



Climate Change continues to be a pressing issue in the world and its effects, causes a strain on the economical, environmental, cultural, political, and daily livelihoods of people. Pacific Islanders, specifically, are more vulnerable to the implications of climate change, as they live in smaller islands and atolls, and the inconsistent weather patterns has deteriorated their food and water sources. Pacific Islanders have also been victims to some of the strongest cyclones and floods in the region, which has destroyed their homes, schools, access to necessities and livelihood. The growing concern to mitigate and adapt to the challenges climate change brings to the Pacific, has called on the need to build more resilience in villages and communities.

Through the Pacific Community (SPC), the Pacific Adaption to Climate Change and Resilience (PACRES) project works to increase resilience across 15 Pacific Island countries by providing opportunities and resources for capacity building, education, resilience qualifications, and training. This allows Pacific Islanders to strengthen their climate action to mitigate and adapt to climate change through knowledge sharing and learning.

SPC is the lead for the implementation of Key Result Area (KRA) 4: This is where the Pacific regional organisations and Pacific countries share information, results and knowledge about climate action and strengthen their capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

With the objective to build resilient communities through self-reliance, the PACRES team at SPC has implemented the Community of Practice (COP) initiative in villages and communities, to equip them with lifelong skills that would influence their independence and self-sufficiency after they are met with a natural disaster.

PACRES is a
EUR \$2.5 million project
Funded by the European Union

Implementation:
June 2019 to 30 June 2023

- Jointly implemented by:
- South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
 - Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)
 - Pacific Community (SPC)
 - University of the South Pacific (USP)

PACRES covers 15 Pacific Island countries which includes:
Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Project Objective

To formalise resilience sectors in the Pacific as Communities of Practice (COP), Key Result Area 4.1 focuses on developing communities at regional and national level, with dedicated institutional, policy arrangements and a budget, to pilot its implementation in one of the Pacific ACP countries. The lessons learnt from the pilot should provide the formalisation of resilience sectors in the whole of the Pacific ACP region.

Since communities in focus are specifically prone to floods, cyclones and soil erosion, the resilience efforts and awareness trainings are focused and contextualized to teaching the community members, the fundamental skills in ensuring their safety before, during and after a natural disaster.

Expected outcomes



Community leaders sign a pledge with SPC, indicating their commitment to build a resilient community through self-reliance.



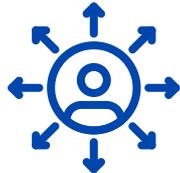
The proper utilisation of the 72-hour resilient kit. This contains essential items, such as a transistor radio, torch and first-aid kit box.



Increased participation in subsistence farming to ensure food security.



Management of finances such as a secure savings as contingency or generated revenue from upskilling courses.



Upskilling opportunities for men, women and youths to provide employment and income opportunities for all

Project Details

The Pacific Community (SPC) is leading the implementation, formalisation overall coordination of COP activities in the Pacific and is supported by the University of the South Pacific. The EUR \$2.5 million project is funded by the European Union.

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Photographs of COP activities conducted in villages in Fiji



More information

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Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique