

**JOINT MEETING
of the
2013 PACIFIC PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT &
PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ROUNDTABLE**

Hosted by the Government of Fiji

*8th – 11th July
Sofitel Fiji Resort and Spa, Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji*

Theme: “Strengthening Resilience: An Integrated Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change for the Pacific”

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction

In 2011 the Pacific Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Climate Change ‘communities’ and regional intergovernmental mechanisms agreed to combine their efforts to develop an integrated Pacific regional strategy for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change by 2015 to succeed the *Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action 2005 – 2015* and the *Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006 – 2015*.

The development of this integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change (henceforth referred to as the ‘integrated strategy’) is part of a process now commonly referred to by DRM and Climate Change practitioners in the Pacific as the ‘Roadmap’.

The ‘Roadmap’ has three major anticipated outputs, which are to be completed by 2015. They are:

1. Integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change (to be effective from 2016)
2. Pacific Regional Synthesis Report 2015: Report on the implementation progress of the Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action 2005 – 2015 & Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006 – 2015
3. Compendium of Pacific DRM and Climate Change Case Studies

These ‘Roadmap’ outputs are to be completed and presented to Pacific leaders in 2015. The integrated strategy is to be completed in 2014 for consideration by the SPC and SPREP Governing Councils and then by Pacific Leaders at the Pacific Islands Forum 2015. The Pacific Regional Synthesis Report and Compendium of Pacific DRM and Climate Change Case Studies are also to be completed by 2015.

Key 'Roadmap' Events

1. July 2013: Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management and Pacific Climate Change Round Table, 8-12th July 2013, Nadi, Fiji

An opportunity for the countries, territories and other stakeholder groups to contribute to the formulation of the integrated regional strategy

The outcomes will also contribute to the consultations on the global post-2015 framework for DRR and the post-2015 development agenda including the Third Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Conference in 2014

2. September - November 2013: SPREP and SPC Governing Councils

Update of 'Roadmap' process shared

3. November/December 2013: Conference of the Parties, UNFCCC

Update of 'Roadmap' process shared with CoP through SPREP

4. April 2014: Draft of Integrated Regional Strategy Completed

A complete draft of the integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change is in place by 1 April 2014

5. May 2014: Third Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Global Conference, Apia, Samoa

Share key messages on DRM and CC through national and regional approaches.

6. June/July 2014: Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management

The Pacific DRM community requested to support the final draft of the integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change

7. June/July 2014: Out of Session Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

Endorsement by the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) of the draft integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change

8. May/June 2014: 6th Asian Ministerial Conference for DRR, Thailand

As part of inter-regional collaboration in DRM, share an update of the 'Roadmap' process for the information of Asia stakeholders

9. September - November 2014: SREP and SPC Governing Council

Draft integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change submitted for final endorsement

10. November/December 2014: Conference of the Parties, UNFCCC

Pacific to present the endorsed integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change

11. First quarter 2015: 3rd World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Japan

Pacific to present the endorsed integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change as the region's formal contribution to the meeting where the Post-2015 Framework for DRR is expected to be adopted

12. June 2015: Meetings of the Pacific Platform for DRM and Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR)

Present the final integrated regional strategy to DRM and Climate Change stakeholders with an emphasis on implementation arrangements from 2016.

13. June 2015: Pacific Regional Synthesis Report completed

A final draft of the Pacific Regional Synthesis Report 2015: Implementation Progress of the Pacific DRR and DM Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 (RFA) and Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006 - 2015 (PIFACC) is finalised by 1 June 2015

14. June 2015: Compendium of Case Studies completed

A compendium of case studies in DRM and Climate Change for the Pacific is finalised by 1 June 2015

15. August 2015: Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting

Present the endorsed integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change for approval by Heads of Government of Pacific island countries.

Included as part of the presentation will be:

- Pacific Regional Synthesis Report 2015: Implementation Progress of the RFA and PIFACC
- Compendium of Pacific DRM and Climate Change Case Studies

Background

While some disasters (e.g. those caused by earthquakes and tsunami) and climate change concerns have different origins, they overlap in many aspects through the common drivers of weather and climate such as oceans, wind and atmospheric circulations. There are also similar

tools used to monitor, analyse and address adverse consequences. Therefore, it makes sense to consider and implement them in a systematic and integrated manner.

The shared aim of DRM and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation is to reduce the vulnerability of communities to hazards by improving the ability to better anticipate, resist, prepare for, respond to and recover from their impacts. An integrated approach will be more effective in reducing the risks to sustainable development because it can make better use of existing national and regional capacities and resources to address multiple hazards or phenomena, whether climate-related or geological, sudden or slow onset.

Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation are not sectors in themselves. They are cross-cutting issues that must be implemented through the policies of other sectors, for example, those of agriculture, water resources, health, land use, environment, energy, infrastructure development and finance and planning. There are also linkages with other cross-cutting policies, addressing most notably poverty eradication, planning for sustainable development, vulnerable groups, education and science.

Joint Meeting

The first Joint Meeting of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management and the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable will be held during the week of 8th – 11th July 2013 at the Sofitel Resort and Spa, Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji. The meeting is co-organised by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). Participants representing different stakeholder groups are expected to participate: Ministers and other political leaders, civil society, private sector, national government, local government and community representatives, donors, development partners, scientific community and others.

