

Concept Note: Republic of Nauru Framework for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (RONAdapt)

Technical assistance for the completion of the *Republic of Nauru Framework for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction* (RONAdapt) is being provided by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community through the Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Island States project funded by the European Union and by the Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region program (CCCPIR) implemented in partnership with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

RONAdapt is similar in intent to the various JNAPs and other climate action plans that have been developed across the Pacific region. It is intended to support progress towards the country's national development priorities and the goal of environmental sustainability, by ensuring that a focus on reducing vulnerabilities and risks is incorporated into planning and activities across all sectors of the economy and society.

It has several aims.

First, to identify Nauru's immediate priorities relating to climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR), to clearly articulate these for government and for development partners to engage with. While the RONAdapt is still being developed, different kinds of actions are emerging as priorities.

- Some actions are intended to **reduce a particular risk** that is already posing a challenge for Nauru and which is likely to become more challenging as a result of climate change or potential disasters. Responses to water insecurity and coastal erosion are examples of this.
- Some actions are intended to **address some of the more general, chronic problems that currently affect Nauru**, since these make the country's people and ecosystems more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and potential disaster events. As already highlighted, many of the key development sectors are not only themselves vulnerable to climate change, but are also an important tool for building social, economic and environmental resilience. Activities to improve health outcomes and agricultural production are examples of this.
- Planning and management in many sectors is constrained by poor information about current conditions and/or likely future changes. **Filling information gaps** is therefore a key activity common to most sectors described below, which is necessary to support future adaptation and risk reduction responses.
- Some activities to address **policy, planning and/or institutional gaps or weaknesses** are emphasised, which are needed if Nauru's long term resilience is to be built. At present, some sectors lack detailed development plans, while other plans exist but are still in draft form, may be out of date, and may not sufficiently integrate vulnerability and risk reduction.

Secondly, RONAdapt will provide a general framework for longer term planning and programming of CCA and DRR activities, including mainstreaming in national and sectoral development policies. This includes

- Setting out the key principles that are expected to guide efforts to reduce vulnerability and risk in Nauru;
- Clarity on the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders; and
- Institutional strengthening activities to be undertaken (for example, finalisation of key sectoral policies and plans)

Work on RONAdapt will likely be completed in the second half of 2014.