

**Summary of Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting for the
Implementing a 'Ridge to Reef' approach to protect biodiversity and
ecosystem functions in Tuvalu (Ridge to Reef Project Tuvalu)
Friday January 23, 2015
TuFHA Conference Room, Funafuti**

Present: Refer to Annex 1.

Chairperson: Director for Department of Environment, Mataio Tekinene.

Background

Following GEF's approval of the Tuvalu Ridge to Reef Project Identification Form in September 2013, and in view of the need to submit proposal to the Global Environment Facility by March, a Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting was scheduled on Thursday January 2. The purpose of the PAC is to for Government and UNDP to jointly review and approve the project proposal. Key sections of the proposal including the implementation, management arrangements, monitoring framework and evaluation and strategy were discussed in depth. It is a requirement that government fully understand and appreciates proposal details prior to endorsement.

Based on the scope of the project proposal, Government and UNDP decided to facilitate Pre-LPAC discussions leading up to the LPAC meeting on January 23. The Ridge to Reef Project is unique in that it is multi focal in nature covering Land Degradation, Biodiversity and International Waters. This is a full sized project with a budget of US\$3, 762,844, inclusive of several components and will support demonstration activities on all 9 islands in Tuvalu. At the national level, the project will attempt to strengthen national policies and planning processes. The Tuvalu Ridge to Reef Project is a large and complicated proposal including participation of several stakeholders. Hence, the need to ensure improved stakeholder understanding prior to the LPAC meeting.

The consultations were divided into three discussions:

- **Wednesday 21 January:** discussions between UNDP and government departments which will be involved in implementing activities of the project. The purpose of this discussion was to ensure that these key government departments and UNDP had a common level of understanding before opening up discussion to a wider audience the following day;
- **Thursday 22 January:** wider stakeholder consultations reviewed the proposal including members of the National Advisory Committee on Climate Change (NACC) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);
- **Friday 23 January:** Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting;

Presentation and discussion of Tuvalu Ridge to Reef Project Proposal

The UNDP Mission Team and national consultant supported government in providing a presentation on the back ground to the process undertaken to date and details of the Project

Preparatory Grant Phase. A pamphlet of the Ridge to Reef Project provided visual aids aimed to illustrating the nature of the proposal.

Table Summarizing Discussion of LPAC Meeting

All throughout the document	<p>Make sure gender indicators are consistent. (30? 40? 50 %?). There is no current indicator target for gender participation. According to Women Department (Mrs Isimasi) it is required to have or included women participation, as well as children and disability people. The target mentioned in prodoc is sufficient to include gender (30%) and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Committee Response:</p> <p>Endorsed 30% target which is based on a 2011 Millennium Development Goal Report. Explained that there is a difference between participation and decision making. For example, women may participate in discussion but on some islands male members are traditionally the decision makers.</p>
	<p>Make sure MPAs/LMMAs are consistent and defined (i.e. only no take zones or other management methods)</p>
	<p>Make sure that the area of MPA/LMMA expansion are consistent (15% increase, approximately 1200 ha, 12km²).</p>
	<p>Make sure that number of sites are consistent – 9 sites. 8 policies/Kaupules (Niulakita does not have its own Kaupule?) – throughout the document</p>
Component 1	<p>Component 1 of Ridge to Reef Project having links to Outcome 1 of the NAPA 2 Project (potential for collaboration and need to plan implementation of activities jointly)</p> <p>Response: during inception workshop, Ridge to Reef Project to plan activities in collaboration with NAPA 2 Project</p>
Output 1.1.1	<p>Integrated Island Biodiversity (IIB) Project is considering to do a BIORAP study (a rapid biodiversity survey) in selected islands. R2R will provide GIS Maps for the implementation of component 1 and IIB target.</p> <p>Response – include in project baselines (Section 2 and Results Framework) and Section 2 narrative on activity description that the R2R project will build on this effort.</p>
Output 1.1.1a.	<p>BIORAP project recommended that implementation of Marine Protected Areas must be island specific /contextualised i.e. management rules will vary per island depending on circumstances.</p> <p>Response – to be included in narrative and considered during implementation</p>

