

SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN THE PACIFIC REGION

Lautoka, Fiji | 26th - 28th July 2016

FINAL PROGRAMME

Venue: Tanoa Waterfront Hotel, Marine Dr. Lautoka, Fiji



BACKGROUND

The Pacific region is affected by climate change at different levels. According to the 5th Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), current and future climate-related drivers of risk for small islands during the 21st century include sea-level rise, tropical and extra-tropical cyclones, increasing air and sea surface temperatures, as well changing rainfall patterns, among others.

The future risks associated with these drivers, according to IPCC, include loss of adaptive capacity and damages to ecosystem services critical to lives and livelihoods in small islands. In addition, sea-level rise are mentioned as posing one of the most widely recognized climate change threats to low-lying coastal areas on islands and atolls. Furthermore, given the dependence of island communities on coral reef ecosystems for a range of services including coastal protection, subsistence fisheries and tourism, there is high confidence that coral reef ecosystem degradation will negatively impact island communities and livelihoods. Given the inherent physical characteristics of small islands, AR5 reconfirms the high level of vulnerability of small islands to multiple stressors, both climate and non-climate. These elements illustrate the fact that, in addition to the necessary measures in the field of environmental mitigation, adaptation approaches are urgently needed.

The above state of affairs illustrates the need for a better understanding of how climate change affects the Pacific region, and for the identification of processes, methods and tools which may help the countries in the region to adapt. There is also a perceived need to showcase successful examples of how to cope with the social, economic and political problems posed by climate change in Pacific countries.

It is against this background that the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN THE PACIFIC REGION**” is being organized by the University of Fiji, the Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and the International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP). The Symposium will be a truly interdisciplinary event, mobilizing scholars, practitioners and members of governmental agencies, undertaking research and/or executing climate change projects in the Pacific region.

The “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN THE PACIFIC REGION**” will be held on the Saweni Campus of The University of Fiji, situated in **Lautoka**, which is around 25 Km away from the international airport in Nadi, used by most international flights arriving in Fiji. The Symposium will focus on “fostering resilience and the regional capacity to adapt”, meaning that it will serve the purpose of showcasing experiences from research, field projects and best practice in climate change adaptation among countries in the region, which may be useful or implemented elsewhere.



AIMS

Consistent with the need for more cross-sectoral interactions among the various stakeholders working in the field of climate change adaptation in the Pacific region, the aims of the “**SYMPOSIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN THE PACIFIC REGION**” are as follows:

- I. to provide research institutions, universities, NGOs, government agencies and enterprises from Pacific countries with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change adaptation;
- II. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change adaptation projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice across the region;
- III. to discuss methodological approaches and experiences deriving from case studies and projects, which aim to show how climate change adaptation may be implemented in practice;
- IV. to network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, the **book “Climate Change Adaptation in Pacific Countries: Fostering Resilience and Improving the Quality of Life”** will be published, with all accepted papers. This will be a further volume of the award-winning book series “Climate Change Management” published by Springer, which since its creation in 2008 has become the world’s leading book series on climate change management. The decision of the editors as to which papers may be selected and undergo peer review for the book is final.

ORGANISERS

Co-Chairs

- Professor Walter Leal, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
- Professor Prem Misir, The University of Fiji

Coordinator

- Roselyn Naidu, The University of Fiji



Scientific Committee

- Luke He, Meteorologist, Climate Prediction Center, NCEP/NWS/NOAA, USA
- Aysin Dedekorkut-Howes, Griffith University, Australia
- Dr. Brent Jacobs, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia
- Professor Y.Kuleshov, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, Australia
- Dr. Ajal Kumar, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji
- Dr. Johana Nalau, Griffith University, Australia
- Professor Dan Orchard, Fiji National University, Fiji
- Dr. Antoine de Ramon N'Yeurt, European Union Global Climate Change Alliance Project (EUGCCA), The University of the South Pacific, Fiji
- Professor Anirudh Singh, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji

