

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT 2013

NAREWA OUTCOMES

NAREWA VILLAGE, NADI

12 - 16 AUGUST 2013

- 1.** The 2013 National Climate Change Summit was held at Narewa Village, Nadi.
- 2.** The objective of the Summit were to:
 - review outcomes of the 2012 Summit;
 - highlight all Climate Change projects in Fiji and share information on achievements and challenges;
 - strengthen commitments of the National Climate Change Policy;
 - discuss the National Coordination and Financing Protocol;
 - discuss the relocation policy; and
 - discuss climate change and disaster risk management: the improved focus.
- 3.** The National Summit was officially opened by the Honorable Prime Minister of Fiji, Commodore Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, and attended by government officials, development partners, academia, media, community leaders, private sectors and civil society organizations.
- 4.** In his opening address, the Honorable Prime Minister, emphasized that as a small nation, we plainly cannot influence climate change ourselves and are not an industrialized country with high carbon emissions and can only try to persuade those that are to take decisive action to reduce those emissions. He also emphasized that all participants bring particular skills and experience and he urged all to work in a holistic manner, bringing the various strands together to devise solutions that are innovative, practical and affordable and can be easily communicated and understood. The need for climate leadership on all levels of society was impressed upon all participants.
- 5.** The National Summit deliberated on 4 key themes; i. Mainstreaming Climate Change & Government/ Regional Climate Change Policies, ii. Climate Change Vulnerability & Adaptation, iii. Mitigation and iv. Education and Traditional Knowledge.

6. The Summit comprised of panel of speakers to address the themes of the Summit, Workshop sessions and discussions to look at commitments to the National Climate Change Policy and field trip to the Integrated Water Resource Management project sites.
7. The participants at the National Summit agreed to the following outcomes:

7.1 Mainstreaming Climate Change & Government/ Regional Climate Change Policies

Overall objective: Integrate climate change issues in all national and sector policy and planning processes.

The following gaps, concerns and challenges were identified:

- i. Fiji faces a range of emerging challenges from climate change. It is likely that these challenges (from CC impacts) will undermine development achievements/progress of recent decades and jeopardise future development prospects.
- ii. Climate Change no longer be categorised as an environmental issue, and it is important to recognise that it cuts across all sectors and is, fundamentally, a socioeconomic and political issue that must be addressed across all sectors.
- iii. It is also important to take an integrated ridge to reef approach to climate change adaptation.
- iv. Attention needs to be directed to identify key economic assets that are at risk from climate change impacts.
- v. Social inclusivity incorporating issues of gender, people with disabilities, children, youth and other marginalized/ other vulnerable groups.

The following solutions were identified:

- vi. Concerted effort by the line ministries to put in place measures to address CC impacts and reduce vulnerabilities. (coordinated approach, limits resources and duplication of work)
- vii. Effectively engage all relevant stakeholders to holistically address the issue of climate change. (stakeholder mapping – roles and reporting)
- viii. Commitment towards addressing the impacts of CC. (Nadi)
- ix. Mapping and zoning.
- x. An overarching and holistic national development planning approach is essential.
- xi. Ridge to Reef/ EBM approach to address maintaining food and water security, measures to reduce vulnerability to extreme weather and climate events, protecting and maintaining critical infrastructure, health and several other pressing issues.
- xii. Mainstream Sustainable Land Management Practices (SLM) and Sustainable Forestry Management (SFM) in the agricultural and forestry sectors and improve enforcement both in capacity and resources.
- xiii. Understanding how and when climate change impacts will occur, what the key priorities and response options are, and when different measures (adaptation and mitigation) will be required is important to note. Failure to do so will increase the risk of mal-adaptation and diverting of scarce resources from other pressing development issues.
- xiv. Enhance our understanding of the what, when and how of the science of climate change at the community level throughout Fiji.
- xv. Develop policy and regulatory measures supported by scientific research and observations to reduce risks and enhance infrastructure, resilience, or recognising the broader cross sectoral implications of loss of critical infrastructure for food and energy security.
- xvi. Fiji will need to increase focus on implementing measures that reduce the risk of loss and damage to critical infrastructure. (Loss to identity, language, and other relocation issues)

- xvii. To advice government to look into some constrains of existing legislations affecting management of natural resources with the need to review them.

7.1.1 Finance

Overall Objective: Ensure sustainable financing for climate change efforts.

