



USAID CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECT
PREPARATION FACILITY FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
(USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC)

FINAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 – SEPTEMBER 26, 2017



SEPTEMBER 2017

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency
for International Development. It was prepared by AECOM.

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CONTRACT NUMBER:

486-C-11-00005

SUBMITTED TO:

USAID

PREPARED BY:

AECOM International Development

COVER PHOTO:

A woman washes clothes on the banks of an inland pond in Madhya Pradesh, India. In the landlocked state of Madhya Pradesh inland ponds support a thriving fishery industry and water from the ponds is also used for multiple domestic purposes. Increasing climate variability and changing rainfall patterns are depleting the ponds, threatening the fishery based livelihoods and increasing conflict with domestic water users. With technical assistance from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) successfully accessed a \$1.79 million grant from the Adaptation Fund to address the issue. The pilot project will help fisheries adapt to climate and rainfall variability through technical solutions and improve community management of water resources.

DISCLAIMER:

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ACRONYMS..... ii
- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY iv
- 1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT 1**
 - Geographic Scope..... 3
 - Assistance to the Pacific..... 3
 - Implementation Team..... 4
- 2. OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS AND MILESTONES 5**
 - Task 1: Regional Knowledge Sharing Platform 5
 - Strengthening Knowledge Platforms and Networks5
 - THE EXCHANGE SERIES8
 - Publication of Knowledge Products, Guidelines, Tools and Methodologies 9
 - Task 2: USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Annual Forum..... 11
 - SECOND ANNUAL FORUM - NADI, FIJI - JUNE 2013.....13
 - FINAL FORUM - BANGKOK, THAILAND - MAY, 2017.....13
 - Task 3: Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building Program 14
 - Program for Capacity Building Support through Training Courses.....14
 - GOVERNMENT TRAINING SUPPORT PROGRAM.....16
 - Direct Technical Support to Government Institutions.....17
 - MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND BUDGETING20
 - INDONESIA'S UNIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE NETWORK23
 - Developing Standalone Capacity Building Programs.....24
 - ECONOMICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION.....26
 - Task 4: Technical Assistance in Preparing Funding Proposals.....27
 - FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA32
 - Task 5: Overarching Program Management and Coordination.....33
 - Maintain Robust Project and Financial Reporting Systems33
 - Coordination with Bilateral Missions and Development Partners.....33
 - Development of Outreach and Communication Tools and Activities33
- 3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES & USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES 35**
- 4. KEY IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES AND CHALLENGES 36**
- 5. SUSTAINABILITY OF USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC 37**
 - Sustainability of Project Knowledge and Web Content.....37
 - Strengthening Government Capacities in the Region.....38
 - Supporting Project Preparation Facilities in the Asia- Pacific Region.....40

ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADPC	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
AF	Adaptation Fund
AIT	Asian Institute of Technology
APAN	Asia Pacific Adaptation Network
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
CANSA	Climate Action Network South Asia
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CI	Conservation International
CFRGA	Climate Finance and Risk Governance Assessment
COP	Community of Practice
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
CPEIR	Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review
CROP	Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific
DO	Development Objective
DOF	Department of Finance
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
ECCA	Economics of Climate Change Adaptation
EU	European Union
EWC	East-West Center
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GSI	Gender and Social Inclusion
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
ICCCAD	International Centre for Climate Change and Development
ICCTF	Indonesia Climate Change Trust Fund
ICLEI	International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives
IR	Intermediate Result
ISACC	USAID Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change project
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
KM	Knowledge Management
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LOC	Letter of Cooperation
MDBs	Multilateral Development Banks
MEIDECC	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications
MFNP	Kingdom of Tonga's Ministry of Finance and National Planning
MIS	Management Information System
MOEJ	Ministry of Environment of Japan
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NIE	National Implementing Entity
OCCC	Office of Climate Change Coordination
ONEP	Office of Natural Environmental Policy and Planning

P-CBA	Pacific – Cost Benefit Analysis
PCCR	Pacific Climate Change Roundtable
PCFFAF	Pacific Climate Change Finance Assessment Framework
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PMP	Performance Management Plan
RDMA	USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia
REO	Regional Environmental Office of USAID Asia
RMI	Republic of Marshall Islands
RTSM	Regional Technical Support Mechanism
RWG	Resources Working Group
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
TSU	Technical Support Unit
UCCAR	Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USP	University of South Pacific
WACC	Watershed-based Adaptation to Climate Change
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Based in Bangkok, Thailand, the United States Agency for International Development Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID Asia) supports regional activities that address regional and transnational development and environment priorities, and provides value-added support to USAID bilateral missions. To support achievement of the USAID Asia's Development Objective of "Improved response to environmental challenges in Asia", on September 26, 2011 USAID Asia awarded a technical support services contract to AECOM to implement the Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility for Asia and the Pacific, hereinafter referred to as the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project. The project initially covered 13 countries in Asia which are Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam, and was later expanded to cover 14 Pacific Small Island Developing States, i.e. Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The principal objective of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific was to establish a fully functional and self-sustaining adaptation project preparation facility that will support planning and implementation of specific projects, and build the capacity of the region's governments to independently access climate adaptation funds. To establish a sustainable project preparation facility, the project works closely with funding organizations and government agencies from countries across the region in focused activities in five key areas:

1. Sustainable regional knowledge sharing platform including a website;
2. Annual forum to bring adaptation funds and project proponents together;
3. Climate change adaptation project capacity building program;
4. Technical assistance in preparing funding proposals; and
5. Overarching program management and coordination for the aforementioned four technical tasks.

As cross-cutting themes, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific promoted regional networking, gender mainstreaming and other social equity issues.

Since 2011, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has developed 36 adaptation projects, including 9 gender-inclusive projects, in 14 countries across the Asia and Pacific regions in association with national and international partners. The project has trained more than 1,000 people, delivering 25,000+ person hours of training. The project has helped to leverage over US\$576 million in adaptation financing for projects that have benefited nearly one million people. A summary of the project's performance indicators is presented in Table I below. The project has successfully met and in most cases significantly exceeded its targets.

The most significant impact of the project will be the sustainable capacity it has built in the Asia-Pacific region to access climate finance and develop adaptation projects. Forty public institutions have benefitted from the assistance of USAID Adapt-Asia Pacific and will continue to address the needs for climate change adaptation and project preparation in the region. In addition, the project has disseminated a number of widely-used knowledge products, and has developed four courses focusing on various aspects of climate change adaptation project development. The project partnered with multiple universities in the region to institutionalize its capacity building programs and the training courses and knowledge products will continue to be offered beyond the life of the project. The significant knowledge generated by the project will also continue to be hosted and updated by the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) and the weAdapt knowledge portal for use by the climate change adaptation community in the region.

Table 1: Performance Targets and Results

PROGRAM ELEMENT 4.8.2. CLEAN PRODUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT									
PMP Indicators		FY12 Results	FY13 Results	FY14 Results	FY15 Results	FY16 Results	FY17 Results	Cumulative Results	Cumulative Project Targets
IR 1.1	Person hours of training completed in climate change supported by USG assistance/ Number of people receiving training in Global Climate Change as a result of USG assistance(4.8.2-6)	1,804/109	5,101/205	4,812/177	5,213/215	4,094/139	4,716/191	25,740/1036	22,217/916
IR 1.2	Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change issues as a result of USG assistance (4.8.2-14)	2	8	8	10	6	6	40	40
IR 2.1	Number of climate change adaptation projects with facilitated access to finance	3	2	7	7	11	6	36	31
IR 2.2	Number of facilitated projects with a specific gender component	1	0	3	1	3	1	9	8
IR 2.3	Number of people benefiting from climate change adaptation project approved or in the pipeline as a result of USG assistance	176,767	58,000	324,607	116,784	107,114	206,888	990,160	814,000
IR 2.4	Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars, from private and public sources, for climate change as a result of USG assistance (4.8.2-10)	\$35 Mil	\$81 Mil	\$147 Mil	\$128 Mil	\$40 Mil	\$145 Mil	\$576 Mil	\$319 Mil
IR 2.5	Number of climate change adaptation tools, technologies and methodologies developed, tested and/or adopted as a result of USG assistance (4.8.2-8)	1	1	2	3	2	4	13	11
IR 2.6	Amount of funds in U.S. dollars from non-USAID sources mobilized and applied to support project preparation facility objectives (in USD thousand)	\$91	\$228	\$336	\$319	\$290	Included in IR2.4	\$1,264	\$1,020
IR 3.1	Number of regional environmental platforms created or strengthened (REO)	1	1	1	1	1		1	1



BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Asia-Pacific region is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and related natural disasters, partly due to the high concentration of people living in coastal areas and river basins affected by climate variability. Many countries in the region already suffer from flooding, drought, and intensifying storm events, affecting lives and disrupting economies.

