



Pacific Climate Change Film Project

An innovative partnership between the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the British High Commission

Pacific island countries are among the most vulnerable nations in the world to the impacts of extreme weather events. Climate change will radically alter the social, economic and environmental fabric of Pacific communities.

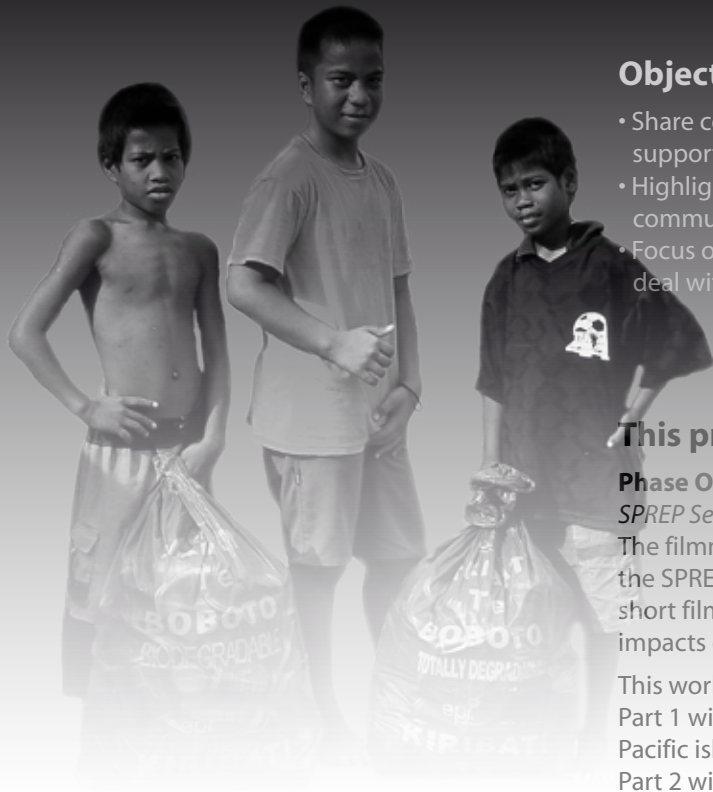
The challenge faced by Pacific island countries is how to engage people in the issue of climate change; to encourage not only a greater understanding of the issue, but to incite action. The challenge is also how to draw on the strengths of Pacific communities to adapt to climate variability and change.

This project aims to share inspiring stories about how Pacific communities are responding in this climate of global change.

The **Pacific Climate Change Film Project** will train and support media professionals, filmmakers and producers from five countries to research, develop and produce their own short film on how climate change is affecting their country. Their stories will not only highlight the effects of climate change, but share the inspirational stories about what is being done to reduce its impact. Participants involved in this project are from: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The films will be shown at the Pacific's first climate change related film festival **in Suva, Fiji August 2008.**





Objectives

- Share community stories of climate change issues through training and supporting filmmakers and producers from the Pacific.
- Highlight what people can do to increase the resilience of their island and communities to the impacts of climate change.
- Focus on the strengths and solutions within the community to prepare or deal with climate change in their country.

This project has three phases

Phase One: *Training workshop (21-25 January 2008)*

SPREP Secretariat, Apia, Samoa

The filmmakers or producers will attend a one-week training session at the SPREP Secretariat in Apia, Samoa on how to research and produce a short film on how communities are working together to reduce the impacts of climate change.

This workshop is divided into two parts:

Part 1 will focus on sharing information on climate change, its effects on Pacific islands, and what people can do in their communities.

Part 2 will focus on strengthening technical skills for producing the stories in-country, including story development and turning their stories into a short film.

Phase Two: *Story development (February – July 2008)*

Following the workshop, each participant will then return to their country of residence where they will be connected to a relevant media professional who will support their project. This will include the use of a camera, filming and editing equipment to develop this short film. During this time, SPREP will continue to liaise with the filmmakers and their partners or mentors, to monitor the development of their films.

Phase Three: *Film Festival (August 2008)*

Each participant will be expected to complete their short film for a mini-film festival in Suva, Fiji held in August 2008. This festival will not only highlight the participants' stories, but also showcase other films that raise awareness about climate change in the Pacific. Following this, SPREP hopes to showcase the short films throughout the region through its media partners.

How to get involved

Do you know of any climate change related films that could be shown as part of the Festival? Share your stories about how communities are dealing with climate change issues.

For more information

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SPREP is an intergovernmental organisation working with Pacific island countries and territories to strengthen environmental management and support sustainable development. SPREP recognises the importance of media and communications in promoting environmental sustainability, and works closely with key partners and media organisations to build capacity in this area.