Scientific Support

- Dr Jelena Barbir, International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)

Cooperating Organisations

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
- International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)
- International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)



PROGRAMME

26th JULY 2016

16:00-18:00 – Arrival and Registration

19:00-20:00 – Informal get together at the Waterfront Hotel Bar for informal chats (Optional)

27th JULY 2016

09:00- 09: 30- Welcome and Opening

09:30-09:45- Tour de Table: Brief introduction of each participant

09:45-10:30- Key Note Speech- Implementing climate change adaptation interventions in remote outer islands of the Pacific Island region (Gillian Cambers and Titilia Rabuatoka, Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji)

10:30-11:00- Break

11:00-12:30- Session 1: Implementing Climate Change Adaptation in Rural Areas and Communities, Cities, Countries and via Outreach Programmes (Main Conference Room)

Chair: Dan Ware, Griffith University, Australia

11:00-11:20- Customary Land and Climate Change Induced Relocation – A Case Study of Vunidogoloa Village, Vanua Levu, Fiji (Priyatma Singh, University of Fiji, Fiji)

11:20-11:40- Climate change and migration in the Maldives: Some lessons for policy makers (Johannes Luetz, CHC Higher Education, Brisbane, Australia)

11:40-12:00- Regional organisations and climate change adaptation in small island developing states (Stacy-ann Robinson and Daniel Gilfillan, The Australian National University, Australia, Australia)

12:00-12:20- Climate Change Futures Modelling (Ruth Irwin, University of Fiji, Fiji)

12:20-12:30- Discussion

12:30-13:30- Lunch



13:30- 14:00- Plenary speech (Main Conference Room): Cyclone Winston in Fiji: Climate Change Risk Perceptions, Posttraumatic Stress, Coping, and Resilience among Survivors (David Sattler and Albert Whippy, Western Washington University /University of the South Pacific, USA/Fiji)

14:00-15:30- Session 2A: Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including droughts/floods) (Main Conference Room) Chair: Dinesh Surroop, University of Mauritius, Mauritius

14:00-14:20- Preparing for better livelihoods, health and well-being – A key to climate change adaptation (Peni Hausia Havea, University of the South Pacific ,Fiji)

14:20-14:40- Climate-friendly adaptation strategies for the displaced atoll population in Yap (Murukesan V. Krishnapillai, Cooperative Research and Extension, College of Micronesia-FSM, Federated States of Micronesia)

14:40-15:00- Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Vanuatu: the Art and Practice of Building Resilience to Hazards (Astrid Vachette, Centre for Disaster Studies, James Cook University, Australia)

15:00-15:20- Response of Foraminifer Species (*Marginopora vertebralis*) from Laucala Bay, Fiji to changing Ocean pH (Roselyn Naidu, University of Fiji, Fiji)

15:20-15:30- Discussion

15:30-16:00- Break

16:00-17:30- Special Seminar: Role, Activities and Key Findings of the IPCC (Main Conference Room)

This seminar will raise awareness about the key findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on the impacts of climate change in the Pacific region and the potential solutions. It will explore how experts and scientists from the region can be involved in the future work of the IPCC and how policymakers and practitioners can utilize the most recent findings to ensure that their decisions are based on the best available scientific knowledge on climate change.

19:00-21:00- Dinner with typical food (a buffet catering for various dietary requirements accompanied by soft drinks will be served), hosted in partnership with “USAID’s Pacific-American Climate Fund.”