Globally, the financing needs for climate change adaptation in developing countries for 2010-2050 are estimated at USD100 billion per year. In 2010, Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change met in Cancun, Mexico and agreed to provide new and additional “fast-start” financing of USD30 billion for 2010-2012, and set a goal of mobilizing USD100 billion per year by 2020. Developing countries, however, face major capacity challenges in preparing project proposals to access these funds. An urgent task for the development community, therefore, is to assist developing countries in preparing high quality adaptation projects.

Under a technical support services contract from USAID’s Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID Asia), AECOM is currently implementing the *USAID Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility for Asia and the Pacific (USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific)*. The project supports the USAID Asia Regional Environment Office’s (REO) Development Objective of “*Improved response to environmental challenges in Asia,*” The project initially covered 13 countries in Asia and was later expanded to cover 14 Pacific Small Island Developing Countries. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific addresses capacity and information needs of target countries in accessing climate change adaptation funds and accelerating investments in initiatives that increase resilience to the negative impacts of climate change.

The principal objective of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific is to establish a fully functional and self-sustaining adaptation project preparation facility that will support planning and implementation of specific projects, and build the capacity of the region’s governments to independently access climate adaptation funds. To establish a sustainable project preparation facility, the project has worked closely with funding organizations and government agencies from countries across the region focused on activities in five key areas:

1. Sustainable regional knowledge sharing platform, including developing and maintaining a website;
2. Annual forum to bring adaptation funds and project proponents together;
3. Climate change adaptation capacity building program;
4. Technical assistance in preparing funding proposals; and,
5. Overarching program management and coordination for the aforementioned four technical tasks.

To jumpstart project activities, the project took a two-pronged approach. First, the project designed tailored capacity building activities with select regional governments and training institutions to enhance institutional capacity to access climate finance. Second, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific supported national governments, in collaboration with multilateral and UN agencies, in the preparation of climate change adaptation (CCA) projects.

As project activities progressed in FY2012, FY2013, and FY2014, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific actively engaged directly with national governments, in addition to working with multilateral intermediaries. The transition to working directly with national governments supported the project's longer-term goal of building sustainable capacity within national governments for climate change adaptation (CCA) project preparation and access to relevant financing. The project continued its engagements with multilateral intermediaries during this time, focusing on strategic partnerships that created entry points to work directly with the national governments.

During FY2015, FY2016, and FY2017 USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific successfully transitioned to mostly working directly with national governments and sub-national governments. The project also made significant progress toward achieving its principal objective of establishing a fully functional and self-sustaining adaptation project preparation facility with a multifaceted approach, including:

- Dedicated institutional arrangement(s) to support governments in preparing specific projects;
- Strengthened key national and project preparation and capacity building institutions in the region;
- Established strategic partnerships with multilateral and regional institutions; and,
- Strengthened regional knowledge management platform, APAN.

At end of FY2016, USAID Asia approved a one-year extension for USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific to further institutionalize and leverage ongoing activities to achieve increased results on ground. This effort consolidates and built on the project's extensive experience and lessons learned with respect to project preparation, accessing climate adaptation financing, and improving the capacity of national and sub-national governments to sustain these activities beyond the life of the project.

As cross-cutting themes, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific integrated regional networking, gender mainstreaming, and other social equity issues throughout its project activities. The success of the



A resident of an informal settlement in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Built in a low lying area, the settlement is extremely vulnerable to flooding due to climate change.

project's regional networking has been showcased through the high levels of enthusiastic participation in the project's online discussions, newsletters, and live chat sessions from a wide array of government officials, practitioners, and non-profits. Using our 'beyond mainstreaming' approach, the project successfully integrated gender and social issues in climate change adaptation projects.

GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

The following Asian countries were eligible to participate in USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam. Eligible nations in the Pacific include: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu as shown in the adjoining map.



ASSISTANCE TO THE PACIFIC

At the start of the project the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific was intended to focus only on the 13 countries in Asia. Subsequently, through funding from the Department of State, the project's geographic scope was expanded to include 14 countries in the Pacific. The project has been supporting project preparation and capacity building for climate change adaptation (CCA) and climate finance in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) since 2012. The overall objective of the support was to strengthen the capacity of PSIDS and regional partners to address the negative impacts of climate change through increased access to climate finance. The project's initial assistance was through direct involvement in project preparation and institutional strengthening activities, support to a Pacific cost-

benefit analysis training program, capacity building workshops, and sponsoring government officials to various training and courses on climate change adaptation. These activities were implemented in close collaboration with the national government institutions, regional inter-governmental institutions (PIFS, SPC, SPREP), international development partners (UNDP, ADB, WB, and GIZ), and USAID and State Department representatives in the target countries.

In 2015 USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, through USAID Asia, was given a new tranche of funding from the Department of State to continue activities in the PSIDS. The main objectives of this funding was to continue to strengthen the human and institutional capacity of PSIDS and regional agencies to access financial resources for climate change adaptation investment projects; to prepare quality climate change adaptation investment proposals; and, to sustain a regional knowledge platform to share and replicate best practices.



Children play among mangroves in Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific implemented a series of capacity building and climate change project preparation activities through this new tranche of funding. As before, these activities were implemented in close collaboration with the national government institutions of the Pacific Islands Countries, regional inter-governmental institutions (PIFS, SPC, SPREP), international development partners (UNDP, GIZ, WB), and USAID and State Department representatives in the target countries.

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

AECOM served as the prime contractor for USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, providing overall technical, management, coordination and communications support in combination with subcontractors and resource partners. Further, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) served as the principal subcontractor implementing key tasks related to knowledge management and the annual forum.

AECOM engaged small business subcontractors, as appropriate, for the implementation of key activities as well as resource partners such as Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), University of South Pacific (USP), the East West Center at the University of Hawaii (EWC), Yayasan Kota Kita (YKK), Institute of Technology Bandung (ITB), School of Urban and Regional Planning University of Philippines (PLANADES), Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), Yale University, and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT).



TASK I: REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

Under Task I, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific contributed broadly to the Asia-Pacific region’s climate change adaptation community, including government officials, by producing and disseminating project-based knowledge products that added to the existing body of knowledge on climate change adaptation financing. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also strengthened the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network’s (APAN) regional knowledge platform by supporting its web-based knowledge management activities. The strengthened APAN platform was envisaged to serve as a potential pillar for USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s sustainability through leverage of existing capabilities and networks beyond the life of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project.

Strengthening Knowledge Platforms and Networks

The APAN web portal served as the main conduit for managing and disseminating adaptation knowledge and information and keeping its stakeholders engaged. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific had been supporting improvements to the portal since the beginning of the project, including:

- Conducting a needs assessment to identify sustainable and effective technical assistance instruments to strengthen APAN;
- Enhancing APAN’s web-based knowledge sharing capacity and outreach through web portal upgrading and maintenance;
- Implementing APAN’s Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute of Development Studies’ Eldis program—a leading online international development information service provider—to harmonize and improve accessibility of climate change adaptation financing and other related information;
- Working with APAN’s core technical partners to formulate operational guidelines, redefining the network’s organizational arrangement to enhance both efficiency and institutional memory;
- Supporting APAN to revamp its online knowledge management platform, resulting in great enhancements in platform structure and navigability;
- Integrating the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific website as part of the APAN website with adaptation

finance marked as one of APAN's 14 thematic focus areas;

- Contributing knowledge products to APAN's website, thereby increasing the overall knowledge base of the adaptation community;
- Implementing the use of Climate Tagger, a tagging application, on the APAN web portal to sort and streamline climate change adaptation information to better reach end-users; and
- Developing landing pages for the 'Adaptation Finance Knowledge Series' on the APAN web portal and the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific website in order to host a growing number of project-based knowledge products in an improved indexed and searchable manner.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's support resulted in an increase in the volume of traffic and page views on the APAN web portal, reaching 26,636 in FY2015, a 12 percent year-on-year increase.