The following gaps, concerns and challenges were identified:

- i. Access international climate finance.
- ii. Capacity development.
- iii. Establish appropriate national mechanisms to highlight priority areas for financing.
- iv. Establishing appropriate mechanisms to access climate finance.

The following solutions were identified:

- i. Align to National climate finance Objective 7 of the National Climate Change Policy.
- ii. Encouraging the formulation of a joint plan of actions for the effective implementation of the National Climate Change Policy.
- iii. Build upon existing planning and allocation systems.
- iv. Support the implementation of the mechanisms on Climate Public Expenditure Institutional Review.
- v. Long term financing of CC projects.
- vi. Communities as drivers of CC.

7.2 Climate Change Adaptation & Vulnerability

Overall Objective: Reduce the vulnerability and enhance the resilience of Fiji's communities to the impacts of climate change and disasters.

The following gaps, concerns and challenges were identified:

- i. Natural disasters tend to delay work schedules and destroy rehabilitation works.
- ii. The need to strengthen community ownership of projects.
- iii. The absence of a Fiji mangrove policy.
- iv. Inclusion of effective governance structures (for communities and governments) to improve monitoring and verification of implemented projects. The implementation of CCA projects is often challenged with the non-existence of good governance structure to facilitate the implementation of projects.
- v. Enhance and strengthen disaster preparedness for communities.

The following solutions were identified:

- i. Adoption of Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA) and Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) as conservation tools to:
 - ensure food security;
 - health;
 - build community resilience;
 - improve livelihoods; and
 - Protect key species and their habitats.
- ii. Awareness campaign focusing on identified target audience to highlight the value of the mangrove ecosystems.
- iii. Natural resource management plan to have an integrated EBM plan.
- iv. Ensure the comprehensive inclusion of input to the mangrove policy with reference to the national climate change policy. (Mangrove Policy/Management Plan to be finalised to address sustainable development.)

- v. Sustainable land management policy and sustainable forest policy needs to be strengthened Ensure sharing of lessons learnt from existing projects.

7.3 Climate Change Mitigation

Overall objective: Reduce Fiji's greenhouse emissions and implement initiatives to increase the sequestration and storage of greenhouse gas.

The following gaps, concerns and challenges were identified:

7.3.1 Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)

- i. Support from the national stakeholders in the implementation of the CDM projects.
- ii. Lack of technical capacity and human resources for the implementation of the CDM projects.
- iii. Mitigation measures are misunderstood of its importance and its implications to land cover and resource management.
- iv. Lack of understanding on the co-benefits of mitigation that it contributes to improved livelihood and sustainable development.
- v. Lack of understanding on the current methodologies and the simplified methodologies used on CDM projects.
- vi. Lack of knowledge at all levels on Clean Development Mechanism.

7.3.2 REDD+

- i. The need to holistically address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation to prevent damage to infrastructure during disasters.
- ii. Government needs to ensure that reforestation is sustainable.

- iii. Financial support to increase the involvement of women and gender at all levels of decision making in the implementation of REDD programme at the local communities.
- iv. Removal of mangroves is a big issue in urban development.
- v. The need to provide a clear and equitable framework for carbon credits and payments to the landowners in foregoing economic value for the use of their forest for sequestration.
- vi. Cutting of trees in the river mouth cause soil erosion and elevates floods damage and intensity.
- vii. More awareness and training should be done at a community level for more sustainable of managing their forests.
- viii. Reviewing of Logging Code as many loggers can easily get license without a proper EIA process.
- ix. Lack of involvement of local communities for proper consultation before any local development. (Specific to mangrove removals.)

7.3.4 Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency

- i. Rising costs of fossil fuels such as diesel and kerosene in rural communities, has increased poverty. (Putting pressures on social well-being.)
- ii. Lack of awareness linking the issue of climate change to energy conservation.
- iii. Less Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency (EE) projects at local communities such as the maritime local communities.
- iv. Financial support to increase the involvement of women in the implementation of RE and EE programme at the local communities.
- v. Coordination challenges among different government agencies to increase awareness at the national, district and community levels.

- vi. Lack of local technical expertise in the field of renewable energy.
- vii. Unclear benefits framework deriving from renewal energy in solar, hydro and wind in terms of payment of carbon offsets.