"IPCC and the Pacific: Utilizing IPCC Science and Creating Opportunities for an Increasing Voice for the Pacific Islands"

Seminar to the Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific Region
Lautoka, Fiji

Moderated by Walter Leal

16:00–16:30 Communicating the IPCC findings, its role and its products within the Pacific context

Dr Elisabeth Holland, Director of the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development, Fiji and Lead Author of Chapter 7 on Coupling between Changes in the Climate System and Biogeochemistry of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Working Group I Report

Description: This presentation will focus on the importance of communicating the key findings of the IPCC to foster better understanding about the impacts of climate change in the Pacific region and the potential solutions. A dialogue between IPCC and Pacific decision makers is needed to ensure strong science to guide local to global policies impacting the Pacific. The presentation and the dialogue will explore how policymakers and practitioners from the region could utilize the most recent findings to ensure that their decisions are based on the best available scientific knowledge on climate change. The presentation is designed to catalyze the synthesis Pacific research to inspire the participation of the local science community in climate research and encourage regional contribution to the Sixth Assessment cycle.

16:30 –17:00 Climate change impacts, risks and solutions for the Pacific: IPCC Fifth Assessment Report key findings

Dr Arthur Webb, Senior Fellow at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), former Coastal Processes Advisor at the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) and Lead Author of Chapter 29 on Small Islands of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Working Group II Report

Description: This presentation will raise awareness about the outcomes of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), the most comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of scientific knowledge on climate change, its causes, potential impacts and response strategies. The presentation will discuss the impacts of climate change in Small Island environments and highlight solutions to the challenges. In particular, it will highlight the key messages of the Working Group II contribution to the AR5 dealing with climate change vulnerabilities, adaptation and impacts and present the main findings of the chapter dedicated to small islands with a regional focus.

17:00 – 17:30 Question and answer session



28th JULY 2016

09:00- 09:30- Plenary Speech (Main Conference Room): The role and capacity of government in crisis: Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu (Dr Johanna Nalau (speaker), Griffith Climate Change Response Program (GCCRP)/Griffith Institute for Tourism, Australia, Professor John Handmer, Centre for Risk & Community Safety, Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences, RMIT University; and Malcolm Dalesa, UNDP National Programme Manager, Pacific Risk Resilience Programme (Vanuatu)

09:30-10:50- Session 2B: Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including droughts/floods) (Main Conference Room) Chair: Johannes Luetz, CHC Higher Education, Australia

09:30-09:50- Response and adaptation to climate change in the South China Sea and Coral Sea (Rongshuo Cai, Third Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration of China, China)

09:50-10:10- Drought Modelling based on Artificial Intelligence and Neural Network Algorithms: A case study in Queensland, Australia (Kavina Shaanu Dayal, University of Southern Queensland, Australia)

10:10-10:30- Adapting Pacific Climate Change Projections to Pacific Maritime supply Chains (Jack Dyer, University of Tasmania Maritime College, Australia)

10:30-10:50- Climate Change Adaptation in Pacific Countries: fostering resilience through gender equality (Allanah Marie Kidd, UN Women, Fiji)

10:50-11:10- Break

09:30-10:50- Session 3A: Information, Communication, Education and Training on Climate Change (Room 2)- Chair: Astrid Vachette, James Cook University, Australia

09:30-09:50- Towards a Mega-Pacific Islands Education Curriculum for Climate Adaptation Blending Traditional Knowledge in Modern Curriculum (Mohamed Walid, London School of Economics, UK)

09:50-10:10- Dynamic adaptive management process for drinking water security in Kiribati (Pierre Mukheibir, Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney, Australia)

10:00-10:30- Fostering Adaptation Across Settings: the International Climate Change Information Programme (Walter Leal, HAW Hamburg, Germany)

10:30-10:50- Communicating climate change through the media: Triggers and news coverage. (Lagipoiva Cherelle Jackson, Center of Samoan Studies, National University of Samoa)



09:30-10:50- Session 4: L³EAP - LifeLong Learning for Energy security, access and efficiency in African and Pacific SIDS (Room 3) Chair: Anirudh Singh, University of South Pacific

09:30-09:50- Lifelong learning for energy practitioners in Mauritius (Pravesh Raghoo, University of Mauritius, Mauritius)

09:50-10:10- Energy access and security in the small island developing state of Mauritius (Dinesh Surroop, University of Mauritius, Mauritius)

