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Marrakech Partnership

ACCELERATING CLIMATE ACTION IN THE PACIFIC

CLIMATE ACTION PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (CAPP) CONFERENCE

3 - 4 July 2017 | Suva, Fiji

OUTCOMES REPORT

Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP) Conference Outcomes Report

Accelerating climate action in the Pacific

Chairman's Summary

This outcomes report of the Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP) Conference is released by the High-level champion, Honourable Inia Seruiratu, as Chair of the conference. It reflects as far as possible the range of views and ideas put forward by participants during round-table and plenary sessions convened during the conference, which included Head of States, Ministers and High Level Officials of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) and New Zealand and Australia, and representatives from regional organisations, the European Union, international agencies, civil societies, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector. The report does not represent a consensus of views but rather is intended to convey a sense of the breadth of ideas on the table for consideration.

Introduction

The inaugural Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP) conference was hosted by Fiji High-level Champion, Hon. Inia Seruiratu, on 3 and 4 July 2017 at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva, Fiji. The conference aimed at identifying inclusive, transformational, and regional solutions to accelerate climate actions through effective partnerships in order to meet the objectives of the Paris agreement[1].

The UNFCCC supported framework on global climate action is the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MPGCA). The MPGCA was launched in Marrakech during the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by the high-level champions. The champions are mandated by the UNFCCC COP to engage with non-Party stakeholders to support efforts to accelerate climate action and the implementation of over-ambitious nationally determined contributions (NDCs). The MPGCA builds on the work of the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA) and progresses the aims to catalyze climate action, contribute to the UNFCCC objective, increase pre-2020 ambition, and build support for the Paris Agreement. The CAPP conference was organised within the framework of the MPGCA.

The conference responds to decisions (Decision 1/CP.21) coming out of the twenty-first session of the COP in Paris, 2015, where the COP welcomes the efforts of all non-Party stakeholders to address and respond to climate change, including those of civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and other subnational authorities (para 133) and invites non-Party stakeholders to scale up their efforts and support actions to reduce emissions and/or to build resilience and decrease vulnerability to the adverse effects of

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[1] Paris Agreement; Article 2 - This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:

(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;

(b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and

(c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

climate change (para 134). This is in recognition of the important role non-Parties play in meeting the aims of the Paris Agreement.

More than three hundred participants attended and included leaders from Pacific Small Island Developing states (P-SIDS), national, regional and global civil society, non-governmental organisations, international and regional organisations, faith-based organisations, academic institutions, and the private sector.

The report is organised to reflect the outcomes of plenary and roundtable discussions on the following thematic areas:

Natural systems

1. Agriculture
2. Forests
3. Water
4. Oceans

Resilient infrastructure

5. Low emissions development (transformative technologies) in Pacific SIDS

Cross-cutting

6. Climate financing including funding for NDCs and adaptation & climate and disaster risk insurance
7. Gender, human rights and climate change
8. Health and climate change
9. Integrating Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and

The participants in the Climate Action Pacific Partnership conference reaffirmed the commitment to take immediate and decisive action to tackle the climate crisis and to ensure economic growth, security, environmental sustainability, and decent work for all for a just transition to a low carbon economy.

As a region the Pacific is committed to the full and rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement. Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5C is a matter of survival for many countries in the region but more especially for Pacific Islanders who are at the frontline of climate change impacts. Achieving this goal requires the rapid decarbonization of the global economy, an end to the fossil fuel era and achieving 100% renewable energy and a balance between anthropogenic emissions and removals, or net zero emissions, within a few decades. While Pacific Island Countries have contributed negligibly to the causes of climate change, they are determined to lead.

As large oceanic states and communities highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, the Pacific has a special role in driving the global response to the climate crisis. There is also a strong determination to increase recognition and action on strengthening resilience against the impacts of climate and impacts of disasters. Pacific Island countries and communities are ecologically, economically, socially and culturally fragile to these impacts and there is an urgent need for international communities to increase investment in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts.

As recognised in Decision 1/CP.21[2] all actions on climate change and DRR must uphold and promote human rights, the right to health, the rights of (inter alia) indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children and young people, the aged, persons with disabilities, marginalised people and people in vulnerable situations, as well as advancing women's human rights and empowerment, and gender equality. Participants also recognise that climate change action in the region focuses on the lives of Pacific people, while reaffirming that climate change is an issue of intergenerational equity, for those Pacific Islanders yet to come.

Through Fiji's Presidency of COP23, accelerating climate action in every State and territory in the Pacific will send a strong message to the world that Pacific Islands are increasing their ambitions and are calling on the global community to follow and raise their commitments to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

[2] *Acknowledging* that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity

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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AF	Adaptation Fund
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
APT	Adaptation planning tool
CAPP	Climate Action Pacific Partnership
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCA	Climate change adaptation
COP	Conference of the Parties (to the UNFCCC)
COY	Conference of Youths
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research
CPEIR	Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
DIVA	Diverse Voices and Action for Equality
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EU	European Union
FRDP	Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
FRL	Forest Reference Emission Level
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Development Cooperation)
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPCC	Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change
IVA	Integrated vulnerability assessments
Kaila	Headline of outcomes document “Pacific Voice for Action on Agenda 2030”
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex
LMMAs	Locally Managed Marine Areas
MACBIO	Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Management in Pacific Island Countries
MoH	Ministry of Health
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
MPGCA	Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action
MMAs	Marine Managed Areas
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MSG	Melanesian Spearhead Group
NAB	Vanuatu National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCHAPs	National climate change and health action plans
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NIE	National Implementing Entity
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

PACCOM	Pacific Civil Society Organising Mechanism
PacTVET	Pacific Technical and Vocational Education and Training on Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Adaptation
PCCFAF	Pacific Climate Change Finance Assessment Framework
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PFM	Public Finance Management
PFTAC	Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre
PIANGO	Pacific Islands Association of NGOs
PICs	Pacific Island Countries
PICAN	Pacific Islands Climate Action Network
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PITSC	Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre (SPC)
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PRIF	Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility
PRP	Pacific Resilient Partnership
P-SIDS	Pacific Small Island Developing States
PPGCCSD	Pacific Partnerships on Gender, Climate Change and Sustainable Development
PWWA	Pacific Water and Wastewater Association
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of forest conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
RTSM	Regional Technical Support Mechanism
S.A.M.O.A. Pathway	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway
SD	Sustainable development
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SPC	The Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USAID	The United States Agency for International Development
USP	The University of the South Pacific
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WGC	Women and Gender Constituency
WHO	World Health Organisation
WMG	Women's Major Group

1 Introduction to the thematic areas (Pacific context)

1.1 Agriculture

Agriculture is the economic backbone for majority of Pacific Island Countries, with local communities relying on this sector for their livelihood. Climate change impacts and extreme events are affecting crop production of Pacific farmers and the loss of traditional crop varieties. Climate variability is also affecting traditional cropping calendars of Pacific farmers. Declining soil fertility and contamination from saltwater impacts on the local diet and nutrition intake, especially for communities on vulnerable small atoll islands. The increase in mono-cropping systems leave the sector vulnerable to pest and disease incursions.

The transformation of the agricultural sector with the adoption of more sustainable climate smart technologies will contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation, address biodiversity loss, boost local, national and regional economies, ensure food and water security, eradicate poverty, promote good health and protect natural and cultural resources.

1.2 Forests

Forests are critical to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Forests provide a wide range of economic, social, cultural and ecosystem services and functions such as climate regulation, food security, protection of watersheds, soil, and coastal zones, cultural products, recreational opportunities and provision of clean water. In the Pacific, forests are a basis for community livelihoods, living inside and outside forests, as they provide resources for fuel, timber, building materials, food, medicine, and other social and cultural products.

The land tenure system in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) allows communities to take ownership of the sustainable management of forest resources for communal and individual benefits. Such a framework advocates the co-management of forest resources between Governments, community members, civil societies and private partners.

1.3 Water

Water and sanitation is a critical development issue for the Pacific Islands with profound implications for public health, environment, human rights and gender, food security, and economic and social development. Central to this is the recognition that safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights[3]. Local action in water and sanitation is a priority response to the impacts of climate change.

1.4 Oceans

The Pacific Ocean covers more than 30% of the earth's surface and is inextricably linked to the identity, culture, economy and way of life of Pacific islanders. Oceans play a major role in regulating climate. The protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services and urgently reversing the decline in ocean health and productivity are integral for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Ocean health is essential for sustainable development and climate change action.

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[3] UNGA 64/292

Ocean acidification, sea level rise, coral bleaching and reef die-off, loss of biodiversity and species extinction, marine plastics, heavy metal, nuclear fallout and other pollution, and impacts of deep sea or sand mining are impacting on ocean health and the services it provides.

1.5 Low and Net Zero Emissions Development in the Pacific Islands

Low-carbon infrastructure is fundamental for future-climate-proofing the region. Clean energy (power, transport, heating/cooling) is an enabler of sustainable development and there are opportunities to invest in innovative smart solutions and technologies that will make Pacific Island communities prosperous and resilient.