The broad objective of the Joint Meeting is to progress discussions and commitment on the development of the integrated strategy as part of the 'Roadmap' process endorsed by the Pacific region in 2011.

Specifically, the Joint Meeting will leverage the expertise of the DRM and Climate Change 'communities' and canvass the views and aspirations of a wide range of stakeholder/ interest groups in relation to the development of an integrated strategy. The outcomes of the meeting will also contribute to the development of the global Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (to replace the current Hyogo Framework for Action) and the Post-2015 Development Agenda (to replace the current UN Millennium Development Goals).

The objectives of the Joint Meeting in 2013 are to:

- Facilitate ongoing discussions between the 'DRM' and 'Climate Change' communities in the Pacific and provide an opportunity for specific interest groups and sectors to contribute to the formulation of the integrated strategy
- Facilitate the sharing of experiences and 'lessons learned' on DRM and Climate Change between the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) and stakeholders

The intended outcomes of the Joint Meeting are:

- Improved understanding of the 'Roadmap' process

- Guidance from PICTs and other stakeholders on priority issues and opportunities to be addressed in the integrated strategy
- Commitment for national, sub-national, regional and international collaboration and partnerships between DRM and Climate Change communities

Approach

The Joint Meeting will provide stakeholders the opportunity to contribute perspectives and recommendations to provide guidance and substance to the formulation of the integrated strategy. It will be comprised of:

- Special Sessions
- Thematic Sessions
- Side Events
- 'Sunset' Presentations

A Declaration will be formulated to capture the overall outcomes of the Joint Meeting. It will be finalised within one month following the Joint Meeting thus allowing participants a further opportunity to contribute. The finalisation of these documents will be undertaken jointly by the organisers in liaison with the host country.

Special Sessions

There will be two Special Sessions at the Joint Meeting, which will allow participants the opportunity to learn and contribute to ongoing discussions in relation to the post 2015 regional and global development agenda. The Special Sessions will be on the following:

- The 'Roadmap' – intended to help set the scene for the Joint Meeting by ensuring that all participants have a clear understanding of the process of developing an integrated strategy and related deliverables and milestones
- Post 2015 Development Agenda and Post Rio+20 – to facilitate learning of the regional and global processes and how the DRM and Climate Change communities can contribute
- High Level Dialogue – to provide Ministers and political leaders the opportunity to express their views on how to garner political support to advance the integration agenda and more specifically how disaster and climate risks can be more effectively integrated into the development agenda at national, sectoral and sub national levels. The theme for the High Level Dialogue will be “***The Vision and Role of Political Governance in integrating DRM and Climate Change approaches to reducing vulnerability and risk***”
- Post 2015 Global Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – consolidate the consultations that have already taken place on the development of a Post-2015 Global Framework for DRR and solicit further input from those who have not yet been engaged in DRR but can make positive contributions to reducing risk and building resilience.

Thematic Sessions

The Thematic Sessions will align to the theme: ***"From Vulnerability to Resilience: The Way forward for an Integrated Regional Strategy"***.

For each TS there is a sub-theme as listed below. These will provide participants with the opportunity to identify priority issues and opportunities that will be the subject of further country consultations and will ultimately be addressed in the integrated strategy. The contribution by participants will be in the context of the respective sub themes that are assigned to each TS. The coordinators for each Thematic Session will provide in advance key guiding questions to assist participants in their preparations.

The main sub themes for the respective Thematic Session (TS) are:

- TS 1: The National and Sub-National Response – How can National and Sub National Actors support an integrated strategy?
- TS 2: Resourcing Climate and Disaster Resilient Development
- TS 3: Increasing Resilience – The Role of Economic/Social Development Sectors
- TS 4: Risky Business - The Role of the Private/Commercial Sector
- TS 5: Vulnerable Groups –The need for an inclusive approach

Side Events

There will be opportunities for a number of Side Events during which participants will be able to organise presentations/discussions on topics linked to the overall theme of the meeting. Due to anticipated heavy demand for Side Events the organisers will issue the request for expressions of interest during the registration process prior to the meeting and then determine the allocation of available slots.

Side Meetings

Major conferences such as the Joint Meeting are often used by participants as an opportunity to network on matters of mutual interest. Mindful of this, participants will be provided with the chance to hold side meetings on **Thursday 11th July from 4.00pm to 6.00pm**. Participants will be able to use the meeting venue or other locations for this purpose. The responsibility for the organisation of such side meetings including any related costs will be borne by those organizing the side meetings.

'Sunset' Presentations

Fiji has been made good progress in addressing DRM and Climate Change Adaptation. The 'Sunset' presentations will allow participants, over different evenings, to learn about the progress being made in DRM and Climate Change Adaptation in Fiji.

Exhibition

An opportunity will be provided for organisations attending the Joint Meeting to display some of their work and activities during the course of the 4-day meeting. Those wishing to have displays will be required to indicate it during the registration process.

Timetable

A draft timetable for the Joint Meeting will be circulated.

Registration

Registration for the Joint Meeting including all Sessions will commence in May 2013. This will be made possible through a dedicated website: www.pacificdisasterclimatemeeting2013.net .