As a result of the Ministry of Environment of Japan (MOEJ)'s modified support to APAN and UNEP's shifting priorities, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific limited its support to APAN website in its final year of implementation and collaborated with other major networks such as weAdapt. The APAN portal continues to host and maintain the knowledge products, tools, and guides produced by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and they will be available to the climate change adaptation community in the region.

The screenshot displays the APAN website's user interface. At the top left is the APAN logo with the tagline 'Asia Pacific ADAPTATION NETWORK | Mobilising Knowledge and Building Capacities for Climate Resilience'. A search bar and social media icons (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, RSS) are on the top right. A horizontal navigation menu includes 'ABOUT APAN', 'THEMES', 'REGIONS', 'NEWS', 'EVENTS', 'RESOURCES', 'COMMUNITY', and 'CONTRIBUTE'. The main content area features a large banner for 'New Manual Helps Cities Deliver Climate Resilience Training' with a 'Read More >' link. Below this is a 'HIGHLIGHTS' section with three featured items: a feature on gender integration, a resource on climate change projects, and a resource on empowering the poor. To the right is a 'YOUR FEEDBACK' form and a 'SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-COMMUNIQUÉ' section with an email input field. At the bottom, there are 'PUBLICATIONS' and 'NEWS' sections, and a 'CONNECT WITH APAN' box with social media icons.

A screenshot of the upgraded APAN beta test website. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific is supporting the upgrades to make the web portal more user friendly, support greater integration with other networks, and enhanced capabilities for long-term sustainability of the regional platform.

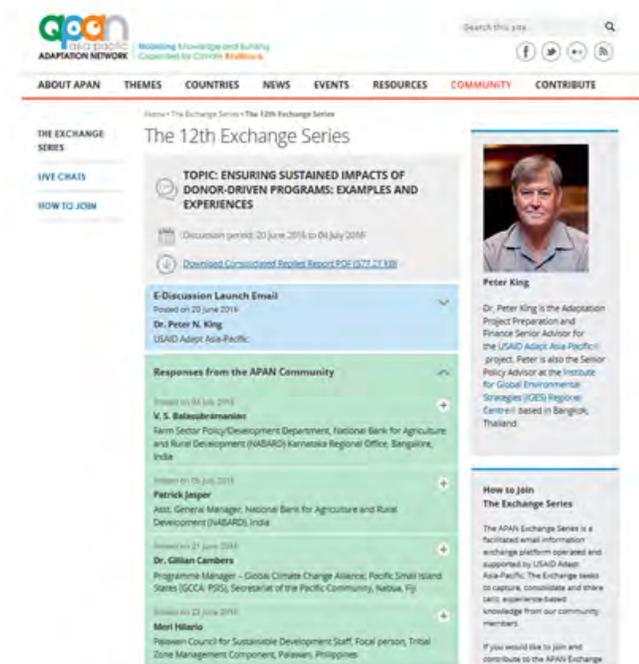
USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC SUPPORTED APAN COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific maintained active engagement with key project stakeholders, including participants from its annual forum, meetings, and trainings, through its online community of practice (CoP) activities. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific conducted a number of consultations with different stakeholders to ensure that the CoP activities contributed to the community and did not duplicate existing initiatives. As a result of these consultations, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific developed the “USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Community of Practice Concept Definition Paper” in May 2012. The Concept Paper outlines the scope of the CoP activities, the roles of team members, and an action plan for implementation that included details of activities, set targets and indicators, and identified resources for implementation. The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team also explored the possibility of a collaborative CoP with the UNDP’s e-mail-based CoP on National Climate Funds.

Throughout FY2013, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific hosted a number of live-chats, webinars, email-based discussions, and interviews as part of the CoP activities. A number of digital events were delivered in support of the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA) Program, providing a venue for robust interaction among training participants, practitioners and experts. Two “Ask-the-Experts” live chats and one webinar were conducted in FY2013, moderated by Yale University faculty members. An average of 14 participants across various time zones from Mongolia to Bangladesh participated in each digital event. The events allowed training participants and mentors to discuss elements of their analyses (e.g. agriculture and water survey instruments) in between workshops.

A new email-based discussion format (The Exchange Series on Climate Financing) was designed and launched in FY2013. Building on the experiences and lessons of the previous year, the exchange series provided a venue for short but intensive interactions for practitioners to discuss specific topics. The exchanges induced lively discussions and produced tangible outputs such as e-discussion summary reports, transcripts, and consolidated replies that served as useful knowledge products for all stakeholders. Other than the exchange series, CoP activities in FY2014 included a webinar and interviews that were conducted to support the project’s activities, such as the ECCA program. Summaries of all CoP activities were published and uploaded to the APAN and project website.

In FY2015, six CoP activities were conducted – four email exchanges and two ‘live’ online chats – on GCF capitalization, mainstreaming gender into adaptation projects, financing urban adaptation, and prioritizing adaptation activities. A total of 54 unique written responses were received in FY2015, with many coming from national and local government officials in Bangladesh, India, Marshall Islands, Philippines, Timor Leste, Vietnam, and others. The quality of those responses was very thoughtful, highlighting key issues faced by countries in designing and implementing adaptation programs. For example, Indonesia’s national planning agency focused on difficulties in channeling donor funding to local governments due to restrictive regulations. India’s NABARD, on the other hand, highlighted the desire to dedicate a specific budget for gender-related work.



The 12th Exchange on “Ensuring Sustained Impacts of Donor-Driven Programs” on the APAN web portal

TASK I: REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

THE EXCHANGE SERIES

The Exchange Series, initiated and facilitated by USAID Adapt Asia Pacific in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) Knowledge Management Team, provided a mechanism to keep the conversation about climate finance active between forums and meetings. The Exchange Series ensured that the Community of Practices (CoP) members were able to capture, consolidate, and share tacit, experience-based knowledge and information exchanged on the e-mail based discussion platform.

OUTCOME

To engage USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's training participants and the larger climate change finance community, "The Exchange Series on Climate Financing" was launched on 11 September 2013, aiming to be a new facilitated knowledge exchange platform. The Exchange series supported a total of 13 e-discussion events, including email based exchanges, live webchat sessions, webinars, and interviews. Subscribers to the Exchange Series more than doubled from 258 in March 2014 to 786 in October 2015 and to 882 in October 2016. They included both government officials and development partners in Asia-Pacific. The number of actual responses had also steadily increased by over three times from 6 to 18 unique contributions, per discussion, at its peak. The Exchange Series enabled a continual regional discussion on various aspects of climate change adaptation financing to meet the needs of the CoP members and highlighted emerging trends in climate change adaptation.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Exchange Series made a significant contribution by engaging government officials and climate change adaptation professionals in discussions about important issues in climate change adaptation. It generated significant knowledge about technical issues and themes and highlighted key lessons and case studies for community members. The discussion reports are curated on the APAN and weAdapt knowledge portals and available to the Asia-Pacific and global climate change adaptation community. Below are some quotes from the participants expressing how the exchanged has helped them:

"Thanks for these exchanges as it helps us understand if we are doing things right and efficient." - Mayor Alfredo M Coro, Municipality of Del Carmen, Siargao Islands, Philippines

"Thank you once again for hosting this series and allowing those involved in climate change adaptation from Asia and the Pacific to share their knowledge, ideas, and experiences. - Jim Hicklin, Grant Writer, Ministry of Finance, Republic of the Marshall Islands

"Thanks for offering this very useful webinar series." - Lisa Junghans, Policy Officer - Climate Impacts and Adaptation, Germanwatch, Germany

"Thanks for keeping us connected through key issues and challenges to consult, share and learn." - Akhteruzzaman Sano, South East Asia Regional Focal Point, GEF-NGO Network, C/O Save the Earth Cambodia

BY THE
NUMBERS

13 ONLINE EXCHANGES
E-DISCUSSIONS, WEBINARS, INTERVIEWS

880+ SUBSCRIBERS
THROUGH CoP MEMBERSHIP

20+ COUNTRIES
PARTICIPATED

Three APAN Exchange Series discussions were conducted in FY2016 among USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific experts, development partners, and country officials in the form of email-based exchange discussions. Topics included: building capacity for climate finance access, integrating gender for better adaptation, and ensuring sustained impacts of donor-drive programs. Some key insights coming from the discussions included the call for government officials to build skills to prepare good project proposals to better access climate financing and the need to incorporate gender activities at the project design stage in order to improve support for women and girls.

USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC NEWSLETTERS

To continually inform USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific stakeholders, feature/news stories were written highlighting the project's capacity building and project preparation activities. Over the life of the project, eleven newsletters were produced and distributed to project partners and beneficiaries, as well as shared with Climate-L mailing list subscribers. Features included one-on-one interviews with government officials on topics related to project preparation, e.g. use of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific developed V&A methodology, stories on USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's gender mainstreaming activities, technical assistance for project preparation, the project's capacity building activities, e.g. Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience (UCCAR) course, Managing Project Preparation for Climate Change Adaptation course, and project events.



Here's an update on what we're doing to help cities, youths and governments in Asia-Pacific better adapt to climate change.

WE TRAIN CITY OFFICIALS TO DESIGN BETTER PROJECTS

Learn how we are collaborating with the Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) and the Singapore Cooperation Programme to train city officials in Asia to design better climate change adaptation projects.



16th issue of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific newsletter was published and distributed to stakeholders in Q4FY2016

Publication of Knowledge Products, Guidelines, Tools and Methodologies



USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific consolidated knowledge products and documented lessons learned, best practices, and on the ground project preparation experiences accumulated over the past six years of working in the region. Mainly derived from Task 3 and 4 activities, knowledge products were developed and disseminated via two channels: (a) development, testing, and adoption of tools and guidelines that expand on USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific methodologies; and (b) publishing the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project's Adaptation Finance Knowledge Series, representing the amalgamation of the project's experiences published through a series of discussion papers, guides, and recommendations for action

that are disseminated widely throughout the APAN community. Four types of knowledge products were developed by the project:

- Guides and Manuals (4) – Resources and reference materials for climate change adaptation practitioners including the Online Gender Sourcebook and training manuals for the two of the training programs developed by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific;
- Adaptation Finance Knowledge Series (19) – Short summaries and quick practical guides including the Defining Country Systems for CCA Finance paper jointly developed by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and UNDP and compilations of the Exchange Series e-discussions;
- Tools and methodologies (8) – Tools developed and tested by the project including the Vulnerability Assessment Guide developed in collaboration with NABARD and a number of checklists and quick guides developed for countries for project preparation; and,
- Reports and case studies (11) – Implementation experiences and key lessons including report of the proceedings of the annual forums.

These resources will continue to be available to the climate change adaptation community on partner websites such as UNDP, weAdapt, and APAN beyond the life of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific.



Women Community Forestry User Group (CFUG) representatives in Bishnupur, Nepal. With the support of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and RECOFTC the CFUG conducted a climate vulnerability assessment and developed community based measures to adapt to climate variability.

TASK 2: USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC ANNUAL FORUM

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific organized four annual forums in FY2012, FY2013, FY2014 and FY2017. Based on the recommendations of the project's mid-term evaluation that emphasized the need for generating 'value for money' and more long-term capacity building impact, in FY2015 the project supported ICLEI Southeast Asia (APAN's node for Southeast Asia), by participating in two plenary sessions in the Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2015 Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific held its First Annual Forum on March 13-15, 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand, back to back with the APAN Forum, to provide the participants from Asia and the Pacific with the most up to date information on available adaptation funds. Approximately 120 participants gathered from government institutions from more than 20 Asian and Pacific Island countries, key climate change funds (Adaptation Fund, the LDCF, the SCCF, the CIFs, and the Global Climate Change Alliance), multilateral institutions (UNEP, UNDP, ADB, WB), and bilateral donors (JICA and AusAID).

On June 3-4, 2013, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific organized its 2nd Annual Meeting in Nadi, Fiji, in close collaboration with PIFS and SPREP. This second regional Meeting followed a three-day Pacific Climate Change Financing Workshop, as part of the first-ever "Pacific Climate Change Resourcing Event Week" under the auspices of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) Resources Working Group (RWG) and supported by UNDP, USAID, and AusAID. The Meeting resulted in the identification of new USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific initiatives with the Governments of Nauru, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Vanuatu, and the Cook Islands. A total of 101 participants attended the events, comprising officials from 14 PICs and five Asian government institutions. Representatives from Pacific regional agencies (PIFS, SPREP, SPC, and USP), bilateral and multilateral development partners (ADB, AusAID, GIZ, UNDP, USAID, and World Bank), as well as civil society groups and the private sector also attended.



Mr. Wangchuk Namgay, Deputy Chief Planning Officer, Gross National Happiness Commission, Bhutan speaks at the Third Annual Forum in Siem Reap, Cambodia, September 2014

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific held its Third Annual Forum on 15-16 of September, 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in partnership with UNDP. The Forum brought together over 100 participants including government officials from 21 countries, bilateral, regional, and multilateral development partners (ADB, GIZ, AF, PIFS, NABARD, ICLEI, and others), as well as civil society to promote regional cooperation and knowledge exchange on Strengthening Country Systems to Access and Manage Climate Change Adaptation Finance in Asia and the Pacific.

In FY2017, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific organized the final forum focusing on urban resilience. The Asia

Urban Resilience Finance Forum 2017 was held on May 24-25, 2017 at the Anantara Siam Hotel in Bangkok and was organized in partnership with UNDP, ADB, and CDIA. The forum was attended by a total of 108 participants including city and government officials for Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand and international development practitioners, donor institutions, non-government organizations, and the private sector from the region. The objective of the forum was to bring together policymakers and climate financing practitioners across Asia to identify and address the capacity building needs of cities and governments and empower them to develop robust resilience plans and bankable project proposals.

Delegates from five second-tier cities - Faridpur, Bangladesh; Hat Yai, Thailand; Kampong Chhanang, Cambodia; Semarang, Indonesia; and Surat, India – led a discussion about their vulnerabilities and presented their plans to make their cities more resilient. Through interactive discussions, three of the cities developed initial project ideas that can be developed into project proposals to access climate financing.

During the forum, participants learned about the “Urban Resilience Roadmap,” an innovative tool to bridge the gap between policy and implementation.



“Mainstreaming our urban resilience strategy into development planning is important, but collaborating, coordinating, and sharing the resilience plan with different development agencies will help enhance the plan more efficient and achieve results,” - Mr. Phorpminea Hing, Deputy Governor of Cambodia’s Kampong Chhnang Municipality.

implementation. The roadmap was designed to help key decision-makers better understand and navigate the process of increasing city resilience, breaking the process down into manageable steps. These steps begin with strategy development and progress through project implementation. The process map is designed to not only guide resilience planning at the city level, but can also be used as a coordination framework for assistance from development partners. The forum also provided an opportunity for participants and cities to improve their resilience strategies, strengthen institutional capacity to integrate the resilience approach into development actions, and access international, domestic, and private sector funds.

TASK 2: USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC ANNUAL FORUM

SECOND ANNUAL FORUM - NADI, FIJI - JUNE 2013

The Second Annual Forum was built on regional climate change financing activities undertaken by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to build capacity to access and manage climate change financing in the region.

OUTCOME

The Forum enabled 101 government officials from 14 Pacific Island countries and five Asian countries to understand the six dimensions of

climate change finance, and consider the benefits and potential limitations of financing modalities. Through the innovative development marketplace, the participating countries had a first-hand experience of specific climate financing priorities and discussion for possible funding opportunities.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Forum developed new financing opportunities for PICs and strengthened partnership to build capacity and create an enabling environment to access climate funds.

FINAL FORUM - BANGKOK, THAILAND - MAY, 2017

In partnership with ADB, CDIA, and UNDP, USAID organized the Asia Urban Resilience Finance Forum 2017, focusing on the capacity needs of cities to develop robust resilience plans and projects.

OUTCOME

Approximately 100 participants representing municipal officials, development partners, NGOs, and the private sector, attended the Forum. Cities had the opportunity to interact with experts and peers by sharing lessons and best practices. Through consultations, the forum organizers

developed the Urban Resilience Roadmap, an innovative tool to bridge the gap between policy and implementation.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Roadmap helps decision-makers navigate the process of building urban resilience from resilience plans to project proposals through three key phases. The roadmap will be used by cities and development partners to improve resilience strategies, strengthen institutional capacity, mainstream resilience approach into development plans, and access climate financing.



