

	United Nations Development Programme Pacific Office	BACK TO OFFICE REPORT (BTOR)	
		Submitted by: Navin Bhan	Title: Associate Project Manager
		Date Submitted: December 9, 2019	TA Serial Number:
1. Practice Area: RESPAC Project, Pacific Office 2. Service Line(s): Climate Early Warning, Disaster Preparedness and Recovery			
3. Mission Period (incl. of travel days):			
From: 1 December 2019		To: 7 December 2019	
4. Type of Service/Mission	5. Client(s)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy <input type="checkbox"/> Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Advice <input type="checkbox"/> Programme / Technical Backstopping <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Person <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Technical Consultations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training / Capacity Development <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify):	Fiji Meteorological Services Sectoral Counterparts – NDMO, Sugar Research, Agriculture, Health, Tourism, Infrastructure		
6. Purpose of Mission: National Climate Outlook Forum for Fiji (NCOF)	7. Documents, Materials, Resources from Mission - NCOF Agenda		
8. Mission Member(s) (include consultants if any) Levan Bouadze – Resident Representative Noud Leenders – Project Manager - RESPAC Navin Bhan – Associate Project Manager – RESPAC Savita Chand – M&E Consultant Merana Rigamoto – Communications Associate Luisa Nabalarua – Project Assistant	9. Cost (for RCC staff only) Air ticket = USD750 DSA and Terminals = USD3,000		
10. Brief Summary of the Mission: 10A. Findings			
Background			
<p>Under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), there is a global shift to transform climate services and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) are at the forefront of this change. Primary reason for this shift in delivering climate services is the importance of climate change and WMO has mandated its members through the NMHS to inform as well as gather relevant information from all economic sectors on how climate change is impacting society and quality of living. Integrated within the Global Framework for Climate Services is the need for countries to have at least one National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF). For Fiji, the lead NMHS is the Fiji Meteorological Services (FMS) under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, National Disaster Management and Meteorology. At FMS's request, RESPAC will be supporting the Fiji's second NCOF and preliminary meetings have taken place between RESPAC Staff and their FMS counterparts. This BTOR focuses on the NCOF week and the week-long event that started on December 2 and concluded on December 6th.</p>			
Pre National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) Meeting			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A total of 30 participants from various sectors including the National Disaster Management Office, the Sugar Industry represented by the Sugar Research Institute, the Agriculture Sector represented by the Ministry of Agriculture Planning and Research Extension Offices, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Infrastructure were invited to the Pre-NCOF meetings primarily to discuss the products released by the FMS. A detailed list of FMS products can be found under Annex 1. 			

- Stakeholders were invited to provide their comments on the usefulness of the climate products and whether they were additional information needs which at present were not satisfied through the FMS (Climate Division).
- The Pre-NCOF meeting was concluded with a pledge by all stakeholders to work more diligently to resolve common needs at both ends, i.e. in terms of the information provider and the information recipient.

National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) December 4 – 6, 2019

- The NCOF took place from December 4 – 6 at the same venue of the Pre-NCOF meeting, which is the Tanoa Hotel. Over 70 delegates from various sectors and Government departments attended the event. Mr. George Tavo, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation, and Mr. Levan Bouadze officiated the opening of the event.
- At the request of the FMS, Mr. Simon McGree, Scientific Officer with the Bureau of Meteorology attended the meeting funded by RESPAC.
- The structure of the NCOF focused on the presentation of FMS products and some discussion on Fiji's overall climate and trends. The second day was devoted to discussions by sectors and each was given ample time to dissect and comment on the usefulness of the climate products. Several recommendations were noted and this will be reflected in the final report.
- Participants requested for a site visit to the FMS headquarters in Namaka and this was organized in the afternoon of the 3rd day.

10B. Results Achieved (concrete outputs)

- The NCOF for Fiji was a major success not only in terms of attendance and participation but most importantly in terms of the outputs and the commitment by stakeholders to organize post forum working committee with an aim to improve sectoral update of climate issues.
- 6 Sectors (Sugar Research, Agriculture, Maritime, Infrastructure, Tourism and Health) were prominent in the NCOF. Further follow up and work programmes need to be developed to allow FMS and its partners to interact regularly.

10C. Expected Outcome(s) and Impact

The impact of climate on economic sectors and livelihoods is a topic that has been widely debated however the research and science is only at the nascent stage. Further development is required to enhance the science and knowledge through dedicated knowledge building and sharing platforms. The participation of the University of Fiji and the Ministry of Education was a welcome opportunity for FMS to engage further and build on their research portfolio. It also provides a good opportunity for the Ministry to take stock of where it is and what additional staffing and funding it will require to push forward with enhanced future uptake of climate by sectors.

11. Key counterpart (s) and persons you met in each location and their contact details:

Name:

Ministry of Infrastructure, Transportation, Disaster Management and Meteorology

Mr. George Tavo, Deputy Secretary

Fiji Meteorological Services

Mr. Terry Atalifo, Acting Director

12. Follow-up Action Matrix

12.1 Disaster Resilience for Pacific SIDs (RESPAC)

Actions to be taken	By Whom	Expected Completion Date
Preliminary (Draft) Report on Pre-NCOF and NCOF meetings	Navin Bhan	15 December
Finalize report and printing	Navin Bhan	10 January
Disseminate report and formation of sectoral committees	Navin Bhan	31 January
Targeted MOUs to be finalized	Navin Bhan	31 March

13. Distribution List (BTOR sent to): Internal Clients: - RESD Group Email, MET Directors		