In order to limit temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, a safe, equitable, just and urgent transition to a low carbon future is needed.

1.6 Climate financing including funding for NDCs and adaptation

Accelerating climate change action depends on strengthening absorptive capacity and improving the scale, accessibility and effectiveness of climate change finance. Pacific Islands continue to face significant challenges in accessing finance to meet their adaptation and mitigation needs and to resource their conditional commitments to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

A range of measures are needed for increasing the flow of climate finance, working across government, the private sector and civil society. In addition, there must be a global concerted effort to balance the allocation of funds between adaptation and mitigation, particularly encouraging private sector investment in adaptation activities.

1.7 Gender and human rights

As affirmed in the Paris Agreement[3], the SAMOA Pathway, and the Suva Declaration on Climate Change, women and girls of all ages, and young people, should be substantively included in all areas of climate change response, and at all levels of decision-making.

Gender and human rights must be placed at the centre of climate responses, profit as a paramount goal should be removed, and the safety and wellbeing of women, their access to justice, information, education, decent work, health, and ecological sustainability must be ensured. The safety and security of environmental and climate justice defenders, including women human rights defenders (WHRDs) should be recognised. These are the key ways in which climate action and sustainable development can be progressed.

There is a need to urgently ensure decent jobs for the entire workforce and affirm the need to toward a low carbon economy, bearing in mind challenges of geopolitics, socio-economic background, age, gender norms, and the disproportionate burden of women and girls' unpaid domestic and care work.

1.8 Health

WHO identified climate change as the defining health challenge of the 21st Century and has estimated that between 2030 and 2050, climate change could cause additional deaths of communicable and non-communicable diseases particularly from malnutrition, malaria, dengue, diarrhoeal diseases and heat stress. In addition to the threat to physical health and survival, the vulnerability to climate change also increases psychosocial risks as uncertainty of the future may take a significant toll on their mental health

due to anxiety and depression. This is particularly prominent in the Pacific island countries as sea level rise and its impacts on agricultural yields and fish stock may potentially lead to forced migration and compromised nutritional status.

The Paris Agreement encourages the consideration of "Right to Health"[4] in the global response to climate change, and recognizes the opportunities for mitigation actions that can improve health, promote adaptation, and sustainable development.

In 2015, Pacific island countries and territories reaffirmed their commitment to the Yanuca Island Declaration on Health. The declaration emphasizes the vision that "Healthy Islands are places where (1) children are nurtured in body and in mind; (2) environments invite learning and leisure; (3) , People work and age with dignity; (4) ecological balance is a source of pride; and the ocean which sustains us is protected.

1.9 Integrating CCA, DRR and SDGs

Accelerating climate action in the Pacific requires transformative action that will enhance resilience, reduce disaster risk and promote sustainable development to lift people out of poverty, reduce hunger, increase equity and ensure economic and social growth that does not harm other people or the planet.

All SDGs and their interlinkages between climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster risk reduction and response, and decent work should be addressed holistically.

[4] *Acknowledging* that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity

2 Experiences in the Pacific

Best practices, enabling mechanisms, challenges

2.1 Agriculture

A number of successful climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives have been piloted in the Pacific and could be considered as climate smart agriculture. These include:

- the use of Mucuna (magic) beans and composting to improve soil nutrient and health while reducing the use of chemical fertilisers
- integrated sustainable farming systems (such as aqua-culture/livestock/crops)
- organic farming and targeted composting
- young people and women's roles in agriculture production and climate smart agriculture communities
- sustainable land management practices (like agroforestry, contour cropping, integrated crop management) on flat and sloping land

Existing enabling mechanisms

- Initiatives have been implemented through programmes of the Ministry of Agriculture working in collaboration with other relevant organisations including communities, civil society and private sector stakeholders at national, regional and international level.
- Necessary frameworks and policies have been developed to govern and strengthen implementation of climate change programs.
- Positive incentives include support for cottage industries, progressive tax concessions, incentives for research to assess climate-related impacts (e.g. a soil lab), value chain empowerment.
- In Fiji, a government-supported institution provide farmers with free soil nutrient testing and analysis.

Challenges

The challenges to accelerate the rate of adoption of transformative agricultural climate actions at all levels, include:

- lack of capacity and skills on appropriate technologies
- trade-off between commercial production and sustainable production
- behavioural change to transition to sustainable practices
- poor communication in terms of outreach to farmers and private sectors
- lack of public investment
- lack of community-driven and participative programmes
- lack of sustainable public and private partnerships

2.2 Forests

Some forest projects promoting emission reduction, carbon storage and supporting resilience include:

- Community REDD+ Projects: The Drawa Forest Block (Fiji), Loru Forest Project (Vanuatu) and Sasaboe Project (Solomon Islands).
- Community-based reforestation projects Nakauvadra and Malolo Island Projects in Fiji - can be scalable at sub-national and regional level. These reforestation projects are also examples of successful private sector financing support and partnership.
- The Fiji Emalu National REDD+ Pilot site
- The Natural Forest Management Pilot Project in Nakavu, Fiji - a successful example for the economic, ecological and social benefits that sustainable forest management (including reduced impact logging) can provide. Replication and upscaling throughout the Pacific region would multiply these benefits.
- In Fiji, the establishment of Protected Areas is responding to CBD Aichi Target 11 through the work of the Protected Area Committee under the National Environmental Council. This also contributes to climate resilience. Sustainable financing mechanisms will ensure the protection of forest systems that will provide ecosystem services in the long term (e.g. Sovi Basin, Fiji).

REDD+ initiatives in the Pacific are at various stages of readiness for the Melanesian States.

Existing enabling mechanisms

- National Forest Policies, legislations & regulations provide some implementation structure supporting actions in the forest sector that contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts. For example Fiji's National Forest Policy advocates the role of the forest sector in safeguarding against the impacts of natural disasters; the conservation and planting of mangroves and other forest species as a response to coastal erosion and sea-level rise; and supports the reforestation, restoration and rehabilitation of forest areas through the provision of seedlings from central government agencies. Fiji's REDD+ policy is aligned to the objective of the National Forest Policy and offers an additional opportunity to conserve forests and at the same time benefit from the continued environmental services from the standing forests, including benefits through the conservation of its forest biodiversity.
- Governments, civil society and private sector partnership in collaboration with communities at field sites can and do implement climate action projects in collaborative ways that are a win-win for all stakeholders.

Challenges

- Long term investment with capital upfront is often the bottle neck to implement transformative climate actions,
- Balancing biodiversity and forest health priorities as enablers of social, cultural, climate and environmental sustainability, and economic forest sector priorities
- Addressing the economic drivers of deforestation and forest degradation
- Lack of awareness and informed decision-making of resource owners
- Lack of or weak enforcement of supporting legislation and regulatory frameworks

2.3 Water

Pacific nations are leading the development of practical water security initiatives to assist communities to adapt to climate change.

Innovation is key, and sustainability can only be achieved with robust solutions that can withstand the impacts of extreme climate events and vast distances from materials and service markets. These approaches include, but are not limited to:

- managing the impacts of drought in Pacific atoll nations through the identification of practical triggers and community responses to minimise the frequency and impact of water shortages;
- reducing water wastage in Tuvalu through composting toilets, which reduce the use of freshwater by up to 30%;
- enabling safe drinking water through solar disinfection (SODIS) in Kiribati. SODIS is a household process whereby solar energy is used to purify contaminated water;
- optimising water yields through improving traditional approaches to rainwater harvesting and improving collection, storage and treatment of rainwater;
- securing alternative sources of freshwater by identifying and tapping underutilised sources of groundwater;
- improved environmental allocation of water resources to help support natural systems.

Existing enabling mechanisms

These include:

- good governance through national policy, planning and legislative instruments, enforceable regulations and sustainable financing;
- regional networks e.g. Pacific Partnership for Atoll Water Security, Ridge to Reef project, Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility, Pacific Water and Wastewater Association, and the Pacific Regional Action Plan for Sustainable Water Management.;
- community ownership of local water security measures supported by local champions and improved knowledge sharing.

2.4 Oceans

Some of the ocean actions in the Pacific include:

- ecosystem based adaptation to protect marine ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrasses, coral reefs and offshore marine spaces through community led locally managed marine areas (LMMAs), country and regionally led marine spatial plans and large seascape networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) and marine managed areas (MMAs) which integrates traditional knowledge and cultural practices;
- women and fisheries networks and other women, youth and community led initiatives, including on shellfish production and value chain empowerment, preservation of coral reefs, mangrove replanting, plastics clean up campaigns, prevention of single use plastics campaigns;
- clean maritime transport e.g low carbon maritime transport in the Republic of Marshall Islands which has been integrated into their NDCs;
- traditional maritime transport e.g – Uto Ni Yalo in Fiji;

- regional Initiative to develop guidelines for EIA for coastal development – an initiative between SPTO and SPREP;
- ridge-to-reef-to-ocean initiatives – a holistic approach to sustain terrestrial and ocean health and addressing climate issues such as PIPA in Kiribati.