	<p>What is the role of Department of Fishery in Outcome 1?</p> <p><i>Response</i> – provision of technical support for implementation of component 1 and implementation of activities</p> <p>Request for GIS maps (marine and terrestrial) to be centrally located, stored and made available even after completion of project.</p> <p><i>Response-</i> to be reflected in narrative section. Department of Lands to take lead role in mapping and ensuring they are available after project life. Having central access /central depository for terrestrial and marine maps</p>
Activity 1.1.2 b)	<p>Committee asked whether activities can be extended to other islands, i.e. Nukulealae.</p> <p><i>Response</i> – Add in footnote that: during project implementation, if there is a scalable method that has been developed that is valuable and feasible to be scaled to other locations under the project scope, this can be discussed at the Project Board. However, within the project document, keep as 3 pilot islands.</p>
Output 1.1.3	<p>For community monitoring/training events for R2R, MPAs, etc, link with existing events, i.e. Island Day, etc targeting island groups/feituala day, youth group day rather than creating new, independent event. The issue of legalisation of MPA to be reviewed tailored to island needs and culture specifically the harvesting of the areas.</p> <p><i>Response</i> – Add this in project document Section 2 narrative section where you elaborate on Output 1.1.3.</p>
Component 2	<p>Committee asked whether IWRM and ICM policies would be compiled by the Project Coordination Unit.</p> <p><i>Response:</i> Project budgeted for a consultant to assist project in compiling these policies.</p> <p>R2R to review activities to avoid duplication. NAPA1, SLM and others have done replanting of plants. Implement activities that are tangible. Trees planted previously will not bring immediate effect and not an immediate solution to loss of current native trees.</p> <p><i>Response:</i> Before implementation activities and baselines will be revisited to identify the priority areas per this component. To be mentioned in the narrative.</p>
Output 2.1.2	<p>Health and nutrition should be added as one of the criteria in deciding what to plant in the 3 sites.</p>
Activity 2.1.2 a)	<p><i>Response</i> -- Add this briefly in project document Section 2 narrative section where you elaborate on Output 2.1.2.</p>

<p>Output 2.1.2 Activity 2.1.2 e)</p>	<p>In addition to Happy Garden Initiative, trainees should also visit / learn from the GCCA agroforestry sites in Funafuti.</p> <p><i>Response</i> – Add this briefly in project document Section 2 narrative section where you elaborate on Output 2.1.2 activity and baselines. Also include in baselines throughout the document, i.e. Results Framework</p>
<p>Output 2.1.2 Activity 2.1.2 a)</p>	<p>In addition to replanting, request for restoration of existing large trees which are threatened by erosion, as one of the methods to be considered for SLM/Biodiversity technique. Through the IIB project, there is a sense in the island communities that protecting large trees is a priority over replanting in enhancing island biodiversity</p> <p><i>Response:</i> During implementation, the project team is encouraged to consider including restoration of plant biodiversity as a climate resilient SLM technique if relevant, effective, and requested by communities during implementation. This will be added to the narrative section of the Project Document under Section 2 Output 2.1.2.</p>
<p>Output 2.1.3 Activity 2.1.3 b)</p>	<p>PACC/IWRM did a survey on compost toilets need in households which showed high demand.</p> <p><i>Response</i> – add this to baselines throughout the project document and Section 2 narrative where you elaborate on Output 2.1.3.</p> <p>Department of Lands participated in survey with SOPAC of which the results of report noted that some compost toilets are not complete and not all being used by households. (SOPAC has survey report –available from Arieta).</p> <p>Department of Fishery request to do a baseline study on level of success & community enthusiasm in toilet. SWAT noted that some toilets were distributed to households which were not in need of compost toilets i.e. needy communities were left out. Lesson learnt identifying needy communities prior to supporting compost toilets.</p>
<p>Component 3</p>	<p>Department of Agriculture request that stakeholder groups are more strategically targeted.</p> <p><i>Response:</i> During implementation project will endeavor to do a thorough analysis of stakeholder mapping/analysis and identify key events on each islands i.e. community stakeholders engagement of fishermen, children and other important social functions (religious gatherings & other special days such island days, island constitution days)</p>
<p>Activity 3.1.1 (a)</p>	<p>Technical working group requested collaboration with/consideration of NAPA1</p> <p><i>Response:</i> to be included in revised project proposal</p>
<p>Component 3 & 4</p>	<p>Knowledge and training materials should be translated in local language and easily understood by the public and stakeholders.</p> <p><i>Response</i> – please ensure that this is reflected in Section 2 narrative, project results</p>

