

PACC Snapshot 4

Building Resilience to Climate Change

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PACC Inception Meeting









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Thank you all for your contribution during the Inception Meeting (IM) held at the SPREP Training Centre in Apia on the 29th - 3rd of July. In hindsight, I am grateful that we have accomplished all that we set out to do during the weeklong meeting. In the evaluation session, most of you also indicated that a large part of your concerns and expectations have been clarified and addressed. This is a great start and hopefully we will continue this open dialogue (evident during the IM) through the lifetime of the project.

Several actions started during the PACC IM that I hope we can get closure to shortly to facilitate the quick implementation of PACC at the national level. I will touch on each briefly here.

The PACC Memorandum of Understanding

During the PACC IM, most of you have reviewed and commented on your countries MoU but requested time to discuss the content at the national level. Hopefully that process is underway and looking forward to your feedback on the progress of your consultations. For those who did not attend the PACC IM, the MoU is by and large a document that spells out an agreement between SPREP and individual PACC countries on how the PACC project would be implemented at country level. It is a document developed collaboratively between SPREP, the national PACC Focal Point and Implementing Agency. Once agreement is reached on the content, then the MoU is signed and it will be the main guiding document for PACC implementation in your country. Against this MoU, funds disbursement will be made available for you to carry out the work stipulated under the agreement and subsequent Annual Work Plans (AWP).

Annual Work Plans (AWP)

All of you have developed your AWPs for July to December 2009. The past week, I have been going back and forth with some of you to clarify certain aspects of your AWP particularly your enthusiasm to slot in quite a heavy load of activities this year. At present, UNDP is also going through the AWPs based on their appraisal process and may have additional comments for your

consideration. I will revert to you in good time if there is additional need for comments as requested by UNDP.

Let's keep this process rolling.

Start Up Funding

Upon request by most of you during the meeting, SPREP will be providing some Start Up Funding with the view to get the PACC off the block quickly at the national level. This is not new money but a portion of the Project Management budget you have included in your AWP. I believe the funding will help in your setting-up of the PACC Project Management Unit (PMU) as well as the national level inception meetings to launch the PACC project. The most important document that will get this process underway is the PACC MoU. I urge you to get this document signed as soon as convenient so that there is not too much delay...the clock is ticking!

PACC Technical Meeting

I am planning to get this technical meeting carried out in the next two to three months...am proposing first or second week of October 09. You will note that the content of the Inception Meeting was largely administrative in nature. That was needed to get us off on the right step putting in place necessary institutional arrangements et cetera.

However, PACC is also a very technical project and will need to be approached with some good understanding of the technicalities behind it all. I recall a discussion during the Inception Meeting AWP sessions, some were asking what a guideline should entail (what it looks like); is it overarching or pilot specific??? These are very valid questions and need to be answered. In my view, it calls for a need to clarify the technical details of the PACC project.

So... keep watching this column for developments.

Milestones

During the PACC IM "way forward" session, we were presented with a power point slide on the next steps and milestones. I am attaching this presentation again here as information for us all.

PACC Website

Web address: http://www.sprep.org/climate_change/pacc Will try and upload all meeting documents and workshop photos before the end of this week.

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