Existing enabling mechanisms

Some of the regional instruments that enable the existing actions in the ocean space include the Pacific Islands Regional Oceans Policy, the Palau Forum Declaration, the FSM Forum Oceans Declaration, the Ponphei Ocean Statement, the Pacific Oceanscape Policy, the SAMOA Pathway, the Locally Managed Marine Area concept and the UN Oceans "Call for Action". The institutions that support marine sector research have traction as an enabling mechanism.

The transformative actions are guided by global instruments such as the commitments to CBD Aichi Target 11 and SDG14 Target 14.5 to protect 10% or marine and coastal habitats by 2020.

Challenges

- Lack of regional coordination of ocean and interlinking policies
- Lack of compliance of ocean legislations, regulations and policies
- Lack of surveillance
- Lack of coherence in the implementation of SGD14 Voluntary Commitments and monitoring.

2.5 Low and net zero emissions development in the Pacific:

There are a number of initiatives towards low and net zero emission development actions in the region including:

- Fiji/PNG modelling for aviation;
- promotion of investment in Integrated land-use and transport through improved infrastructure in Fiji;
- Cook Island public sector buildings efficiency and renewables;
- low carbon maritime transport in Republic of Marshall Islands;
- Pacific women solar engineers trained and operating in rural and remote areas.

Challenges

There are many regional institutions and initiatives that work toward climate objectives, but they are not necessarily aligned or coherent. Much can be done to streamline the work of different entities. Streamlining and integration of these interventions is necessary to accelerate and galvanize climate actions.

2.6 Climate financing including funding for NDCs and adaptation

A number of important initiatives are already in place, which can be built upon.

- The Pacific Climate Change Finance Assessment Framework (PCCFAF) and the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) are examples of best practice finance assessment tools to build country readiness and improve the understanding of Pacific Island Countries to engage effectively with global climate funds. The PCCFAF assists PICs approach climate change financing in an informed way, commensurate with their unique circumstances and absorptive capacity. It assesses the country ability to access and manage climate change resources across seven interrelated pillars which are funding sources, policies and plans, institutions, public financial management & expenditure, human capacity, gender and social inclusion, and development effectiveness. To date, eight Pacific Island Countries (Nauru, Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Palau) have completed national climate change finance assessments. These are supported through a multi-stakeholder, joint-team effort, including the DFAT/GIZ Climate Finance Readiness in the Pacific project, USAID/SPC Institutional Strengthening for PICs to Adapt to Climate Change project, PIFS, UNDP, SPC, SPREP, PFTAC and UN Women.
- The Forum Economic Ministers Meeting has been discussing the region's experience in accessing and managing international climate change finance, including private sector engagement, for the past couple of years.
- The national climate change finance assessment facilitates improved access to climate change finance. It also provides an entry points to strengthen country systems which will improve donor confidence to engage and catalyse the achievement of the sustainable development goals.
- The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is currently the only accredited regional implementing entity to the Adaptation Fund (AF) and Green Climate Fund (GCF). SPREP has produced a lessons learned toolkit on accreditation to the AF which is a valuable tool to inform countries' and/or entities planning processes for direct accreditation to the AF and GCF.
- There are also a range of climate change finance modalities being implemented in the region, where lessons can be shared. These include the Micronesian Conservation Trust as the first National Implementing Entity (NIE) to the GCF and Cook Islands as an NIE to the AF, the Tuvalu Climate Survival Fund, the Tonga National Climate Fund, the Palau Green Fee, and the EU budget support for water and climate change in Samoa and Solomon Islands.
- The Pacific has developed web-based decision-making tools for climate change finance which will be a value-added feature on the Pacific Climate Change Portal. The purpose of the Adaptation Planning tool (APT) is to assist users' access to relevant information, resources and guidance when scoping and developing adaptation projects. The Climate Finance Navigator tool serves to enhance access to a generic 'climate finance process', have relevant information on selection criteria, relevant resources for specific processes and to also enable the user to filter relevant information on climate funds active in the Pacific as well as filter relevant information on Accredited Entities active in the Pacific.
- The region already has good examples of working closely with its local private sector. Examples include:
    - the Fiji Business Resilience Council, which was established in July 2016 as a coordination mechanism for strengthening the capacity of businesses and of their communities to prepare for and respond to disasters. This model is now being replicated in other countries;

    - the formation of the Vanuatu Business Resilience Committee, designed to amplify private sector voice, identify and support businesses and their staff, and find sources of finance for businesses working on both climate change & disaster risk reduction;
    - the National Development Bank of Palau is working with the Office of Energy Administration and the Palau Housing Authority to provide loan subsidies for renewable energy and energy efficient homes; and
    - the innovative programs of SunPlus and SunAccess being provided by Sunergise focusing on reliable and affordable renewable energy.
- Public-private partnerships and leveraging private investments for affordable and reliable energy. The PNG, Digicel & DFAT partnership aims to provide access to affordable and reliable solar energy solutions to off-grid households and small businesses in PNG. The initiative is releasing a range of reliable solar products into the market, from phone charging/lanterns to large home and business kits capable of powering TVs and other appliances. These products are brought to market by leveraging Digicel's extensive distribution and organisational capabilities across PNG. This will provide a range of sustainable, cost effective and environmentally friendly alternatives to current costly and inferior energy sources, and enable better access to, and connection with, the digital economy.

Challenges

Challenges for increasing the scale, accessibility and effectiveness of climate finance include:

- Limited awareness by the private sector, civil society and community groups of existing sources of information and funding opportunities to access climate change finance.
- Limited institutional and technical capacity to develop and implement bankable climate change projects for global climate change finance.
- Access barriers – technical capacity to manoeuvre access requirements, co-financing expectations, cost of project development, delay in fund disbursement etc.
- Weak public finance management (PFM) systems – absorptive capacity, procurement, audit, anti-corruption, whistle blowers etc.
- Horizontal and vertical institutional coordination.
- The cost of project pipeline development is expensive and most PICs cannot afford co-financing requirements by some global climate funds.
- Lack of meaning interaction by government with the private sector and the limited understanding by private sector on how to maximise their potential to contribute to resilient development.
- Weak national and donor coordination which results in fragmented climate change financed projects/programmes.
- Inadequate national monitoring and evaluation systems/frameworks makes measuring the impacts of climate change financed project/programme (and the links to national development goals) a challenge.
- Reporting burden placed on national governments and the need to streamline donor requirements and reporting templates.
- Lack of policy coherence to support multi-sector, programmatic approaches to addressing climate change risks.
- Limited access to complete and reliable data for tracking climate finance effectiveness.

- Lack of disaggregated information and data on climate finance flows across gender, ethnicity, income level, age, education, locality and persons with disabilities.

Enabling mechanisms:

- The Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) provides guidance for mainstreaming climate change and disaster risk management actions into sustainable development. The FRDP is the vehicle to guide regional support on climate change and disaster risk financing.
- The establishment of a Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) for targeted technical assistance and capacity supplementation to enable PICs to access climate change finance.
- PICs are implementing/reviewing national climate change policies, joint national action plans, green growth framework which will inform/guide the design or programming of climate change finance.
- PICs have established and operationalised national climate change coordination committees to support the implementation of national climate change policies and/or related plans. For example; Fiji National Climate Change Country Team, Kiribati National Expert Group, Samoa Climate Resilience Steering Committee, Solomon Islands Climate Change Working Group, Vanuatu National Advisory Board for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management.

2.7 Gender and human rights

Examples of transformative, credible Pacific women led solutions and actions include:

- Barefoot College partnerships between UNWomen Pacific, Governments and communities providing capacity-building and training for rural women in the Pacific to be solar engineers.
- Pacific Conference of Churches providing an example of integrating gender, climate change adaptation and DRR (including building codes)in disaster response and climate change related community relocation.
- Young women from Kiribati organise retreats on gender, human rights and climate change, food security and health.
- Defending the Commons programme by DIVA for Equality in partnership with other civil society organisations to provides spaces for women's voices who are impacted directly by climate change, in urban poor, rural and remote areas across Fiji. They are also encouraging movement building across the region and globally through the UNFCCC Women and Gender Constituency (WGC).

Existing enabling mechanisms

- The Pacific Gender and Climate Change Toolkit. This toolkit by SPC, UN Women (UNW), UNDP, SPREP, GIZ and others is designed to support climate change practitioners from Government, civil society and development agencies and others in the Pacific islands, to integrate gender into programmes and projects.
- Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration, and all national Gender Action Plans
- Reaffirming the Suva Declaration on Climate Change that specifically references the importance of engaging as equal partners a diverse civil society. Diverse groups working on climate change and DRR in the Pacific region include women, LGBTI people, youth and persons with disabilities, Indigenous people, ethnic minorities and many others in efforts toward building climate change resilience

- Diverse CSOs from national, regional and global social movements are engaged and communicating on gender, human rights and social, economic and ecological initiatives linked to the UNFCCC COP23 process, including DIVA for Equality as UNFCCC Women and Gender (WGC) Constituency Liaison to the COP23 Presidency, Project Survival Pacific as COY (conference of youths) liaison to the COP23 Presidency, and PIANGO (Pacific Islands Association of NGOs), PICAN (Pacific Islands Climate Action Network) and others in their regional role to forge global partnerships to support national initiatives and regional efforts on climate and development priorities.
- Pacific leaders have committed to implement specific national policy actions to progress gender equality in the areas of gender responsive government programmes and policies, decision-making, economic empowerment, ending violence against women, and health and education.