The following solutions were identified:

- i. Mangroves are removed for development however we need to ensure that this is done in a sustainable manner, and consultation with all stakeholders needs to be included. Replanting mangroves in order to offset what has been cut is also a solution.
- ii. Maintain and review the resilience landscape of the forest and biodiversity.
- iii. The importance of recognising the ridge to reef approach in climate change adaptation to address sustainable management of forest and trees to increase resilience.
- iv. Develop strategies to alleviate the importation of fossil fuels and to control mitigation of CO₂.
- v. Strengthen collaboration between relevant government agencies for better coordination of activities at the community level on Fiji's mitigation efforts.
- vi. Government to recognize and assist with the development of mitigation mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol. (CDM, Programme of Activities and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions.)
- vii. Set up training centres where community members can be trained on renewable energy. (Inclusion of TVET training following the informal education system.)
- viii. Integrate a comparable system to financially equate the cost of renewable energy sources to current trends in energy usage.
- ix. The need to provide a clear and equitable framework for carbon credits and payments to the landowners.

- x. All head waters in Fiji need to be considered in the REDD+ strategy. (Rehabilitation of degraded areas)
- xi. Government to promote in country training to increase the use of renewable energy.

7.4 Education, Awareness & Traditional Knowledge (Training)

Overall objective: Integrate climate change in school curricular, tertiary courses and vocational and non-formal education and training programme.

The following gaps, concerns and challenges were identified:

- i. Climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction is highlighted only in Class 7.
- ii. Traditional knowledge is impacted by modern ideas.
- iii. Traditional knowledge is dying out.
- iv. Awareness and engagement (integration) of climate change in many sectors needs to be strengthened.
- v. Information Technologies are not fully utilised.

The following solutions were identified:

- i. Curriculum development unit is working at integrating CC and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) topics into the school curriculum.
- ii. To integrate CC into schools, tertiary, formal and informal levels of education.
- iii. Strategy is to update the curriculum for CC education and to assess and review materials on CC science on a regular basis.
- iv. Weaving together the science of CC and traditional knowledge to be strengthened.
- v. Support the role that the Revival Unit of the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs play in safeguarding traditional knowledge practices that are slowly dying.

- vi. Support the cultural mapping exercise of the Ministry of iTaukei in the mapping of the remaining provinces.
- vii. To utilize and support the work of the Roko Tuis along with other districts and advisory councils.
- viii. To utilize iTaukei Land Trust Board and Lands Department in creating more awareness and understanding climate change, impacts and consequences and mitigations, adaptations and resiliencies with other sectors.
- ix. Balancing the message for mitigation and adaptation to be understood by all levels of society.
- x. Increased awareness on the importance of buffer zones to be considered well in all development.
- xi. Promote alternative sources of energy such as hydro, biogas, wave and wind energy sources.
- xii. Department of Energy to promote the use of solar home system and micro – hydro.
- xiii. Increase Biofuel programs to cater for remote islands.
- xiv. Exhaust the full potential of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) in raising awareness on climate change.
- xv. Strengthening the work of FBOs in communicating issues about CC.

ENDS

Additional comments for improvements:

- i. Research and Technology Transfer.
- ii. Watershed management programme to be integrated.
- iii. Considering an implementation plan on the outcomes of the summit. (Develop M&E.)

- iv. Capacity Building for the CCU team. (To be identified, provided and strengthened.)
- v. DoE: encourage more recycling plants for Fiji.
- vi. Summarise outcomes in the I Taukei language.
- vii. Need for more community representatives. (Include settlements)
- viii. Use more simple terms.
- ix. Involve the provincial officers in the trainings as they will take trickle the training down to communities for their empowerment.
- x. Include more youths in the presentation and participation at the summit.
- xi. A sum up of plenary outcomes in the different languages.
- xii. Include communications training for community representatives to improve and enhance awareness.
- xiii. Encourage partners to produce videos of their sites to showcase at the next summit.
- xiv. Identify communities where CC is not a part of their activities to share their experiences at the next summit.
- xv. Integrate communications practitioners in the discussion to share and discuss the various communications, visibility and messaging best practices that they have undertaken for their respective adaptation sites.