TASK 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

During its six years of implementation, the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project implemented three types of activities to strengthen the capacity of national government agencies and other organizations in the Asia and Pacific regions to prepare bankable climate change adaptation project proposals and to improve access to climate financing. These included:

- Government Training Support Program (GTSP) to provide capacity building to government officials through existing training courses on enhancing knowledge of and access to various sources of international climate finance, as well as specific skills, tools/techniques, and competencies required for the design of bankable climate change adaptation projects;
- Direct technical support to national governments to improve their capacity to access and/or better manage climate adaptation finance; and
- Standalone capacity building programs, which aimed at helping national- and local-level decision-makers in integrating climate change adaptation into development planning and project preparation.

Program for Capacity Building Support through Training Courses

During its first five years, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific implemented the Government Training Support Program (GTSP), a competitive program to provide financial support to mid-to-senior-level government officials to attend high-priority and high-quality training programs offered by academic institutions and development partners. The GTSP program resulted from a 2012 assessment of capacity building needs in the region conducted by the project. The assessment indicated that a number of courses related to climate change adaptation were already being offered by universities and institutions of higher learning. Making these courses available to government officials in the project's target countries could significantly build the capacity of governments in the region to deal with the negative impacts of climate change adaptation.

Over the course of 5 years, the GTSP program supported a total of 40 government officials from 12 countries in Asia and the Pacific to attend regional and international training courses on topics related to climate change adaptation and climate change finance. Participants included mid-to-senior-level officials from government departments and ministries, a national climate change trust, the National Agriculture and Rural Development Bank of India (NABARD) municipal officials, and other entities dealing directly with climate change adaptation action. The key modality of support for the GTSP initiative was direct financial support.

Support grants for travel expenses and course fees were provided on a competitive basis, and applicants could request funding for a menu of courses determined by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, including:

- Climate adaptation and resilient cities;
- Flood disaster risk management;
- GIS skills for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction;

- Climate change adaptation in agriculture and natural resource management;
- Community-based climate change adaptation, risk management, and disaster risk reduction; and
- Climate change governance.

Through an initial assessment USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific identified a range of existing capacity building programs, which were then targeted to support to specific capacity gaps among project country governments. Eligible government officials were matched to the courses being offered based on their needs and interests. The assessment also revealed important gaps in existing programs being offered by academic institutions and development partners. This information was used to inform USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s own course development to minimize duplication with existing capacity building products and fill the key gaps.

Experience has demonstrated conclusively that the identification, mobilization, and empowerment of “champions” is a key determinant of the success and long-term sustainability of capacity building. What has been less obvious from prior initiatives is *how* to identify, mobilize, and empower champions. The GTSP program successfully demonstrated that a competitive program can reward personal initiative, and can provide skills and competencies that contribute to country-specific and sector-appropriate improvements in policies and projects related to climate change. Moreover, the identification and support of mid- and senior-level government officials can have a ripple effect on the departments and bureaus they lead, since they are in strategic positions to understand how their bureaus currently operate, and how to practically implement lessons on climate change adaptation into operations. This then can lead to a “contagion” effect as other staff follow the lead of the trainee.

The initial capacity needs assessment that informed the GTSP program, as well as the ongoing inventory of existing course offerings has contributed to the recognition of standard suite of skills and capabilities required by climate change adaptation professionals. This is a critical element of consolidating a “community of practice” for climate change adaptation that moves away from ad-hoc climate change adaptation initiatives and towards the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in day-to-day processes of governance and policymaking.



Ms. Pham Thi Dung, Climate Change Coordinator and Policy Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam. Through GTSP, Ms. Dung attended Oxford University’s Adaptation Academy Foundation training course in 2013. The course taught her to prepare projects that identify the most appropriate climate change adaptation interventions. Ms. Dung has since spearhead the design of a \$3.6 million climate change project in Vietnam to pilot climate smart agriculture in coastal and mountainous areas, with the aim of enhancing the capacity of the most vulnerable farming communities.

TASK 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

GOVERNMENT TRAINING SUPPORT PROGRAM

From February, 2014 to January 2016, the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific supported 40 government officials from 12 countries in Asia and the Pacific to attend training courses in climate change adaptation and finance, offered by regionally- and internationally-recognized training institutions. Participants of Government Training Support Program (GTSP) were mid-to-senior level officials from diverse government agencies, ranging from climate change to water resource management, forestry, agriculture, rural development, natural resources and environment, geology, planning, finance, tourism, marine and coastal resources management, and disaster risk reduction.

OUTCOME

The GTSP initiative helped identify and empower champions for climate change adaptation at the national and subnational levels of government. Participants greatly benefitted from the program through the improvement of their technical skills and their capability to effectively design and deliver climate change adaptation project. The project surveyed the participants of the program 6 months and 1 year after the participants had completed their courses.

Survey results, as well as anecdotal evidence, indicate that the GTSP initiative has started to bear fruit, providing governments in Asia with an increased number of more capable officials who have a higher capacity to address climate change issues. Upon their return to their respective government agencies, participants made

significant contributions to influence climate change policy and projects.

SUSTAINABILITY

Survey results clearly indicated several promising developments resulting from the training program including long-term sustainable institutional capacity being built. The vast majority of respondents indicated they had increased technical capability. Many responded that they had been promoted to positions with expanded responsibilities within their organizations, and credited the training program as contributing to the promotion. Most respondents also said that their on-the-job performance had improved, and some had even been able to create new climate change adaptation initiatives.

Several participants also indicated that the new knowledge and skills they had acquired enabled them to positively influence their colleagues. In terms of institutional impact, trainees indicated that the skills and competencies developed in the courses encouraged them to take a holistic approach to climate change adaptation, with a focus on results-based planning, prioritizing adaptation for more effective project management, and applying key lessons to project implementation. Respondents also reported that the training courses positively affected their ability to influence policy initiatives related to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.



Direct Technical Support to Government Institutions

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific identified opportunities to work directly with national governments to strengthen institutional capacity to directly access and/or better manage adaptation financing for the preparation of climate adaptation projects. Capacity building and project preparation are intimately linked and fall along a continuum of technical assistance that enables the target countries to develop better quality projects and access international climate change financing for the identified projects. Key modalities of support over the six years of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project have included direct technical assistance, co-financing of activities, facilitation of twinning relationships, and financial support for professional development activities.

“Through ADAPT we show how to foster collaboration and build synergy among USAID/USG investments as well as with outside resources in building climate resilience.” - Amin Budiarjo, *Climate Change Adaptation Specialist, USAID/Indonesia*

Steps were taken in most cases to ensure that the initiatives and their impacts on the countries would continue beyond the life of the project. For example studies, reports, and recommendations related to the Watershed-based Adaptation to Climate Change (WACC) initiative were completed, and Thai authorities are taking steps to follow up this work, including ongoing discussions with local governments on implementation of the recommendations, consideration of how the WACC experience can be replicated, and preparation of a funding proposal for a “WACC Phase 2” to be submitted to the national government. Our support to the Indonesia

Climate Change Trust Fund (ICCTF) enabled it to secure funding from USAID/Indonesia, other donors, and the national budget and allocated them to adaptation projects of highest priority identified from a list of 490 project ideas. Through its support, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific helped ICCTF strengthen its processes and develop a sustainable mechanism to continually fund small-scale adaptation projects. Our support to the Tonga Climate Finance Assessment initiative enabled the completion of the Climate Finance and Risk Governance Assessment (CFRGA) including a number of significant recommendations to enhance climate adaptation financing.

Among other support activities, through the strengthening SPREP/Pacific SIDS Project Preparation Readiness for Climate Financing initiative, detailed assistance was provided to SPREP to prepare a full project submission to the Adaptation Fund for *Enhancing the Climate Change Resilience of Vulnerable Island Atoll Communities in Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)*, for US\$9.0 million. The assistance to International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) initiative supported development of a training package on gender and climate change that will be delivered by ICCCAD to regional climate change practitioners as part of its short course training programs, Master’s Degree program, and as a standalone presentation for conferences and seminars.