Challenges

- Lack of regional prioritisation to adequately address the "structural and socio-economic inequalities and multiple intersecting forms of discrimination that affect women and girls including those with disabilities, that hinder progress and development" (SAMOA Pathway)
- Supporting Pacific governments and the UNFCCC COP23 Chair for strongest ambition and outcomes of the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan, to be progressed during COP23
- Mainstreaming and strengthening focus on gender, human rights, climate change and DRR within all NAPs and NDCs, including support for Governments in maximising available resources
- Building effective, sustainable , non-duplicative and equitable partnerships between Pacific governments and CSOs, and CROP agencies and others working on gender, climate change, DRR and sustainable development
- Accessible and sustainable funding for local grassroots, national and regional CSOs working on gender, human rights, climate change and DRR
- Increasing awareness of Pacific governments on the civil society climate change and DRR concerns and positions including by DIVA for Equality, We Rise, PICAN, PPGCCSD (Pacific Partnerships on Gender, Climate Change and Sustainable Development), the Pacific Urgent Action Hub for Climate Justice, PACCOM (Pacific Civil Society Organising Mechanism), Pacific Youth Council, PIANGO, UNFCCC WGC (women's gender constituency), WMG(women's major group)-PSIDS, etc.

2.8 Health

Climate action in the health sector

- Thirteen countries in the region have some form of climate change and health action. Examples include Fiji's Climate Change and Health Strategic Action Plans (2016-2020) which resulted in the development of the Climate Change and Health Unit and Vanuatu's National Climate Change and Health Action Plan (2011).
- PICs MoHs are supportive and parties to global and regional agreements on climate change and health including; Western Pacific Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment on a Changing Planet (2016), KAILA Document (2015), Yanuca Island Declaration (2011); and, successive World Health Assembly and Pacific Health Ministers' Meetings Resolutions

- Since 2015, several PICs have actively participated in international fora and meetings on climate change and health such as the Global Conferences on Climate Change and Health organized by WHO, COP-21 and COP-22 by UNFCCC in 2015 and 2016, and championing the issues of impact of climate change on health and health systems in SIDS. At the Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment held at the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office on 8th October 2016, participants from PICs urged that WHO be accredited by GCF for direct access to funding. The Sixty-Seventh session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific held in Manila 10-14 October 2016, endorsed the Western Pacific Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment on a Changing Planet, which proposes climate change as one of the key areas of focus in the Region.

Existing enabling mechanisms

Country	Policies on Climate Change and Health
Cook Islands	• Joint National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation 2011–2015 • Cyclone Recovery Reconstruction Plan
Federated States of Micronesia	• Nationwide Climate Change Policy 2009 • Second National Communication to the UNFCCC. The NSDP for 2003–2023
Fiji	• Health Emergencies and Disaster Management Action Plan • National Climate Change Policy
Kiribati	• National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) 2004-2007 • Climate Change Adaptation Plan and Strategy (CCAPS)
Marshall Islands	• The Marshall Islands Climate Change Roadmap • The Marshall Islands Joint National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (JNAP)
Nauru	• National Sustainable Development Strategy for 2005–2025
Niue	• National Health Strategic Plan (NHSP) 2011–2021 • Climate Change and Health Plan
Palau	• Health Sector Plan 2008–2018 • Climate Adaptation Strategy for Health (CASH)
Samoa	• Health Sector Plan 2008–2018 • Climate Adaptation Strategy for Health (CASH)
Solomon Islands	• National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)
Tonga	• National Strategic Planning Framework 2009–2014 • Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006–2015
Tuvalu	• Strategic Health Plan 2009–2019 • National Climate Change Policy 2012–2021 • National Strategic Action Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management 2012–2016 • National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) 2007
Vanuatu	• National Climate Change and Health Action Plan (NCCHAP) 2011 • National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) 2007

Challenges

The main challenges in implementing transformative climate actions include:

- Governance- plans are weak in its inclusion of vulnerable group and the inter sectoral collaboration and coordination needs to be strengthened
- Service delivery – weak on our response to crisis (outbreaks, natural disasters)

- Capacity building on the already limited human resources – knowledge and skills
- Evidence – the limited data/information available on climate change and health which calls for more research; dedicated budget to finance climate change and health actions
- Supplies – having access to medication in times of crisis.

2.9 Integrating CCA, DRR and SDGs

Current actions

- Dredging of waterways to reduce flooding has worked for some countries in the region but thorough assessments including environment impact assessments need to be undertaken to avoid creating any further hazards
- Integrated vulnerability assessments (IVA) of communities have been carried out by a few PICs using IVA frameworks and tools that integrate climate change adaptation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction. The IVA process identifies vulnerable sectors and proposes sustainable adaptation options that will build the resilience of communities.
- Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) organized in the aftermath of natural disasters in several countries (Fiji, Vanuatu, and Republic of Marshall Islands - RMI) to specify the relief and recovery needs from the affected areas and contributed to the effective planning and coordination by Disaster Management Offices and international aid agencies.
- Human mobility including relocation, displacement and migration of communities due to climate change and disasters have become a priority for a few states in the region.
- The development of national relocation guidelines to guide national relocation processes will ensure that communities are relocated to safer environments
- Nature based solutions such as mangrove replanting are adaptation measures that have worked for a few communities and countries in the region and this concept should be encouraged as part of climate change adaptation and DRR planning process.
- Development of human rights and gender focused climate change, DRR and sustainable development responses including development of Guidelines for LGBTI-inclusive Emergency Response, by OHCHR Pacific, with LGBTI led CSOs in Fiji

Existing enabling mechanisms

- A joint approach framework on Disaster Risk and Climate Change at a Regional level through the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific and involvement of international organisations.
- Pacific Gender and Climate Change Toolkit
- Vanuatu National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) – Vanuatu has merged the governance institutions for CC & DRR, bringing all sectors (including CSOs and Private Sector) to the highest decision-making table of the NAB
- Vanuatu established a Risk & Resilience Unit embedded within the Ministry of Agriculture, considering vulnerability across fisheries, forestry, livestock, biosecurity and agricultural jurisdictions.

Challenges:

- Cross Ministerial Coordination at national level,
- Coherent, integrated and resourced reflection of Pacific SIDS global and regional climate change, DRR, climate change, sustainable development and human rights commitments at the national level, and reflected in regional agreements and initiatives
- Skill gaps
- Institutional capacity
- Increase participation including communities and social partners;
- Institutional and stakeholder coordination;
- Availability and accessibility to technology and space for innovation and funding modalities when accessing climate related finances.
- Lack of insurance for small businesses affected by natural disasters

3 Taking climate action

Accelerating transformative actions, contributing to the achievement of the Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, through adherence to human rights commitments, political will, adequate and new funding, enabling mechanisms, regional approaches, and sustaining real and diverse partnerships

3.1 Agriculture

In terms of accelerating climate action in the agriculture sector, the following actions and solutions need to be supported and implemented:

- Participatory research that has a blend of science, social science and traditional knowledge and practices
- Robust, integrated policies with effective enforcement and compliance with reflection of climate actions in national and ministerial corporate and work plans.
- Appropriate financing structure
- Widespread adoption of compost piggeries as a better option for proper waste management and ensuring quality of water bodies.
- Efficient practices of agro-ecology and climate smart agriculture
- "Save and Grow" approach to techniques such as broader use of nitrogen fixing cover crops
- Methods to cut methane emission from rice and livestock farming such as organised livestock production
- SLM landscape approach /agroforestry/agro-silvo-pastoral/ integrated pest management/ integrated crop management/organised livestock farming/integrated livestock farming/precision agriculture / technologies to increase organic carbon in soils
- Aggressive capacity building on climate change impacts and adaptation to both implementers (Ministry staff) and land users
- Strengthening collaboration amongst key stakeholders including improved coordination within relevant departments within the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Greenhouse gas inventory in Agriculture Sector that provides baseline on, and monitoring of, emissions.
- Incentives for best practice deployment at multiple levels (farmer, policy, information sharing, value chain etc.) [Taveuni, Fiji experience]
- Commitment to the global land degradation neutrality targets (under UNCCD)

Contributing to the achievement of the SDGs

The transformation of the agricultural sector to address climate change for adaptation and mitigation is essential to tackling hunger and poverty, offers considerable benefits and opportunities for preserving natural and cultural resources, and provide short and long term employment.