10:10- 10:30- L3EAP Online Learning Source "Sustainable Energy in SIDS" (Franziska Wolf, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany)

10:30-10:50- Discussion

10:50-11:10- Break

11:10-12:30- Session 2C: Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including droughts/floods) (Main Conference Room) Chair: Tabea Lissner, Climate Analytics, Germany

11:10- 11:30- Urban Resilience to Climate-Related Disasters: Emerging Lessons from Resilience Policy and Practice in Coastal Tourism Cities (Elnaz Torabi, Griffith University, Gold Coast, Australia)

11:30-11:50- Climate Change Adaptation Outreach and Income Diversification through Sustainable Small-scale Mariculture Ventures in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (Simon Ellis, Marine and Environmental Research Institute of Pohnpei (MERIP), Federated States of Micronesia)

11:50-12:10- Pacific Possible: Resilient Futures (Denis Jordy, World Bank, Pacific Islands)

12:10-12:30- Coastal erosion monitoring on the Ouvea island (New-Caledonia) for involve local population to climate change adaptation (M. Le Duff, P. Dumas, M. Allenbach, O.Cohen, University of New Caledonia, New Caledonia)

13:30-15:30- Session 3B: Information, Communication, Education and Training on Climate Change (Room 2) Chair: Franziska Wolf, HAW Hamburg, Germany

13:30-13:50- Behind the lens: First-hand images and videos collected by communities that document the impact of climate change in Milne Bay, PNG (David Kym Mitchell, George Aigoma, Conservation International /Eco Custodian Advocates, Papua New Guinea)

13:50-14:10- A case for formal education in the technical, vocational education and training (TVET) sector for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the Pacific islands region (Hemstock S.H., Jacot Des Combes H., Martin T., Vaike F.L., Maitava, K., Buliruarua L.-A., Satiki V., Kua N., Marawa T, Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji)



14:10-14:30- Piecing together the adaptation puzzle for small island states (Tabea Lissner, Climate Analytics, Germany)

14:30-14:50- Using modelling outputs to inform coastal climate change adaptation studies: practical tips for adaptation planners and scientists (Gregory Fisk, BMT WBM Pty Ltd, Australia)

14:50-15:10- Strengthening governance and resource management for climate resilient communities in Fiji (Rusila Savou, WWF, Fiji)

15:10-15:30- Discussion

15:30-16:00- Break

16:00-16:30- Final Session: Conclusions and hand-over of the Best Papers Awards (**Main Conference Room**)

13:30-15:30- Session 5: Trends on Climate Change Adaptation (Main Conference Room) Chair: Roselyn Naidu, University of Fiji

13:30-13:50- Beekeeping as Pro-Forest Income Diversification in Solomon Islands (Wilko Bosma, Stephen Suti (Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF) and Payton Deeks (Pacific-American Climate Fund)), Solomon Islands

13:50-14:10- Coupling Disaster and Financial Management to Reduce Vulnerability; Challenging Traditional Mindset; Experiences from the Community (Su'a Julia Wallwork, ADRA Samoa, Samoa)

14:10-14:30- Connecting theory and practice; Ecosystem based adaptation in the Pacific (Daniel Ware, Griffith University, Australia)

14:30-14:50- Coastal Climate Adaptation: A Policy Analysis of the City of Gold Coast (Aysin Dedekorkut-Howes, Griffith University, Australia)

14:50-15:30- Discussion

15:30-16:00- Break

16:00-16:30- Final Session: Conclusions and hand-over of the Best Papers Awards (**Main Conference Room**)



COOPERATION PARTNER

The Symposium is organised in cooperation with the project L3EAP, funded by the EDULINK Programme of the European Union. The purpose of the L³EAP project is to increase the capacity of universities in African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) SIDS to deliver high-quality Lifelong Learning courses on the topics of energy access, security and efficiency.

*LifeLong Learning for Energy security, access and efficiency
in African and Pacific Small Island Developing States*



Further details can be seen at: <http://www.project-l3eap.eu>