National Climate Change Summit 2013

Implementation Framework

No.	Strategies	Timeline	Implementing Agency	Comment
1.	Theme 1. Mainstreaming Climate Change & Government/ Regional Climate Change Policies			
	<i>Overall objective: Integrate climate change issues in all national and sector policy and planning processes.</i>			
1.1	Collaborate with line ministries through concerted effort to put in place measures to address CC impacts and reduce vulnerabilities. (coordinated approach, limits resources and duplication of work)		CCU; National Planning; Line Ministries	
1.2	Effectively engage all relevant stakeholders to holistically address the issue of climate change. (stakeholder mapping – roles and reporting)		CCU – National Climate Change Policy Sub-committees	
1.3	Development of the national development plan to include CC as an overarching and essential		CCU; National Planning	
1.4	Incorporate Ridge to Reef/ EBM approach to address maintaining food and water security, measures to reduce vulnerability to extreme weather and climate events, protecting and maintaining critical infrastructure, health and several other pressing issues.		CCU and Line Ministries	
1.5	Mainstream Sustainable Land Management Practices (SLM) and Sustainable Forestry Management (SFM) in the agricultural and forestry sectors and improve enforcement both in capacity and resources.		Ministry of Lands and Ministry of Forests and Fisheries	
1.6	Increased awareness on the impacts of CC and how and when it will occur, the key priorities and response options are, and different measures (adaptation and mitigation) to response.		CCU and Line Ministries	

1.7	Enhance understanding of the Climate Science at the community level throughout Fiji		CCU and Fiji Met Service	
1.8	Develop policy and regulatory measures supported by scientific research and observations to reduce risks and enhance infrastructure, resilience, or recognising the broader cross sectoral implications of loss of critical infrastructure for food and energy security.		CCU	
1.9	Increased focus on implementing measures that reduce the risk of loss and damage to critical infrastructure. (Loss to identity, language, and other relocation issues) and advice government to look into some constrains of existing legislations affecting management of natural resources with the need to review them.		CCU and Line Ministries	
1.9a	Encourage the formulation of a joint plan of actions for the effective implementation of the National Climate Change Policy.		CCU and Line Ministries	
1.9b	Support the implementation of the mechanisms on Climate Public Expenditure Institutional Review		CCU and Ministry of Finance	
1.9c	Explore long term financing of CC projects and Communities as drivers of CC		CCU and Ministry of Finance	
	Mapping in urban communities		Department of Town and Country Planning	
2.0	Theme 2: Climate Change Adaptation & Vulnerability <i>Overall Objective: Reduce the vulnerability and enhance the resilience of Fiji's communities to the impacts of climate change and disasters.</i>			
2.1	Advocate Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA) and Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) as conservation tools to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ensure food security; •health; •build community resilience; •improve livelihoods; and 		CCU, Line Ministries, NGOs and Civil Society Organisations	

	•Protect key species and their habitats			
2.2	Support awareness campaign focusing on identified target audience to highlight the value of the mangrove ecosystems		Department of Lands; Department of Forests; Ministry of Fisheries and Forests; NGOs	
2.3	Integrate Natural Resource Management plan (NRM) to Ecosystem Based Management plan (EBM).		CCU; Line Ministries; NGOs	
2.4	Ensure the comprehensive inclusion of input to the mangrove policy with reference to the national climate change policy. (Mangrove Policy/Management Plan to be finalised to address sustainable development.)		Department of Lands; Department of Environment; and Ministry of Fisheries and Forests	
2.5	Strengthen the implementation of the Sustainable Land Management Policy and Sustainable Forest Policy and to ensure sharing of lessons learnt from existing projects.		Ministry of Fisheries and Forests; and Department of Lands	
3.0	Theme: Climate Change Mitigation <i>Overall objective: Reduce Fiji's greenhouse emissions and implement initiatives to increase the sequestration and storage of greenhouse gas.</i>			
3.1	Promote the Mangroves replanting in order to offset what has been removed and promote wide consultation for any mangrove removals.		Department of Lands; Department of Environment; and Ministry of Fisheries and Forests	
3.2	Maintain and review the resilience landscape of the forest and biodiversity.		Department of Environment and Line Ministries	
3.3	Advocate the importance of ridge to reef approach in climate change adaptation to address sustainable management of forest and trees to increase resilience.		CCU and Line Ministries	
3.4	Develop strategies to alleviate the importation of fossil fuels and to control mitigation of CO2.		CCU and Department of Energy, Ministry of Works; Civil	