The adoption of viable and affordable climate actions would contribute to the achievement of SDG1 (zero poverty), SDG2 (zero hunger), SDG3 (food, good health and wellbeing), SDG4 (quality education), SDG6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG8 (decent work and economic

growth), SDG13 (climate change), SDG 14 (oceans), SDG15 (life on land), SDG16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), SDG17 (partnerships)

Required enabling mechanisms:

- Transitioning knowledge to policy and to practice (how well are we tracking key indicators and factors for change that influence agriculture food security?) – information brokerage is important to help produce guiding questions and issues (e.g. landcare groups, organisation of farmer groups at field level and application of participatory approaches)
- Collaborative efforts and inclusive participatory consultations
- Strong political will
- Ensuring policy cohesion

Partnerships

Addressing such complex issues demands collaborated efforts between stakeholders to advance Pacific climate action agenda in agriculture and land sector.

- Strengthen Public Private Partnership through government incentives and collaboration
- Linking and joining Global Climate Smart Agriculture and the Global Research Alliance

3.2 Forests

The following could support the acceleration of climate action in the forest sector:

- Using the outcomes of the REDD+ readiness process and build on current work on measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) and Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) to integrate forest sector contribution on NDC.
- Secure funding from mechanisms like GCF, GEF 7 Country allocation, bilateral funding, to ensure long term investments into e.g. forest landscape restoration, Pacific Pledge on reforestation, upscaling of sustainable forest management (SFM) approaches and others
- Tackling the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and support the drivers of forest carbon sinks
- Involve private sector as financers/donors on account of social corporate responsibilities in the area of increasing carbon sinks, supporting the expansion and establishment of new protected areas, develop and adopting best standards under certification schemes

Required enabling mechanisms:

Strong regulatory frameworks are a pre-requisite to ensure effective transformational actions. There is a need to address bottle necks such as the limitation of funds and limited human resource and technical capacity. In the forest sector long term investment and commitment are imperative to accelerating transformative actions:

- Financing support; particularly the identification of new streams of funds that would support transformational climate actions in the sector.
- Capacity building and technical support are required to enhance effective implementation - including among others: tree identification, seed selection, seed germination and management of native seedling nursery; seed banks like e.g. SPC's Pacific Islands Tree Seed Centre (PITSC) and

in-situ seed bank conservation initiatives protecting mother trees in the forest; SFM approaches like reduced impact logging; higher yield levels at sawmills and sustainable value chains for intermediate to high end forest and wood products.

- A framework to address loss and damage associated with natural disasters. Ability to address forest disturbances, damage or even forest loss associated with natural disasters will be important to grapple and demonstrate in the long run for, among others, credible carbon storage in forests and their sustainable management
- Policy and institutional support - review of National Forest Policies and legislations to incorporate transformative climate actions.
- Review and implement the Forest Minister's resolution from their Meeting in Nadi 2015, calling for regional reforestation to address ecological, social and climate issues.

Regional support

It is important to recognize existing frameworks such as the regional Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Services in PICs; Technical Working Group for forest sector under the Pacific Community (SPC); Technical Working Group under the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG); and the Technical Working Group in the Round Table for Regional Organisations. It is recommended that all working groups above be invited to come together to formulate one single technical working group on forest.

Partnerships

- Given the land tenure and resource ownership structure of PICs, community awareness and ownership of initiatives for climate actions is of paramount importance. Without community buy-in climate actions will not be sustainable in the long term.
- Engage with research institutions (e.g Global Research Alliance, CIFOR) on specific topics of need and gaps in the forest sector.
- Involve the private sector as financers/donors, in transformative climate actions and this could be fostered through setting up certification recognition for companies that support the Paris Agreement and environmental initiatives. Such a certification system must be associated with an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system with clear requirements and indicators (including community participation) to ensure recognition of the certification. Take account of already existing initiatives by PICs to develop such certification standards.

Contributing to the achievement of the SDGs:

Economic, social and ecological benefits from forest ecosystems are linked to SDG 1 – income opportunities; SDG 2 – source of food; SDG 7 - biomass energy; SDG 13 – climate change mitigation; SDG 14 – preventing sedimentation from polluting oceans; SDG 15 – sustaining life on land (livelihoods, etc); SDG 17 – promoting partnerships particularly with the private sector.

3.3 Water

Implementing transformative climate actions would require:

- Empowering communities, including women and youth, to implement local solutions to secure safe water and sanitation in a changing climate. Empowering women and girls is particularly important in decision-making and management of water and sanitation.

- Addressing climate and disaster risk through sustained support for a “whole of sector” approach to water security. This will be achieved through strengthening coordination and capacity across all the various actors managing water and sanitation.

Contributing to the achievement of the SDGs:

Sustainable fresh water resources and safe sanitation underpin the health, livelihoods and environment of Pacific communities. Action in this area will directly support the achievement of SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation) as well as multiple other SDGs, particularly: SDG 1 (poverty), SDG 2(food security), SDG 3 (healthy lives), SDG 4 (education), SDG 5 (gender equality and empowerment), SDG 7 (energy), SDG 8 (economic growth), SDG 13 (climate), SDG 14 (oceans), SDG15 (terrestrial ecosystems).

Required enabling mechanisms:

- Awareness raising, promoting ownership of activities by local communities
- Knowledge sharing (local, technical capacity, technology transfer, regional and sub-regional knowledge sharing)
- Leadership at all levels
- Monitoring and evaluation to support evidence based action
- Good governance (planning, policy, legislation, enforceable regulation, sustainable financing), and
- Coordination across all actors.

Regional frameworks and approaches that could accelerate climate action on water security include:

- Pacific Water and Wastewater Association (PWWA); FRDP, which needs to be inclusive of all parties; Pacific Regional Action Plan for Sustainable Water Management; Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (PRIF), Pacific Partnership for Atoll Water Security, and Ridge to Reef programme.
- Regional approaches include: development of Pacific headline indicators to support SDGs, high level advocacy through water and sanitation champions, expansion of partnerships between water and sanitation with other regional/international partnerships, such as for climate, disaster, health.

3.4 Oceans

The following can support climate action and its acceleration in the ocean sector

- Develop targets and indicators (national, regional and global) as tools to measure the progress in Climate Action within the Oceans Sector, without duplicating the work under the SDGs.
- Develop a Pacific regional action plan to implement the UN Oceans Conference Call for Action and integrating climate action.
- Technical capacity building, scientific research and monitoring for ocean acidification in the region to inform management strategies.
- Opportunities to contribute to Pacific experiences and learn from International Partnerships such as the Global Mangroves Alliances, International Blue Carbon Partnership, International Coral Reefs Initiative, MACBIO.

- Develop IMO strategies at national and regional levels to reduce Carbon emissions from marine transport and promote the use of traditional voyaging practices as transformative technology for clean marine transport.
- Protect and restore key habitats, migratory species and ecological functions including seagrasses, mangroves, coral reefs and deep-water marine habitats such as seamounts, turtles, whales, spawning sites, etc.
- The Fijian Government has indicated that developing an Oceans Pathway that more strongly links ocean health and UNFCCC processes and NDC development is a key priority for its COP23 Presidency

Required enabling mechanisms:

- Create synergies between sectors within the Government (integrated approach) - horizontal and vertical integration
- Improve research and data
- Establish integrated ocean management institutions at local, national and regional level to reduce vulnerability of coastal/ocean ecosystems and of human settlements, and build the management capacity, preparedness, resilience, and adaptive capacities of coastal and island communities and sectors

Partnerships

- The role of churches/faith-based organisations in climate action – and extensively connect with the congregation changing the hearts and minds
- Strong Pacific participation in the IPCC special report on Oceans

Supporting regional framework

Pacific Leaders had already committed to apply the precautionary principles under the Palau Forum Declaration and FSM Forum Oceans Declaration and The UN Oceans “Call for Action”.

3.5 Low and net zero emission development in Pacific SIDS

Accelerating transformative actions on low and net zero emissions development in Pacific SIDS

- There is limited capacity in the region to enable effective transition to low and net zero emission development, and therefore concerted effort is needed to mobilize the regional approach, strengthen current capacity and develop new strategies at national level to address emerging issues.
- All stakeholders must ensure that capacity building are targeted at individuals, institutions and sectors that plays a key role in advancing the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
- Strong community ownership is key to success. Local NGOs and religious leaders have an important role to play, given their wider network and close communications with local communities. Strong local community engagement in the entire process of transitioning into low and net zero emission development is necessary for the long-term achievement of the objectives.