WATERSHED-BASED ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE (WACC)

The WACC initiative aimed to develop and test a watershed-level vulnerability and adaptation assessment (VAA) methodology in Petchaburi Province, Thailand, that could be applied to other sites in the country and regionally. Key tools included the use of high quality socioeconomic survey techniques, Water Evaluation and Planning (WEAP)



Community consultations as part of the VAA assessment at the Sirindhorn International Environment Park as part of the WACC activity.

system, downscaling, and a capacity scorecard, among others, Inputs from the U.S. Forest Service and the National Center for Atmospheric Research, done through Letters of Agreement facilitated by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, were instrumental in introducing several of these methodologies and in guiding report preparation.

Report presentation and discussion from WACC were featured at the International Conference on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services held at the WACC project site. The conference attracted 479 participants from 23 countries. The WACC report was well received by the participants; senior Thai officials called for implementation of the VAA recommendations and replication of the methodology at other watersheds in the country. Lessons from the WACC initiative were incorporated into Guidelines for Climate Change Adaptation Practitioners for Greater Mekong Subregion: Watershed-scale Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments directed at a regional audience. Separate lessons learned from the WACC initiative will also be developed

Looking to the future and to the sustainability of the WACC initiative, the following steps have been taken:

- A “WACC Phase 2” is currently under design by the Thai team and will be submitted to the National Research Council of Thailand for funding.
- Discussions are being held with local governments in Ban Laem and Cha-am to implement WACC recommendations. Discussions with Petchaburi provincial officials for implementation are also ongoing.
- Tentative agreement was reached with the Water Resources Department to call a national meeting of senior representatives of Thailand’s 24 river basin committees to raise awareness of climate change issues and to identify how and where the WACC model can be replicated.
- A four-year EU-supported climate change project in Thailand will, among other things, build on the WACC work done in Petchaburi Province.

INDONESIA - SUPPORTING INDONESIA CLIMATE CHANGE TRUST FUND (ICCTF)

Over several years, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has assisted ICCTF with development of a project selection and ranking system, improvements to its monitoring and evaluation system, and its fund raising strategy. The selection and ranking system was trialed at a workshop in FY2014 and stakeholders began the process of identifying and preparing projects for funding, several of which were approved in FY2015 and through an additional round in FY2016. In FY2015, through cooperation between USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and the bilateral USAID mission, USAID/Indonesia allocated an initial contribution of about US\$5 million to the ICCTF, of which US\$1 million was allocated to small grant adaptation projects. In addition, the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific international consultant helped to formulate the environmental and social safeguards protocol, which is an essential element for ICCTF’s application to become a National Implementing Entity for the Green Climate Fund.



An inland lake and fishery project proposed for funding as part of the icctf call for proposals in Indonesia.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific helped to revise the screening criteria, project formats, and environmental and social safeguards protocols, identify potential projects from a long list, and formulate the highest priority projects. In FY2016, the funding from USAID/Indonesia and additional funding made available from the national budget and other donors was allocated to these priority projects. From an initial long list of 490 project ideas, the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team helped to identify seven adaptation projects to be funded. An additional call for proposals was issued in October 2016. With support from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific 15 proposals were shortlisted from the 117 proposals received and submitted to BAPPENAS for further review. Four out the 15 proposals were finally approved with a funding for each proposal at Rp 1 billion (approximately \$75,200).

As part a culmination of its support to ICCTF, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, in partnership with ITB, and ACCCRN, organized a Project Preparation and Finance workshop in Bandung in 2017. The course aimed to improve the capacity of organizations developing projects to improve the quality of proposals to meet the expectations of project financiers. However, the training generated a lot of interest from a wider audience and was attended by 29 participants and three observers from 19 organizations. Each group brought their proposal or concept note, and over the course of the week-long workshop experts from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and the ITB worked with the participant groups to improve the proposals, drawing on lessons from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's experiences.



Project Preparation and Finance training, Bandung Institute of Technology, April 17-21, 2017



As climate change reduces the availability of fresh water, it now takes women up to six hours to fetch water in Oeseli, district Rote Ndao, province Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia.

TASK 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND BUDGETING

Mainstreaming climate change adaptation into government development planning is challenging for every nation. For Indonesia, there were no guidelines for local government to utilize in incorporating climate change adaptation into their local development plan. Partnering with Indonesia's Public Policy Transformation Foundation, the Indonesian Climate Change Trust Fund (ICCTF) supported a US\$100,000 grant in establishing a Climate Change Task Force as part of the "Strengthening Institutional Capacity to Integrate Climate Change Adaptation in Regional Planning" project.

OUTCOME

The project was conducted in three phases: (1) Consolidation phase included local policy and institutional review to identify capacities and needs; (2) Formulation phase included participatory risk and vulnerability assessments, the development of options and the incorporation of specific adaptation

and resilience building actions in the district development plan and budget; and (3) Socialization phase included sharing lessons with the national governments. Through technical assistance from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, the Task Force identified adaptation priorities, which were subsequently included in the district's medium-term development plan and the district's budget plan.

SUSTAINABILITY

The approach was to encourage strong ownership from the Gorontalo District Government. This initiative represented one of the first efforts in Indonesia to incorporate climate change adaptation into a local spatial planning process. This effort will assist hundreds of districts and municipalities across Indonesia in mainstreaming climate change adaptation into their development plans, as well as allocating the budgetary resources to implement the plans.

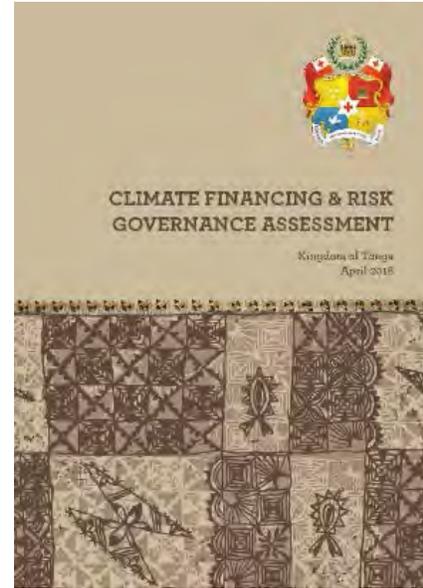


TONGA CLIMATE FINANCE ASSESSMENT

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific supported the Climate Finance and Risk Governance Assessment (CFRGA) in the Kingdom of Tonga, through its partnership with the Kingdom of Tonga's Ministry of Finance and National Planning (MFNP), UNDP, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Secretariat of the Pacific Region Environment Programme (SPREP), and UNWOMEN. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided assistance for the preparation of the CFRGA. The Tonga CFRGA was finalized and launched by MFNP on 30 May 2016 during the Pacific Risk Resilience Programme (PRRP) Board meeting.

The CFRGA Report was unique in being the first climate finance assessment to accommodate disaster risk management (DRM) and Gender and Social Inclusion (GSI) issues. The assessment aimed to ensure the perspectives, priorities, and experiences of all people were adequately reflected in policy development, project design, and budgets. It also aimed to improve access to climate change and disaster finance and to better manage CCDRM projects.

The support by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific created a sustainable impact on the climate financing framework in Tonga. The report was endorsed by the Kingdom's Cabinet in May 2016 and MFNP is working jointly with the Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC), in consultation with other relevant Ministries to ensure that the 48 proposed recommendations set out in the Report will be addressed. Progress will be reported to the Cabinet Coordination Development Committee on a regular basis.



STRENGTHENING PIFS REGIONAL ROLE IN CLIMATE FINANCE



The Climate Finance Risk Governance Assessment Team meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister of Tonga with representatives from UNDP, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, UN Women, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and support staff.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific strengthened the capacity of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) to conduct financial assessments of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) and improve access to climate finance. The main objective of the assistance was to compile the lessons of the six Climate Finance Assessments undertaken in the PICs and demonstrate the framework for ongoing Climate Finance and Risk Governance Assessment (CFRGA) such as in Tonga. The Synthesis Report forms the basis of a review of the Pacific Climate Change Finance Assessment Framework (PCCFAF) methodology that USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific was undertaking in addition to the preparation of a knowledge product exploring the wider

applicability of this methodology beyond the Pacific region. The draft of the synthesis report was submitted to PIFS (the lead partner) after incorporating comments from partners, including PIFS, UNDP, SPC, and GIZ. However, there was considerable delay from PIFS on the finalization of the report. After multiple efforts to finalize the draft report, USAID decided to close this activity in FY2017.