			Society Organisation and Private Sectors	
3.5	Strengthen collaboration between relevant government agencies for better coordination of activities at the community level on Fiji's mitigation efforts		CCU and Line Ministries	
3.6	Recognize and assist with the development of mitigation mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol. (CDM, Programme of Activities and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions.)		CCU; Line Ministries; Private Sectors; and NGOs	
3.7	Promote community training centres where community members can be trained on renewable energy. (Inclusion of TVET training following the informal education system.)		Department of Energy	
3.8	Integrate a comparable system to financially equate the cost of renewable energy sources to current trends in energy usage.		Department of Energy	
3.9	Develop a clear and equitable framework for carbon credits and payments to the landowners.		CCU; Department of Lands; Department of Forests; and Department of Energy	
3.99	Consider all head waters in Fiji in the REDD+ strategy. (Rehabilitation of degraded areas)		Department of Forests	
3.999	Promote in country training to increase the use of renewable energy.		Department of Energy	
4.0	Theme 4: Education, Awareness & Traditional Knowledge (Training)			
	<i>Overall objective: Integrate climate change in school curricular, tertiary courses and vocational and non-formal education and training programme.</i>			
4.1	Develop school curriculum to include the integration of CC and Disaster Risk Reduction topics.		CCU; NDMO and Ministry of Education	
4.2	Integrate CC into schools, tertiary, formal and informal levels of education.		CC ; Ministry of Education and other line ministries	

4.3	Explore strategies to update the curriculum for CC education and to assess and review materials on CC science on a regular basis.		CCU and Ministry of Education	
4.4	Strengthen and advocate the science of CC and traditional knowledge.		CCU; Fiji Met Service and Ministry of Itaukei	
4.5	Support the role that the Revival Unit of the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs play in safeguarding traditional knowledge practices that are slowly dying.		Ministry of Itaukei and TAB	
4.6	Support the cultural mapping exercise of the Ministry of iTaukei in the mapping of the remaining provinces.		Ministry of Itaukei and TAB	
4.7	Support the work of the Roko Tuis along with other districts and advisory councils.		TAB	
4.8	Support iTaukei Land Trust Board and Lands Department in creating more awareness and understanding climate change, impacts and consequences and mitigations, adaptations and resiliencies with other sectors.		TAB and Department of Lands	
4.9	Advocate correct messages for mitigation and adaptation to be understood by all levels of society.		CCU; Line Ministries; NGOs and Civil Societies	
4.9a	Increased awareness on the importance of buffer zones to be considered well in all development.		Department of Lands	
4.9b	Promote alternative sources of energy such as hydro, biogas, wave and wind energy sources.		Department of Energy	
4.9c	Promote the use of solar home system and micro – hydro.		Department of Energy	
4.9d	Increased Biofuel programs to cater for remote islands.		Department of Energy	
4.9e	Utilise and support the full potential of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) in raising awareness on climate change.		CCU and Line Ministries	
4.9f	Strengthen the work of FBOs in communicating issues		CCU; Line Ministries;	

	about CC		NGOs and Civil Societies	
5.0	Other Issues			
5.1	Increased Research and Technology Transfer.		CCU; Line Ministries and Civil Societies and Business Sectors	
5.2	Advocate Watershed management programme to be integrated.		CCU and Line Ministries	
5.3	Develop an implementation plan on the outcomes of the summit. (Develop M&E.)		CCU	
5.4	Promote Capacity Building for the CCU team. (To be identified, provided and strengthened.)		CCU	
5.5	Promote recycling plants for Fiji.		Department of Environment	
5.6	Summarise outcomes in the I Taukei language		Ministry of Itaukei Affairs	
5.7	Include more community representatives (Include settlements) in future national CC meetings.		CCU; Line Ministries and Civil Societies	
5.8	Advocate provincial officers through trainings as this will trickle down to communities for their empowerment.		CCU and TAB	
5.9a	Include more youths in the presentation and participation at the National Climate Change summit or forums.		CCU and Department of Youth	
5.9b	A sum up of plenary outcomes in the different languages.		CCU, MTAB and Multi Ethnic	
5.9c	Include communications training for community representatives to improve and enhance awareness.		CCU and Line Ministries and Civil Societies	
5.9d	Encourage partners to produce videos of their sites to showcase at the next summit.		CCU	

5.9e	Identify communities programme and projects to share their experiences at the next summit.		CCU and Line Ministries	
5.9f	Integrate communications practitioners in the discussion to share and discuss the various communications, visibility and messaging best practices that they have undertaken for their respective adaptation sites		CCU and Line Ministries	