3.6 Climate financing including funding for NDCs and adaptation

Actions to mobilise/ accelerate climate financing

- Establish a common space for private sector, governments, civil society and other stakeholders to work together to overcome barriers to climate financing.
- Ensure institutional reform and improved absorption capacity of climate finance in a government-led process.
- Strengthen the capacity of focal points to engage in climate financing processes within each country.
- Gender and human rights expertise in all regional and national climate finance decision-making bodies, at all levels, and gender balance in representation on all such bodies.
- Introduce government incentives (such as tax rebates) for leveraging private sector investment in the framework of implementing the NDCs.
- Strengthen the capacity of private sectors, especially through training, partnerships, funding and business plans to understand and incorporate climate change and disaster risks.
- Establish a central hub for information for governments, the private sector and civil society on accessing climate finance – types of funding available, processes for access, etc.
- Improve understanding of the needs and priorities of recipient communities.
- Deepen engagement of all stakeholders, including civil society and local communities, in climate funding decisions and the design and implementation of programs.
- Enhance the availability of context designed insurance to manage climate change risks.
- Countries must remain flexible with their options for accessing and managing climate change finance (e.g. budget support, project, programmatic approach, national climate funds, NIE etc).
- Promote seed funding of women-led and gender responsive sustainable production strategies and access to financing, for example climate smart agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture.
- Ensure public-private partnerships are prioritised whilst recognising the limitations of public-private partnerships in smaller Pacific SIDS.
- Countries and partners must continue to prioritise support for capacity building and supplementation (south-south attachments, volunteerism, and use of retirees).
- Country efforts to pursue public financial management and institutional reforms for accessing and managing climate change finance should also be motivated by gaining donor confidence to use local systems and the achievement of national development objectives.
- Encourage all climate finance flows to countries are captured, tracked and reported in country's national budgets.
- Streamline decision-making as much as possible to avoid replication of systems.
- Recognise and maintain the diversity of funding sources, recognizing the importance both of multilateral funds (including the Green Climate Fund) and bilateral support.

Contributing to the achievement of the SDGs

- Climate change is a development challenge that extends beyond SDG 13. Action on climate change, enabled by enhanced access to climate finance, will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.
- Mapping of climate change action to SDGs, and reporting budget commitments against SDGs, will help ensure climate finance investments maximize progress towards SDGs.
- Greater collaboration between government, civil society and the private sector, including incentives, can help ensure all financial flows are better aligned with achieving the SDGs.

Regional frameworks and approaches that could accelerate climate financing:

- Recognise that the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific and Pacific Resilience Partnerships provides a platform for all-stakeholder collaboration.

Initiating and sustaining partnerships

- Identify programs that have worked well and can be scaled up.
- Recognise the different levels of capacity and preparedness between countries, share experience and good practice, and recognizing that no one approach is right in every context.
- Strongly engage with the multilateral process, including providing feedback to the Green Climate Fund on issues of priority for P-SIDS, including simplified access.
- Place greater consideration on the role of local governments, who are essential in ensuring support is effectively delivered to local communities.

The Fijian Government is establishing a Climate Finance and Insurance Partnership process to use the convening power of the COP23 Presidency to further build on existing initiatives through 2018.

3.7 Gender and human rights

Transformative and accelerated action on gender, climate change and DRR requires:

- Advancement of gender justice and women's human rights and empowerment, in order to overcome structural barriers that diminish social, economic, ecological and climate justice outcomes.
- Working to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls and ensuring women's full, equal and effective participation in all fields and leadership at all levels of decision-making.
- Tackling the structural and socio-economic inequalities and multiple intersecting forms of discrimination that affect all women and girls, and that hinder progress and development (SAMOA Pathway, p77h) including addressing intimate partner violence and ending all forms of sex and gender based violence and discrimination, advancing women's equal rights to access, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technologies, addressing women's right to decent work and sustainable livelihoods, advancing gender and political empowerment, gender and economic rights, gender and cultural rights, gender and information and communications, women, peace and security, and more.

3.8 Health

At the Twenty Second Conference of Parties (COP-22) to the UNFCCC in Morocco, Fiji was elected the Presidency of COP-23 in Bonn, Germany, November 2017. A Health Action Day was proposed as one of the thematic agenda of COP23. The Fiji Presidency provides a unique opportunity for PICs to support the Health Action Day at COP23 for transformative and accelerated climate action in the health sector as follow:

- Increase investment; increase climate resilience of health systems, and health determinants. To increase investment from international assistance in health adaptation to climate change in the Pacific, with a focus on surveillance for climate sensitive health outcomes, and climate resilience & sustainable energy in healthcare facilities.
- Gain health "co-benefits" of climate mitigation - particularly where it contributes to reducing 6.5 million annual deaths from air pollution (World Energy Outlook 2016). To assess the number of deaths from air pollution at global, regional and national level; the expected health gains from Nationally Determined Contributions to the UNFCCC; and the potential for larger gains through more ambitious action.
- Ensure support for health and climate action, through a new economic approach, and scale up of financial investments. To define a coherent approach to link the economics of climate, environment and health, and how to value and promote climate and energy policies that are in the national health interest.
- Engage the health community and civil society in mitigation and adaptation. This could be done through engagement of the health professional organizations of the Pacific Island Nations on climate change and health, joining their voices with the wider community of health professionals.
- Incorporate indigenous knowledge in climate change and health actions.
- Measure national progress and reporting through the WHO/UNFCCC country profiles and SDG indicators. This is to ensure that all Pacific Island Nations have national evidence and progress tracking through climate and health country profiles, and to support reporting and tracking of indicators relevant to climate change and health, aligned with the SDGs.

3.9 Integrating CCA, DRR and SDGs

Actions to support integration:

- National development plans, strategies and sectoral policies and plans to mainstream CC and DRR and integrate CCA, DRR and SD as strategy to achieving the objectives of the PA and the 2030 SD Agenda.
- Means of implementation should be provided for the implementation of regional and national frameworks that integrates CCA, DRR and SD goals.
- Ensure transformative action supports economic growth and decent work.
- Enhance multi hazards early warning which can provide early preparatory and taking action; existing projects at regional and national level to support early warning system.
- Strengthen Build Back Better initiatives.
- Acknowledge that there are benefits from a joint approach on Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation at all levels.

- Include education, training and awareness programs on the integration of climate change adaptation, sustainable development and disaster reduction in schools, universities and non-formal education.

Contributing to the achievement of the SDGs: SDG 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, & 17

- Align the action to the targets in the SDGs, Pacific SDG Roadmap and the establishment of an appropriate monitoring system.
- Establish relevant reliable data mechanism.

Enabling mechanisms

- Strengthen existing partnerships and creating new partnerships for means of implementation of transformative actions (funding etc.).
- Strengthen institutional coordination and communication.
- Enhance regional mechanisms and institutional support including the implementation of the FRDP and the Pacific Resilient Partnership (PRP).
- Enhance regional institutional capability and capacity.
- Strengthen research and development in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction e.g. Cost benefit /cost effectiveness analysis.
- Technology development, deployment, and transfer.
- Strengthen regional organisations/centres for the implementation of CCA and DRR.
- Enable lessons learned through best practice to be replicated within the region.
- Strengthen the analysis of natural disaster impacts through Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA).

Initiating and sustaining partnerships

- Internationally: obtain commitment internationally on the establishment of the renewable energy infrastructure that will absorb (40%) of national energy consumption.
- Regionally: Pacific Resilient Partnership to initiate and sustain partnerships within the region, sustaining partnership through knowledge sharing in sectors.
- Locally: strengthen and enhance CAPP participants group to provide a platform for all stakeholders to work together in achieving identified climate actions.

4 Enhancing & implementing NDCs

A country's NDC can be a useful framework to streamline different objectives. This is true for all national plans in different sectors, SDG strategies and climate action.

National budgets need to reflect the government objectives and commitment on climate and sustainable development. Where appropriate, legal frameworks at the national level (and removing legal barriers) for implementing NDCs should be in place.

Non-party actors can play a crucial role in enhancing and adding value to current NDCS. It is imperative that they are fully involved in the planning review, implementation, financing and evaluation of the NDCS.

