

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN RURAL COMMUNITIES OF FIJI (CCA) PROJECT

**Implemented by PACE- SD and IAS, USP
Funded by AusAID**

**Fifth Six Monthly Progress Report
August 2008 - January 2009**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report briefly describes the CCA project activities undertaken between August 2008 and January 2009. During this period, implementations of adaptation measures for all of the sites were the key achievements. As part of this process, much discussion and research into the most suitable options was carried out with local technical experts, the management and the community to ensure suitable implementation measures. The adaptation plan for each of the six sites for the next six months is attached in ANNEX 1.

2.0 KEY ACTIVITIES – Implementation of Adaptation Measures

2.1 Water Scarcity Sites

2.1.2 Votua

As follows were some of the main activities that were carried out during this period.

- The main activity carried during this period was the two day Monitoring and Evaluation workshop, which was held on the 24th November 2008. This activity was carried out by Patrina Dumar, Victor Bonito, Vili Jeke and Sakiusa Fong.
- During the low depression which struck Fiji in February 2009, a land slide occurred along the access road to the tank site. Clearing of this access site was carried out during this period.

2.1.2 Druadrua

The three main activities in Druadrua are (i) rehabilitation of the dam system, (ii) setting up of the rain harvesting system and (iii) construction of a water reticulation system.

As follows were some of the main activities that were carried out during this period.

- Laying down of pipes from the dam to Salevukoso village. This activity was carried out by Vili Jeke (Water Engineer) and Leone Limalevu (PACE-SD Research Assistant) on 13/8 – 17/8/08.
- Planning for the reticulation system and taking measurements for the rain harvesting system. This activity was carried out by Vili Jeke and Leone Limalevu on the 17/11 -21/11/08.
- A monitoring and evaluation workshop was held on the 8th December 2008. This activity was carried out by Patrina Dumar, Sakiusa Fong and Vili Jeke.
- Constructing the guttering, repairing of the cement tanks and constructing proper bases for the plastic tanks within the school compound. This activity was carried out by Vili Jeke and Rusiate Love (carpenter) on the 8/12 – 13/12/08.

2.1.3 Bavu

As follows were some of the main activities that were carried out during this period.

- Reassessment of water sources and reticulation system. This activity was carried out by Vili Jeke with the assistance of the Nadroga Provincial Officer (Erami Seavula) on the 8th November 2008.
- A monitoring and evaluation workshop was held on the 3rd December 2008. This activity was carried out by Patrina Dumar, Lavenia Volavola, Erami Seavula and Vili Jeke.
- The first stage of the construction of guttering and laying of pipes for the reticulation system was carried out by Vili Jeke, Leone Limalevu and Rusiate Love on the 27/1 – 30/1/09.
- Continued work on laying of pipes for the reticulations system and setting up of water tanks. This activity was carried out by Vili Jeke, Leone Limalevu and Rusiate Love on the 27/1 – 30/1/09.

2.2 Coastal Sites

2.2.1 Buretu

As follows were some of the main activities that were carried out during this period.

- A monitoring and evaluation workshop was held on the 4th September 2008. This activity was carried out by Patrina Dumar, Lavenia Tawake, Isoa Korovulavula, Verenaisi Lewatoro and Leone Limalevu.
- The first pruning of vetiver by the community began on the 27th November 2008. This activity was supervised by Lavenia Tawake.
- Re-enforcement of river bank protection structures was carried out on the 9/12 – 12/12/08. Other activities carried out during this week include, construction of one walkway, weeding and completion of the pruning of vetiver, and putting up of the second boat speed limit sign board. These activities were supervised by Leone Limalevu.

2.2.2 Korotasere

- A monitoring and evaluation workshop was held on the 10th December 2008. This activity was carried out by Patrina Dumar and Sakiusa Fong.

2.2.2 Navukailagi

There were no activities conducted on this site during this period.

3.0 LESSONS LEARNED

3.1 Importance of consulting with community about the timing for carrying out adaptation activities.

An important lesson learned is the importance of properly consulting with the community through their representative on the scheduling of the adaptation activities. At times, we as project implementers assume that communities have no other programmes of activities to adhere to apart from the Climate Change Project programme activities. Non co-operation can result if we just simply force our work plans upon them, instead of firstly consulting with them.