STRENGTHENING SPREP/PACIFIC SIDS PROJECT PREPARATION READINESS FOR GCF CLIMATE FINANCING

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has executed a comprehensive portfolio of project preparation activities ranging from coastal zone management in rural areas to urban adaptation in densely populated cities. The following are key project preparation activities of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific in the Pacific Region. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) aimed to strengthen SPREP's capacity to facilitate PICs in improving access to climate financing for specific investment projects. Detailed assistance has been provided in the preparation of an Adaptation Fund project proposal in the Federated States of Micronesia ("Enhancing the Climate Change Resilience of Vulnerable Island Communities in FSM").

After multiple rounds of revisions with support from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, the proposal was approved with a funding commitment of \$9 million at the 29th Adaptation Fund Board meeting in March 2017. The project covers all four states – Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and Kosrae – and is focused on urgent foreshore measures to adapt coastal communities to rising sea levels and increasing storm risk. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific conducted community consultations along with the planning of concrete measures that are consistent with state foreshore management plans.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also provided support to SPREP to develop an additional project concept to be submitted to the AF for the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). The Adaptation Fund (AF) secretariat requested multiple clarifications and requested further assessments to improve the concept. In support of this, a Terms of Reference (TORs) was drafted by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific to identify consultants. Assistance was also provided on developing preliminary project concepts for a potential Green Climate Fund proposal for the Kingdom of Tonga and Nauru. In all cases, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assisted SPREP staff in their preparatory activities, provided comments and inputs to TORs for missions, facilitated discussions of work programming and consultant selection, provided feedback on timing and quality control and other tools to support project development. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific concluded its support to SPREP for project preparation in FY2017.



Participants at the M&E Planning workshop for Adaptation Fund Proposal, Yap Marina, Colonia, Yap State, FSM, 21 January 2016

TASK 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

INDONESIA'S UNIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific worked with the Climate Change Center at the Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB) in Indonesia to enhance the center's existing capabilities. ITB has been a key partner in the development, piloting, and delivery of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's training programs: Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience, and Project Preparation and Finance. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and ITB have worked closely to customize and tailor these courses specifically for Indonesia, incorporating the institutional, legal, and administrative framework, Indonesia-specific examples, and climate data and information from Indonesia. ITB is in the process of taking ownership of these materials and incorporating them into their regular extension offerings, and there has been a significant demand for these courses. In addition, ITB is forging partnerships with regional universities throughout Indonesia. ITB will mentor these universities in incorporating the training materials and offer the courses throughout Indonesia including regions that have been traditionally underserved by development and adaptation projects.

OUTCOME

The Knowledge Hub model significantly increases the reach of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's capacity building efforts, and contributes

to the professional and institutional development efforts of universities throughout the country. ITB localized the Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience (UCCAR) curriculum by providing expertise on the institutional, legal, and administrative framework in Indonesia with respect to climate change. The model has already been implemented with Khairun University and University of Papua incorporating the course's lessons into their academic programs and organizing workshops for local governments and stakeholders. ITB is now leading the partnership with other regional universities.

SUSTAINABILITY

Taken together, these knowledge hub initiatives represent a transferable model with significant co-benefits that will inform future USAID programs in countries throughout Southeast Asia and beyond. Functioning as a knowledge hub, each university is committed to working with other regional university to expand the reach of the course, by implementing locally-appropriate capacity building activities and supporting local climate change adaptation policymaking process. This represents a collaboration model that leverages the strengths and capabilities of the respective partners to achieve sustained and ongoing impacts sustainably.



Developing Standalone Capacity Building Programs

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's regional capacity building assessment identified gaps in human capacity and capacity building institutions in the Asia and Pacific regions. To help fill these gaps, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific designed and implemented a number of standalone capacity building courses and programs. Initial priority gaps identified included the economics of climate change adaptation, the integration of climate change adaptation into the functions of urban governance, and the development of bankable adaptation projects. Each of these gaps was filled with one or more of the several courses developed by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific. The key modalities of support for these courses was through technical assistance (developing/customizing/delivering the course), mentoring (to stand-up the capability of implementation partners to deliver the courses in the future) and financial support (cost-sharing for several of the deliveries). The development of standalone capacity building materials has been a major achievement for the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project. The project has not only developed these five courses, but has also worked with partners to ensure that they are capable of delivering the course into the future.

Economics of Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA):

The ECCA program was a cooperative effort between the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Project, UNDP, the ADB, the Global Water Partnership (GWP), and Yale University. It addresses a consensus reached during a 2012 Regional Consultation that a more comprehensive approach to mainstreaming climate change risks into planning processes was needed to ensure economically-efficient climate change strategies at the sectoral, sub-national, and national levels. The ECCA program comprised of a series of trainings on microeconomic tools for assessing the costs and benefits of adaptation. Trainings were interspersed with in-country work with mentoring support of an economics expert. The program targeted technical staff in the public sector, specifically those who are or will be involved in sector or project analysis in central agencies including Planning, Finance, Environment, and/or line Ministries. The 1st and 2nd regional workshops provided training on theory and the practical application of cost-benefit analysis, and introduced participants to forecasting and modeling. The 3rd and 4th trainings moved from project level analysis to sectoral analysis, and looked into country-specific institutional development plans, within the context of ongoing and new initiatives. These analyses are currently being compiled as part of country reports and a regional report and will be further presented to policy makers to support their decision-making between alternate adaptation options. The program seeks to institutionalize these important analytical skills into Ministries and departments, enabling countries to formulate economically efficient and climate resilient development plans, including National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to help countries identify their medium- and long-term adaptation needs. These trainings are currently being shaped into a post-graduate training course, available at universities and institutions in Asia region for continued learning. The first round of training is being offered by the Asian Institute of Technology which will subsequently offer the materials through their regular curriculum.



Participants at the First Regional ECCA Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, 2012

Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience (UCCAR). USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific partnered with the East-West Center to design a training course for local government officials focusing on integrating climate change adaptation into their day-to-day technical functions as well as

mainstreaming climate change adaptation into planning processes. The UCCAR course consists of several modules (customizable for the specific requirements of each delivery) and covers a broad range of climate change adaptation tasks and activities, including vulnerability assessments, prioritization of adaptation strategies, and the compilation of adaptation and resilience strategies. The course also includes an innovative fieldwork component which enables participants to practice skills by conducting a “mini-vulnerability assessment” which can later be scaled up. The course, or elements of it, has been delivered 12 times in six countries. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific partnered with CDIA, ITB, Khairun University, UNIPA, UHM, UP, Kota Kita, AIT, and ICCCAD in these deliveries. Several of these entities have adopted the course as part of their regular extension/curriculum offerings. In addition, the course materials are and will continue to be available online.

Managing Project Preparation and Finance for Climate Change Adaptation Projects (PP&F). USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also developed the PP&F course based its experience and those of its partners in designing and securing financing for adaptation projects. The 5-day standardized curriculum contains several customizable modules covering most aspects of detailed project design, and includes a number of participant-centered activities. This course has been delivered nine times in six countries, and there is a continuing high demand for additional deliveries. In two cases the course was customized specifically for national-level funds (Indonesian Climate Change Trust Fund and the Philippines’ Peoples’ Survival Fund). The course is also complemented by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s Guide to Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation, which can be used as a workbook for the course. The course will be carried forward by AIT, the USAID Climate Ready project, and ITB.



The UCCAR training in Ternate, Indonesia in 2017 included a field work component where participants prepared a vulnerability assessment of a low-lying settlement

Pacific Cost-Benefit Analysis (P-CBA). USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific initially offered its assistance to the P-CBA consortium of development partners and regional agencies in FY2014. Through a regional coordinator based in Suva, Fiji, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assisted in developing an initial draft and materials for a guide to cost-benefit analysis based on the ECCA program. The final guide was reviewed and endorsed by each partner and published in FY2015. To further support the development of training materials based on the P-CBA guide, in years FY2016 and FY2017 USAID Adapt Asia Pacific partnered with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to compile and publish a 3-day course curriculum based on ad-hoc capacity-building activities that SPC had implemented in the past. As a first step the initial P-CBA guide was revised and the second edition was published by SPC in consultation with all partners. The P-CBA course utilizes Pacific-specific examples and approaches and includes a full suite of support materials, including facilitator guide, activities, workbook, and presentations.