4.1 Agriculture

Agriculture sector activities to enhance and implement NDCs (in mitigation and adaptation)

- SLM landscape approach/agroforestry/agro-silvo-pastoral/Integrated pest management/ integrated crop management/ Organise livestock farming/ Integrated Livestock farming
- Carbon emission inventory of agriculture sector
- Nutrient and carbon smart agriculture
- Commitment to provide enabling environment for stronger participation of the private sectors this would include the provision of appropriate incentives, strong political will and policy cohesion

4.2 Forests

Forest sector activities to enhance and implement NDCs (in mitigation and adaptation)

- Build on REDD+ processes and activities (e.g. tackling of drivers) as a way forward to include forest sector contributions and monitoring through MRV in the NDCs
- Provide a reliable source of biomass for renewable energy projects / companies through sustainable management of natural forest resources and plantation forestry using a mixed species approach including native species.
- Ensure that the private sector is involved in integrating NDC actions into best practices and standing procedures
- Increase engagement with non-party actors such as community groups, civil societies, academia, and private sector as they have the capacity to support parties through introduction of new and innovative technologies and initiatives that may change mind sets, change commercial culture and advance the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action.
- Environment, forest, and other sectoral policies and plans should be aligned and responsive to, and relevant national policies, legislations and plans with clear cross-sectoral collaborative frameworks.
- Engage private sector through setting up certification systems that are recognised by all stakeholders and actively supporting the Paris Agreement and the SDGs and encourage the use of existing certification schemes

4.3 Oceans

Oceans sector to enhance and implement NDCs

- Role of mangroves and seagrasses in blue carbon sequestration

- Non-party actors must be consulted in the review, implementation, financing of NDCs including monitoring and evaluation on the implementation of NDCs

4.4 Climate financing including funding for NDCs and adaptation

- Where appropriate, legal frameworks at the national level should be introduced and legal barriers removed for implementing NDCs. For this, amongst others, the impacts of international agreements on implementation of NDCs should be assessed.
- A well-coordinated regional approach should be adopted for reviewing, updating and enhancing NDCs, and mobilizing resources for their implementation.
- Translation of planned actions outlined in country NDC into "bankable projects" for bilateral, multilateral and private financing, including to the Green Climate Fund.
- Strengthen the linkage between the ministry in charge of the NDC and the finance/planning/sector ministries.
- Promote awareness for NDC finance needs to be part of fiscal planning and budgeting, and highlighting the critical need for financial support from partners and private sector to meet the conditional targets.
- Improve coordination (within government as well as with donors) around NDC/climate change issues: have regular meetings, focus on substantial topics and obtain clear guidance from government entities.
- Create or improve policy and legislative frameworks for climate change actions, and mainstream Climate Action.

The Fijian Government is establishing a Climate Finance and Insurance Partnership process to use the convening power of the COP23 Presidency to further build on existing initiatives through 2018.

4.5 Low and net zero emissions development

NDCs can provide a transparent and inclusive organising framework for low and net zero carbon development that stimulates cooperation and facilitates coherence of action across sectors and among stakeholders.

Green approach to development is well-rooted in local communities. However, there needs to be a proactive bottom-up approach to integrate the low and net zero carbon aspect to align with the need for global economy to be at net zero emissions in the next few decades.

4.6 Health

Health sector and NDCs

Reduction of carbon emissions through green health care facilities (waste management, WASH, air, renewable energy, rainwater harvesting, water safety plans).

4.7 Integration of CCA, DRR and SDGs

In line with the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific, Pacific Islands NDCs should consider the integration of CCA, DRR and SD as a component of the adaptation section of their NDCs and clearly highlight the means of implementation required, either conditional or unconditional for achieving CCA and DRR priorities and ultimately national and regional SDG targets.

5 Advancing the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

5.1 Forests

Under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action Leadership Network (senior decision makers) the region has the Heads of Agriculture and Forest Services bi-annual meetings.

At the same time, for the Climate Action Collaboration Forum (operational level) it is recommended to use existing mechanism such as the National REDD+ Steering Committee (Fiji example) which brings about a wide range of stakeholders within and outside of the core forest sector – a good example of cross sectoral collaboration.

For Informal Communities of Climate Action Practice (forestry thematic area) it is best to use existing framework such as the CSO platform under REDD+ in Fiji and Vanuatu; the Vanuatu NGO platform; Provincial Climate Change Committee (PNG/Solomon Islands) – multi stakeholder and Provincial Forest Management Committee (PNG).

5.2 Gender and human rights

On the issue of engagement in the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action engagement is through the - 1) Climate Action Leadership Network; 2) Climate Action Collaboration Forum, and the 3) Communities of Climate Action Practice.

Overall, Pacific women leaders to be included and supported in all 3 areas of engagement, with overall attention to diversity, gender balance in representation, gender responsive frameworks and gender content focus in all such initiatives.

5.3 Health

Under the initiative of the Climate Champions Mme Hakima El Haite and Mme Laurence Tubiana, a special session on Health and Climate Change was convened at COP22 on "Health Actions for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement". The event followed the "Health Action Agenda" approved at the WHO 2nd Global Conference on Health and Climate, held in Paris from 7-8 July 2016.

The Health Action Day provided a global overview, and examples of 10 concrete initiatives through which the public health community at country, regional and global level is currently supporting actions to implement the Paris agreement, for a healthier and more sustainable society, and its plans to scale up ambition and action. These were presented in alignment with the objectives of the Paris Health Action. The Fiji Presidency provides a unique opportunity for PICs to support the Health Action Day at COP23 for transformative and accelerated climate action in the health sector.

5.4 Integrating CCA, DRR and SDGs

Even though this thematic area is not a priority focus/thematic area under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, it is a priority area for Pacific Islands as it was endorsed by the Pacific Island Forum leaders through the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific. It is therefore proposed that to showcase this commitment to action noting the vulnerability of the Pacific island region, a report or compendium of best practices and lessons learned from the integration of CCA, DRR and SD should be produced and launched at COP 23.

6 Participation in the UNFCCC technology examination processes (TEPs)

Recognizing that the Pacific has many home-grown regional experts, it is important for Parties to recognise and acknowledge these experts from academia, civil societies, private sector and community representatives. Parties should go through the established process and recommend names to UNFCCC technical meetings on adaptation and mitigation.

Parties should collaborate to develop a register the pool of experts from research institutes, civil organisations, private partners and community representatives.

7 Recommendations to implement & accelerate climate action

Priority climate actions that can be accelerated fast, enabling mechanisms for this to happen, partnerships to support the acceleration of climate action

Recognising that Pacific Governments cannot implement climate action alone, and that they need full support of other actors. The role of private sectors, diverse CSOs, NGOs, academic institutions, faith based organisations, regional agencies, local communities and other stakeholders towards contributing to meeting the targets of country's NDCs and NAPs is strongly recognised.

7.1 Agriculture sector recommendations

a. Promote collaborative efforts and investment channelled towards boosting sustainable management practices such as improving soil organic carbon, integrated farming system, integrated crop management/organised livestock farming/agroforestry/organic farming/targeted composting/ precision agriculture/value addition, product development and market access.

b. Incorporate green growth and climate change policies in national strategic development plans, relevant regional and national frameworks.

c. Strengthen public and private partnership as well as providing incentives for sustainable agricultural and land use practices,

d. In giving recognition to climate smart agriculture, have special focus on organic farming, incentivise the transition from dirty agriculture to organic farming and providing a level playing field that ensures the survival and proliferation of clean climate friendly organic farming.

e. Encourage Pacific Island Countries join the Global Research Alliance as there is currently no Pacific membership and strengthen Pacific Soil Partnership through resource mobilisation.

f. Use the UNFCCC and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action process to showcase affordable, accessible clean technologies and creating a forum for partnerships to help financing to mobilise these technologies

g. Improve on GHG inventories of the agriculture sector

7.2 Forest sector recommendations

a. Develop and submit a regional proposal to mitigate climate change through the creation of carbon sinks taking into account the knowledge from the REDD+ processes in the Melanesian countries. Thereby increasing resilience through alternative livelihood opportunities and enhancing forest benefits to all members of society.

b. Address forest loss and forest degradation through a broad scale forest landscape restoration program across Pacific Island Countries, incorporating alternative community based livelihood opportunities, traditional uses of forest resources and protection of ecosystem services, and connected and contributing to the global Bonn Challenge.

c. Develop and submit a concept on the above to secure potential donors such as GCF, considering the possibility of launching it in Bonn at COP23. The launch will invite PICs to develop and submit country specific sub projects to be financed through GCF or similar sources as an initiative for transformational climate action. The Presidency of COP23 should collaborate and inform

supporters, initiate and negotiate discussions with GCF or similar sources and support the projects by parties in the pipeline.

d. Scale up Sustainable Forest Management based on existing successful models (such as Nakavu in Fiji)

e. Pursue the ongoing REDD+ activities and identify and tackle the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation on global, regional, national and local level as well as support the stewards of forest carbon sinks.

f. Integrate the Forest Code of Harvesting Practice requirements into licencing conditions of mineral extractive activities from prospecting to full fledge mining activities.

g. Develop incentives for private sector participation to (i) develop and adopt best standards under certification schemes; (ii) increase carbon sinks through afforestation and reforestation; and (iii) support the expansion and establishment of new protected areas to maintain and enhance ecosystem benefits.

h. Reinforce regional and national mechanism in place.

i. Address bottlenecks and secure funds

7.3 Water sector recommendations

a. Prioritise water and sanitation on the climate change adaptation agenda and identify national champions to lead this action.

b. Ensure sustained support for a "whole of sector approach" to water security.

c. Secure necessary funding to share and support practical and replicable local actions, including those that:

- anticipate and minimise the impacts of drought;
- reduce wastage of potable water (water use efficiency);
- secure safe drinking water;
- strengthen capacity to effectively harvest rainwater;
- provide increased storage for rainwater and groundwater;
- protect water catchments and aquifers;
- develop untapped and under-utilised water resources (including groundwater)

d. Empower women and girls in decision making and management of water and sanitation).

e. Increase efficiency of agricultural and industrial water use

7.4 Ocean sector recommendations

a. Call for the establishment of a Global Work Programme on Oceans and Climate as part of a pathway integrating ocean health and UNFCCC processes.

b. Develop a concept for TEP that focuses on Oceans and Climate that fits the TEP criteria and put forward a list of experts from the Pacific.

c. Ensure coordinated global and regional approach to research and monitoring to inform decision makers and policies including building technical capacity for PICs in research.

d. Expand and support the work on community led ecosystem based adaptation including protection and restoration of natural ecosystems such as blue-carbon sinks, mangroves and sea-grasses, offshore habitats and improved fisheries management.

e. Develop a regional integrated action plan for the UN Oceans Conference Call for Action.

f. Recognise that the ocean connects many sectors in the Pacific, it has the potential to bring all actors together to ensure a safe working space for the varied users of the ocean.

g. Integrate climate action into the Pacific Regional SDG Roadmap.

h. Include non-state actors from the beginning of the process from planning, implementation, monitoring and review.

i. Expand the Pacific Climate Change Portal to include Oceans and the role of non-state actors.