3.2 *The importance of empowering the community to take ownership of the activities and make decisions whenever appropriate.*

To ensure the sustainability of the project, the communities should be encouraged to contribute not only in the implementation of the activities but also in providing suggestions and improvements in the adaptation process. Though this can be quite challenging as project deadlines need to be met, it is vitally important to strive to engage them in all stages of the project. The ultimate goal is not merely to complete the adaptation activities, it is the empowerment of the communities to be better able to adapt to current and future impacts of climate change.

4.0 ISSUES OF CONCERN

4.1 Addressing bias perception towards “hard measures”.

There is adequate information available within the Pacific region that “hard measures”, particularly related to coastal protection have in most cases failed due to various reasons. The reasons range from improper designs to inappropriate choice of materials.

One of the objectives of the project is to use ‘soft measure’ or technologies that require available local resources. This paradigm shift is an issue that needs addressing so that this project objective can be successfully achieved.

5.0 BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE NARRATIVE

The main project expenditure for this particular period (August 2008 – January 2009) were associated with local air travel, per-diem, purchasing of material for research and equipments, plumbing and maintenance, repair & maintenance of equipment, MSc students living allowances, and community workshop training. A financial statement as at **31st December 2008** is attached below for your consideration and information.

Suva, Fiji.
Telephone: (679) 3231000
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Our Ref: 201127-1561
Your Ref: Climate Change Adaptation in Rural Communities in Fiji
Date: 22-Jan-09

Climate Change Adaptation in Rural Communities in Fiji
Interim Financial Statement as at 31st December 2008

Balance b/f 01-01-2008 120,907.19

Income

Grant 125,000.00

Total Funds Available 245,907.19

Expenditure

Research Expense

Local Air Travel

Jeke Viliame	1,561.40
Lavenia Tawake	527.84
Limalevu Leone Sevuloni.	781.10
Patrick Fong	646.10
Patrina Dumanu	616.30
Rusiate Love	331.90

Hire Vehicle	5,252.40	9,717.04
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Per - Diem

Jeke Viliame	1,440.00
Patrick Fong	420.00
Lavenia Tawake	300.00
Limalevu Leone Sevuloni.	1,380.00
Patrina Dumanu	720.00
Rusiate Love	240.00
Verenaisi Lewavoro	120.00
Reece George	360.00
	4,980.00

Material and Equipment for Research	39,219.36
Stationery	2,342.55
Research Assistant	16,561.68
Hospitality	900.00
Miscellaneous	392.15

Student Living Allowance

Limalevu Leone Sevuloni.	17,040.00
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Workshops	11,556.81
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Total Expenditure	102,709.59
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Transfers

Transfer Out

Waste Water Project - NIWA	
Water Engineer Bavu & Druadrua (5145-6101-xxxxx-00)	27,622.46
Water Engineer Bavu & Druadrua (5111-6101-xxxxx-00)	2,854.45

Total Transfers	30,476.91
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Balance Surplus/(Deficit) as at 31st December 2008	112,720.69
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Kolinio Boila
Finance Manager
Finance

ANNEX 1: TENTATIVE WORKPLAN FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

February – July 2009

SITE/MONTH	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
VOTUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of settling dam 			Post-adaptation workshop		
BAVU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of storage tanks Improve water reticulation system Construction of one compost toilet (pilot) Rehabilitation of old dam 				Post adaptation workshop	
DRUADRU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of dam system upgrade Construction of storage tanks Construction of reticulation system Completion of compost toilets 				Post adaptation workshop	
BURETU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforcement of coastal structures Construction of boxes as reinforcements & mangrove seedling shelters Elevation survey for drainage improvement works Establishment of nursery for coastal plants for erosion control 				Post adaptation workshop	
KOROTASERE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of a flood bypass Reassessment and construction of groyne Bank stabilization using soft measures Re-establishment of mangrove nursery 					Post adaptation workshop
NAVUKAILAGI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal protection works using a combination of soft and hard measures Further replanting of mangroves and vetiver Re-establishment of mangrove nursery 					Post adaptation workshop