



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

TWENTY-FIRST SPREP MEETING

Madang, Papua New Guinea
6 – 10 September 2010

Information Paper 1

Status of the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project and its Future Prospects

Purpose of Paper

1. To report on the implementation of the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP) and the need for the Secretariat to continue seeking resources for greenhouse gas mitigation and renewable energy development in the PICTs.
2. The PIGGAREP is a regional greenhouse gas mitigation project which aims to encourage the widespread utilisation of feasible renewable energy technologies. If successful, the PIGGAREP should reduce CO₂ emissions from PICTs by at least 30% by 2015 as compared to the business as usual scenario.

The Impacts of the PIGGAREP

3. The PIGGAREP has completed three (3) out of its five (5) years of implementation, strengthening the mitigation cornerstone of the Secretariat's climate change focal area and operating side-by-side with the GEF-funded Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project. The PIGGAREP has played the pivotal role of coordinating the mitigation working group of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable. The project has assisted members with their greenhouse gas inventories and technology needs assessments as part of their second national communication under the UNFCCC and building the capacity and raising awareness of members about the Clean Development Mechanism.



4. The PIGGAREP has also spearheaded the regional effort to support the renewable energy developments of member countries. In doing this, it has gained national, regional and international recognition as a key player on renewable energy for the Pacific Islands. The PIGGAREP has fostered closer cooperation and collaboration among key initiatives on renewable energy in the region. It is linked with and supports the lead role of SPC on energy in the Pacific. In particular there is close collaboration with the GEF-funded Actions for the Development of Marshall Islands' Renewable Energies (ADMIRE), Palau's Sustainable Economic Development through Renewable Energy Applications (SEDREA), renewable energy activities of PPA, SPC and USP, IUCN's Energy, Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative, the EU's Support to the Energy Sector in Five ACP Pacific Island Countries (REP-5), ADB's Energy for All Initiative, the World Bank's Energising the Pacific initiative, FAO's Bioenergy and Food Security effort and the work of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP). These are all carried out on the premise of the Many Partners, One Strategy, One Policy and One Plan that the SPC, as the lead energy agency, is coordinating.

The Commitments to Renewable Energy

5. At the 2009 Pacific Islands Forum, Leaders observed that renewable energy offers the promise of cost-effective, reliable energy services to rural households and will provide a contribution to global greenhouse gas mitigation efforts. Now is the time, with appropriate technology and expanding carbon markets, to drive the development of projects to bring to reality the promise of renewable solutions to the region's energy needs. Leaders also acknowledged the role that renewable energy targets can play in driving the transition of national energy sectors to a low carbon future and commended the initiatives of Tonga and Tuvalu in incorporating renewable energy targets into national energy strategies.

6. The PIGGAREP has committed an additional US\$120,000 to Tonga's Energy Road Map: 2010 – 2020 and is supporting solar and wind power developments in Tuvalu, plus the establishment of a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Unit at the Tuvalu Electricity Corporation.

7. The PIGGAREP has played a key role in raising the profile of renewable energy in the PICs. Table 1 shows the renewable energy targets in the PICs.

Table 1: Renewable Energy Targets in the PICs

PIC	Electrification Target to be met via Renewable Energy	Year of achieving the Electrification Target	Mandate
Cook Is	30%	2010	Adopted Energy Policy
Fiji	100% electrification (60% Renewable and 40% Non-renewable)	2016	Ministerial / PM announcement
FSM			
Kiribati	RE electricity to the 70% of its rural population		Adopted Energy Policy
Marshall Is	20%	2020	Adopted Energy Policy
Nauru	30%	2015	Adopted Energy Policy
Niue	100%		Announcement by Premier
Palau			
PNG			
Samoa	Increase by 20%	2030	Adopted Energy Policy
Solomon Is			
Tonga	50%	2012	Adopted Tonga Energy Road Map: 2010-2020:
Tuvalu	100%	2020	Ministerial / PM announcement
Vanuatu	25%	2012	Adopted Power Utility target

8. It is estimated that at least another US\$100 million will be spent on renewable energy hardware in the PICs within the next 5 years. These include Japan’s Cool Earth Partnership (US\$66 million), the EU EDF 10 (approx. US\$39 million) and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat-European Commission Joint Initiative to address Climate Change in the Pacific

SPREP’s On-going Support

9. The Secretariat, through the PIGGAREP, has been instrumental in raising the profile of renewable energy in the PICs. With its software-related focus, it has complemented bilateral, regional and multilateral efforts involving renewable energy hardware in the region. It has done so through targeted training workshops that address the specific needs and current renewable energy developments of members, reviews and evaluation of renewable energy projects on the ground, monitoring and feasibility studies and the documentation and dissemination of best practices and lessons learnt from the renewable energy installations in and outside of the region.

10. While the PIGGAREP has two more years to completion in mid-2012, the Secretariat has commenced identifying possible avenues to continue the momentum and improve services on renewable energy and greenhouse gas mitigation to members. The Identification Fiche for a 9 million Euro joint SPC-SPREP project has been approved by the EU. More recently, a concept note for 840,000 Euro was shortlisted for further development and to be funded under the EU Energy Facility II.

11. As with other GEF-funded regional projects such as the FFA's Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project, the Secretariat is following the GEF-5 developments and possible opportunities for support from the GEF.

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