet the following SDGs:

About the GCCA+ SUPA project

The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Scaling up Pacific Adaptation (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- June 2023)is funded with €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 **Overall Objective** of the GCCA+ SUPA project 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.