7.5 Low and net zero emissions development recommendations

a. Develop and integrate low and net zero emission development strategies into current national development plans for all sectors such as Tourism, Maritime, Transport, Cities, Towns and Municipalities, Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, Mining, etc

b. Regional approach and cooperation on best practice, standards, etc., to help aggregation of projects and incentivize the private sector investment.

c. Articulate commitments to energy efficiency and renewables (beyond the current NDCs)

d. Use NDCs as an organizing framework to meet multiple objectives, across sector. They can also help set a long-term objectives that would be translated into policies, regulations and predictable frameworks necessary for increased private sector investment and participation.

e. Consider how the shift to low and net zero carbon economy creates jobs and align the education institutions to provide right vocational and other curricula.

f. Reflect integrated planning in national budgets.

g. Government and industries should be partners in this effort and be leaders in setting the example.

h. Engage with all stakeholders to secure ownership (e.g. landowners). Also, cities and towns are key to stimulating action and securing ownership at local levels.

i. Internalise current NDCs in national planning, regulations, policies and institutional setups.

j. Develop communications strategies on NDCs

k. A Pacific-led dialogue at COP23 on the environmental, social and economic benefits of an international moratorium on the development and expansion of fossil fuel extracting industries, and accelerating the transition to 100% renewable energy

l. Pacific National Development Plans, National Action Plans and NDCs must prioritise and advance social, economic and ecological policies and practices including a transition towards a non-fossil fuel era, ending exploitative and unsustainable manufacturing, agriculture and fisheries practices through an urgent and just transition to safe, equitable and net zero carbon economies.

7.6 Climate financing recommendations

a. Reaffirm that, as part of a global effort, developed country Parties should to continue to take the lead in mobilising scaled-up climate finance, as in Article 9.3 of the Paris Agreement. This effort should aim to achieve, as in Article 9.4, a balance between adaptation and mitigation, and requires, as in Article 9.9, efficient access to financial resources from the GCF, GEF and other sources of climate finance, through simplified procedures and enhanced readiness support for small island developing States, including those in the Pacific, in the context of their national climate strategies and plans.

b. Provide a common space for private sector, governments, civil society and other stakeholders to work together to overcome barriers to climate finance including developing information hubs on accessing climate finance, and fostering a culture of learning between all actors.

c. Establish a well-coordinated regional NDC platform for Pacific SIDS to support reviewing, updating and enhancing NDCs, mobilizing resources for its implementation, and providing opportunities to share lessons and celebrate successes.

d. Where appropriate, introduce legal frameworks at the national level and remove legal barriers for implementing NDCs. Include the analysis of the impacts of international agreements on implementation of NDCs.

e. Increase membership of the NDC Partnership - to enhance cooperation to facilitate access to the technical knowledge and financial support needed to achieve large-scale climate and sustainable development targets as quickly and effectively as possible, and for building in-country capacity and increases knowledge sharing.

f. Work on improving understanding of the needs and priorities of recipient communities.

g. Focus on deepening engagement of all stakeholders, including civil society and local communities, in climate funding decisions and the design and implementation of programs.

h. Increase the availability of context designed insurance to manage climate change risks.

i. Promote labour based investment, where appropriate, to maximize the participation by communities, small local contractors and workers in the development and maintenance of local infrastructure.

j. In a country-led process, remove barriers to investment and ensure clear policy frameworks and mechanisms that will drive investment.

k. Increase countries' participation in the Green Climate Fund's Readiness Programme.

l. Ensure strong engagement with the multilateral process, including providing input and feedback to the Green Climate Fund on issues of priority for PSIDS, including simplified access.

m. Strengthen the role and involvement of local governments who are essential for effectively delivering finance- based support to communities.

7.7 Health sector recommendations

a. Strengthen commitment to support and engage in the proposed Health Action Day and inclusion of Healthy Island Vision at COP-23, under the auspices of the two UNFCCC climate champions, and the Fijian Presidency, with the support of WHO and other agencies as appropriate

b. Advance the agreed “Health Actions for the implementation of the Paris Agreement”, with a particular focus on surveillance of climate sensitive health outcomes, protecting and promoting the health of the most vulnerable, promoting gender equity and strengthening climate resilience and sustainable energy in health care facilities

c. Pacific Health Minister Meeting (PHMM) to serve as a regional platform to further enhance the work on Climate Change and Health and the monitoring of related SDG achievements

d. Provide the Health sector with direct access to climate related funds

e. Include climate change and health on national budgets to implement action plans particularly of Least Developed Countries and SIDS.

7.8 Gender and human rights - recommendations

a. Pacific leaders and all climate change partners to publicly commit to gender and climate change outcomes in the Marrakech Climate Action Partnerships and COP23 negotiations, including through mainstreaming of a gender equality and women's human rights and empowerment perspective in the development, advancement and implementation of et al, the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan, the Marrakech Partnership Global Climate Action Agenda, the Green Climate Fund, the GEF, Agenda 2030 and the Pacific Framework on Regionalism.

b. Increase coherence between outcomes of UNFCCC COPs and other DRR, sustainable development, gender and human rights related intergovernmental processes, specifically CEDAW, Beijing BPFA, Sendai Framework, Agenda 2030 and show linkages between SDG 5 (gender), SDG 13 (climate change) and all 17 SDGs

c. Ensure gender is cross-cutting throughout all Agenda 2030 SDGs and all targets, as well as specific focus and resources to achieve SDG5 on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

d. Substantive and consistent inclusion of women and young people in the Marrakech Partnership process, as they are already engaged in many climate change and DRR initiatives, but often left out of formal decision-making and political processes on climate change and development.

e. Implement/action the Pacific Leaders Gender Declaration and the Revised Pacific Platform for Action on Advancement of Women and Gender Equality, especially specific national policy actions and regional initiatives. These include (et al) advancing gender responsive government programmes and policies, decision-making, economic empowerment, ending violence against women and girls, and health and education. All these must be linked to national and regional climate change planning and response.

f. Pacific National Development Plans, National Action Plans and NDCs must prioritise and substantively include gender and human rights in their content, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

g. Ensure gender and climate change outcomes are strongly included in the 13th Triennial of Pacific Women in Suva Fiji in October 2017 in order to advance local, national, regional and global gender, climate change and development processes.

h. Support for the training of Pacific women climate change negotiators from Governments and civil society in August 2017, co-facilitated by WEDO, WGC and PIFS.

i. Ensure safety of Pacific climate, environmental and Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) through ensuring freedom of expression, public voice and action to protect our Commons and address gender, human rights, climate change and DRR.

j. Build effective, resourced, non-duplicative and equitable partnerships between Pacific governments and CSOs, CROP agencies and others working on gender, climate change, DRR and sustainable development.

k. Provide accessible and sustainable funding for local grassroots, national and regional CSOs working on gender, human rights, climate change and DRR, especially women's social movements.

l. Increase awareness of Pacific Governments and other climate stakeholders on civil society climate change and DRR positions and strategies including by DIVA for Equality, We Rise, PICAN, PPGCCSD, Pacific Urgent Action Hub for Climate Justice, PACCOM, Pacific Youth Council, PIANGO, UNFCCC WGC, WMG-PSIDS and others.

m. Form an informal working group on advancing interlinkages of gender, human rights and climate change within the Marrakech Global Climate Action Partnership, including presence of Pacific feminists and women led CSOs and social movements.

7.9 Integrating CCA, DRR and SDGs - recommendations

a. Align the accelerated actions to the targets in the SDGs, Pacific SDG Roadmap and the establishment of an appropriate monitoring system.

b. Prepare reports on best practices within the region on the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change strategies including south to south cooperation and on the cost -benefit / effectiveness analysis for adaptation versus disaster management that can be launched and promoted at COP 23.

c. Form a working group on the interlinkages of climate change, job creation and decent work, with relevant organizations such as the ILO, as a new thematic area to help accelerate climate action.

d. Establish a regional working group on culture to ensure that traditional knowledge is maintained within the broader discussion of the integration of CCA, SD & DRR