

# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN THE PACIFIC



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



### About

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 € 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.

### Objective

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.

### Approach

The project will be delivered in a coordinated and integrated manner, supported by the three implementing organisations, utilising a people-centred approach and involving men, women, elders, youth, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

### Regional frameworks and partners

GCCA+ SUPA will collaborate closely and seek partnerships with other programmes and projects in the region. The outputs and outcomes will contribute to the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Address Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (FRDP), the Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals.





Examples of existing climate change adaptation measures to be scaled up  
 L-R: 1) Flood control, Soasoa Drainage Basin, Fiji, 2) Aquaculture tanks, Aitutaki, Cook Islands, 3) Nursery at Majuro Hospital, Marshall Islands

**Key outputs**

1. **Strengthen strategic planning at national levels:**  
 An impact methodology will be designed to assess past adaptation interventions. After testing in three countries, this will be integrated into a user-friendly database module, which can be added to existing national climate change portals so as to inform national decision-making.
2. **Enhance the capacity of sub-national government stakeholders to build resilient communities:**  
 Following a desktop review, a needs analysis will be conducted for local area stakeholders and especially sub-national governments. This will inform the planning and delivery of accredited resilience training within the project.
3. **Scale up resilient development measures in specific sectors (food security, water security, human health, coastal protection and marine resources).**

Countries adopted the following criteria for scaling-up climate change adaptation:



Evidence of building on a previous measure that had elements of sustainability



Demonstration of clear linkages to national policies and priorities



Provision of socio-economic benefits for the participating communities



Feasibility within the scope of the GCCA+ SUPA project budget and time frame



Measures in place for maintenance of infrastructure beyond the project time frame

Putting people at the center of development, countries then selected specific sectors and the measures to scale up. Some snapshots:



Three countries (Fiji, Tonga, Tuvalu) are scaling up coastal protection measures for vulnerable coastal communities. In Tonga, measures will concentrate on the north coast of Tongatapu while in Fiji, the Soasoa drainage basin in Labasa is the focus. Besides tangible on-the-ground coastal protection measures, planning for climate change impacts to the coastal areas through to 2050 is a key component.



Four countries (FSM, Nauru, Niue, and Kiribati) are scaling up community water security. Rainwater harvesting and desalination units are among the measures to be scaled up, with special attention on outer island communities in FSM and Kiribati. Capacity building and training to support the newly installed systems are key areas for concentration.



Marshall Islands and Palau are scaling up climate change adaptation in the health sector. In the Marshall Islands, enhancing community health and wellness in combination with atoll agriculture is the goal, while Palau is concentrating on reducing the community's vulnerability to vector-borne diseases.



Cook Islands is scaling up the marine resources sector, with a particular focus on aquaculture development for the communities in Aitutaki and other outer islands.