	framework and budget
Output 4.1.2:	<p>Technical Working Group requested that knowledge products are translated into local language</p> <p>Response: This will be facilitated during implementation as well as ensure that it is included in the project budget</p>
Management arrangement	<p>Technical working group consisting of technical leads of each component should be placed above components, and under PIU.</p> <p>Response – revise diagram and insert description of the TWG (with titles and responsibilities of each participants, level of representation and frequency of meetings detailed in the project document and ToR.</p> <p>Roles of TWG to include coordination, planning of activities, and providing strategic advice. Nominated representatives will most likely be technical officers from Departments.</p> <p>Senior Beneficiary - Stakeholders requested inclusion of Ministry of Natural Resources (in addition to the Ministry of Home Affairs) as many of the Components will be led by departments under MNR</p> <p>Response – revise diagram and insert Ministry of Natural Resources. Furthermore, Memorandum of Understandings: MoU to be signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, Tourism, Environment and Labor (MFATEL) and respective Ministries implementing Components 1, 2,3 &4</p> <p>Response: Make following changes in the Project Document</p> <p><i>Implementing Agencies:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1- Inclusion of Ministry of Natural Resources (Department of Lands and Survey) and Tuvaluan Association of Non- Governmental Organizations • Component 2 - Inclusion of Ministry of Natural Resources (Department of Lands and Survey) and Ministry of Home Affairs and Rural Development ,Ministry of Natural Resources (Department of Agriculture), Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu and Department of Gender • Component 3- Inclusion of Ministry of Home Affairs and Rural Development and the Ministry of Natural Resources (Department of Agriculture) • Component 4 - Inclusion of the Tuvalu Media Department and the Ministry of Natural Resources (Department of Lands and Survey) • Addition of a Component 5, Project Management Unit <p>Technical support to be provided from regional agencies including Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), SPC –SOPAC and Secretariat of the Pacific</p>

Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) suggestion for the Department of Environment to correspond to the SPREP seeking official confirmation of technical support for Ridge to Reef Project (informally regional agencies have agreed to support project)

Response: to be reflected in project document management arrangement section. Furthermore, detail of technical support from regional agencies to be more detailed and including in narrative sections under Section 2. Furthermore, Department of Environment to submit formal request for assistance to the regional agencies

Stakeholders requested clarification on whether all Project Implementation Unit would be funded by Ridge to Reef Project

Response: Staff in PIU are already budgeted to be financed through project staff. In the ToR, make sure that where the key staff are financed is clearly outlined.

ToRs

Island officers will have annual work plans endorsed by Kaupule's and Project Board. Their work plan progress will be monitored by project coordinator and Kaupule. Their performance evaluation will be done annually (with midterm updates) by Project Coordinator and Kaupule representative. Island secretary endorses quarterly project reports submitted by the Island Ridge to Reef Officers. During initial awareness raising trips to outer islands the Department of Environment enters into agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) with island Kaupules. Annual Work Plan for the Island Ridge to Reef Officers is endorsed by the Project Board as well as the Kaupules & executing agencies ensure regular follow ups i.e. outer island missions.). A standard template for reporting is developed for their monthly reports.

Response -- include this in Island Officer description and ToR (annex) and within the Project Document management arrangement section (where t

All staff funded through the project will conduct annual (with midterm updates) evaluations. For the Project Coordinator, the performance will be evaluated by Director of Environment (or A/PS MFATTEL) and UNDP.

Response – add evaluation method and reporting lines in the project document position description and ToRs (annex)

Follow-up Actions

Other comments: Department of Environment to circulate a copy of minutes of discussion early next week


Endorsement

The participants were satisfied with discussions and endorsed the proposal. The participants also noted that follow-up actions to address comments are work-in-progress that needs to be discussed between UNDP and Department of Environment, prior to submission to the GEF in March.

Signature of LPAC Chair



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Signed on behalf of Government
(Mataio Tekinene)
(Director Department of Environment)
Date: 29.01.15



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Signed on behalf of UNDP
(Asenaca Ravivui)
(Assistant Resident Representative Programs)
Date: 11.02.15

Annex 1: Participants List

Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Consultation of January 23

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Floyd Robinson, UNDP Environment Analyst, (floyd.robinson@undp.org)

Wider Stakeholder Consultation of January 22

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Pre LPAC discussions with key stakeholders of January 21

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