



Government of the Cook Islands

Climate Change Adaptation Reasoning to Support Project Design

Cook Islands Experience



ADAPTATION FUND



AKAMATUTU'ANGA KIA TUKATAU TE ORA'ANGA ITE PA ENUA



Government of the Cook Islands

Objective

To build and implement an integrated approach to further increase the adaptive capacity of remote island communities and ecosystems to disaster risk and climate change impacts

Project Components



Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.



Integrated water security management planning and implementation.



Revitalised agricultural production systems strengthening island food sources and livelihoods in the Pa Enuu.



Project Design

- Project Development Consultant
 - Climate Change Cook Islands
- Stakeholders
 - Government Agencies
 - Pa Enea Communities
 - Private Sector
 - NGOs and CSOs
 - Regional Agencies
 - Development Partners

Experience with the process of devising climate change adaptation rationale

- Upscale to previous AF funded SRIC-CC (Strengthening the Resilience of the Cook Islands to Climate Change) project
- Thematic Area:
 - Disaster Risk Reduction
- Climate-related Hazards addressed:
 - Drought / Water Scarcity
 - Sea Level Rise / Coastal flooding
- Climate rationale was very clear as the project had a strong water and food resilience focus, which impacts on people's livelihoods
 - Reduce climate vulnerabilities in agriculture and water management
- Focused on the implementation of on-the ground adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures at the community level in the Pa Enea

Experience in finding or generating the information needed to justify the adaptation rationale

- Cook Islands were fortunate to utilize the information and data from SRIC-CC project as a baseline for the development of the PEARL Project
- Climate Change Cook Islands – Climate Change National Adaptation Strategy and various plans
- Additional data through partnerships with UNDP, SPREP, SPC and other regional agencies
- Stakeholder consultations to collect and confirm information and data

Process used in designing and developing the proposed adaptation interventions?

- The PEARL project activities were based on aspects of the SRIC-CC project that worked and had the most impact on improving the resilience of communities
- Steps taken:
 1. Identifying and confirming the problem
 2. Review of existing interventions and identify gaps from previous projects
 3. Identifying and formulating further adaptation initiatives
 4. Identifying key barriers to proposed initiatives
 5. Formulate and outline the key results that the initiative is expected to achieve
- Alignment with national priorities were a consideration through out the development of the project

Key resources that aided the development of the project?

- Technical assistance in complex areas of the project development sections such as the ESS and Gender policy sections – these we found difficult in populating
- Having an independent reviewer to critique various drafts of the project design worked well
- Project Preparation support – funding to develop project proposals

What are some key challenges?

- Transition from project design to implementation
- Ongoing dialogue with all stakeholders is important right throughout the life cycle from the start (project design) to the completion of the project.



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Thank you for your support.