Gender and Climate Change Adaptation (GCCA). The fifth standalone course is a fully-annotated curriculum that focuses on mainstreaming gender considerations into climate change adaptation policies and projects. The course includes a standard set of material complemented by several innovative modules that provide comprehensive examples of how to mainstream gender into sector-specific projects, including urban, coastal/fisheries, water and sanitation, and agriculture.

TASK 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

ECONOMICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

The Economics of Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA) course is one of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's flagship achievements in developing standalone capacity-building courses. The ECCA course was developed in response to an identified need for technical skills-building resources aimed at enhancing in-country capacity for conducting sectoral- and project-level economic analysis for climate change adaptation. Development of the course began in 2012 after a design workshop involving senior and upper-mid level officials from ministries of planning, finance, and environmental planning from 14 countries.

Input from this workshop enabled course developers to create a product specifically tailored to capacity gaps identified by the target countries themselves, and craft an approach appropriate to these countries. Involving relevant government officials from the target countries at the very earliest stages of product design led to the creation of a relevant course with high levels of local buy-in. Agreeing "ground rules" with participating countries in terms of responsibilities and expected outputs contributed to high levels of participation and buy-in throughout the extended course.

OUTCOME

The course was then implemented with participant teams from 10 countries. The teams participated in 4 regional workshops of 3-5 days each, which

were conducted over the course of approximately two years. In the intervening time between these workshops, the teams returned to their countries to gather data, conduct research, and compile results. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided mentoring support for each of these country teams. Mentors were economists and worked closely with the teams to ensure follow-up and to address questions and assist the teams with their tasks. Including support for ongoing mentoring was essential for ensuring long-term engagement and is an extremely effective complement to workshop-based capacity building activities. Providing mentoring support increases the overall cost of the activity, but more than pays for itself in terms of sustained impacts.

SUSTAINABILITY

The first cohort of the ECCA course resulted in the production of five country reports consisting of macroeconomic analyses of the agricultural sector in the target countries. These reports will provide policy makers with adaptation options for the agriculture sector in these countries. One of these analyses was incorporated into a GCF project proposal which was ultimately approved (Maldives). As the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific draws to a close, the ECCA course has been handed over to AIT, which, in partnership with UNDP, was implementing a new ECCA program as of the writing of this report.



TASK 4: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING FUNDING PROPOSALS

The original project scope for USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific envisaged targeted technical assistance and capacity building to national governments to accelerate access to CCA funds. Early baseline investigation by the project in FY2012 found that very little funding was available for CCA from the specialized climate change funds [like the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund (AF)] and direct access by national governments to these funds was the exception, rather than the rule. In July 2012 India's National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) achieved national implementing entity (NIE) accreditation status with the AF. It became the first and only national institution in the Asia-Pacific region to be accredited for direct access to the AF. In addition, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific determined that most of the external funding was either intermediated by or provided directly by multilateral or bilateral development agencies.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific therefore adopted a pragmatic approach and worked with UNDP, ADB, and WB to identify adaptation projects that they intended to prepare on behalf of developing member countries. Based on the pipelines of projects planned by these agencies, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific offered additional technical assistance inputs where specific gaps in expertise were mutually agreed. This approach was also intended to open up opportunities to work more directly with the national governments involved, and to identify specific champions within the relevant government agencies to be involved in the project's capacity building component. As part of the initial investigation of MDB financing of climate change adaptation projects, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific developed project preparation selection criteria to home in on effective and efficient project preparation interventions during the first year of the project.



Fishing communities in Oseli Indonesia, a target area of the ATSEA2 project submitted for GEF funding, adapt to alternate livelihoods.

Starting in FY2013, technical assistance for preparing adaptation projects gradually transitioned from working with multilateral development agencies to work directly with national governments. This transition was driven by the need for continuous engagement with government officials for long-term sustainability, gradual re-alignment of their often excessive expectations, and finding niche areas where USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific can support national adaptation programs. Cooperation with multilateral partners was more strategic to identify opportunities to directly support more countries and more activities involved.

Project preparation needs ranged from helping to select priority projects, adding a few consultants to specific project preparation teams (as was the usual case with UNDP), to reviewing projects prepared by regional and national bodies. In all cases, the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assistance continued until the projects reached the approving body. Over the six years of the project, all projects prepared with

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assistance have been approved or are in the pipeline for approval and the governments and project preparation agencies are highly grateful for the assistance received.

As detailed in Table 2 below the project was successful in supporting a total of 34 project proposals in 14 countries, 25 in Asia and 9 in the Pacific, accessing US\$179 million and leveraging US\$398 million for a total funding of US\$577 million, and benefitting almost one million people. In addition, nine out of the 34 project proposals financed included a gender component to promote gender equality and female empowerment through budgeted actions that build women capacity to better adapt to climate change-related challenges.



A household in a coastal community that will benefit from the Cambodia Rural Livelihoods for which USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided design support. In FY2015 USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific supported the preparation of seven CCA project proposals, benefitting almost 117,000 people and leveraging US\$128 million in CCA investments across Asia-Pacific.

Table 2: Details of Climate Change Adaptation Projects supported by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific

No.	Year	Country	Project	Beneficiaries (Male/Female)	Total Funding	Grant + Co-financing
Projects in Asia						
1	FY12	Lao PDR	Effective Governance for small-scale infrastructure and disaster preparedness in a changing climate	80,000 (55%/45%)	\$35,572,896	\$4,700,000 + \$30,872,896
2	FY13	Nepal	Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction	94,267 (50%/50%)	\$25,200,000	\$6,300,000 + \$18,900,000
3	FY16	Nepal	Developing a Demonstration Site in Nepal on Community Forestry, Gender and Climate Change Adaptation (Deep Well Intervention) [Gender Component]	359 (49%/51%)	\$910	\$910 + 0
4	FY14	Timor Leste	Strengthening Community Resilience to Climate Induced Natural Disasters in the Dili to Ainaro Road Development Corridor [Gender Component]	25,000 (50%/50%)	\$42,616,780	\$5,250,000 + \$37,366,780
5	FY16	Timor Leste	Building shoreline resilience of Timor-Leste to protect local communities and their livelihoods [Gender Component]	5,000 (70%/30%)	\$38,644,402	\$7,000,000 + \$31,644,402
6	FY14	Indonesia	Adaptation on Seaweed Aquaculture	957 (51%/49%)	\$41,647	\$41,647 + 0
7	FY14	Indonesia	Strengthening Coastal Community Resilience through Participatory Multimedia Technology	7,650 (51%/49%)	\$52,869	\$52,869 + 0
8	FY16	Indonesia	Establishment of Regional Networks for a Rural Response to Climate Change with Farmers, Scientists, and Extension	6,000 (60%/40%)	\$74,000	\$74,000 + 0
9	FY16	Indonesia	Climate Projection and Adaptation Strategy of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Cultivation against Regional Climate Change by integrated climate-crop-soil- water model approach in East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia	1,050 (65%/35%)	\$74,000	\$74,000 + 0
10	Y16	Indonesia	Climatic Driven Agricultural Management Strategies: Strengthening Community Resilience to Climate Change (CAMS-CRCC) Subang	15,075 (60%/40%)	\$74,000	\$74,000 + 0
11	FY16	Indonesia	Spring water conservation as adaptation to climate change in Dieng mountain slope, Batang, Central Java, Indonesia	52,000 (50%/50%)	\$68,000	\$68,000 + 0
12	FY16	Indonesia	Adaptation for fisherman operation and fishing ground base on risk assessment in south coast of Java, Indonesia	7,575 (90%/10%)	\$74,000	\$74,000 + 0
13	FY16	Indonesia	Climate Change Adaptation for Supporting Food Security in Villages in Gunung Kidul Distric, Jogyakarta, Indonesia	9,225 (50%/50%)	\$74,000	\$74,000 + 0

No.	Year	Country	Project	Beneficiaries (Male/Female)	Total Funding	Grant + Co-financing
Projects in Asia						
14	FY16	Indonesia	Capacity Building for Local Government in Integrating Climate Change Adaptation in Development Planning, Indonesia	6,030 (60%/40%)	\$74,000	\$74,000 + 0
15	FY17	Indonesia	Vulnerable Household based Food and Economic Resilience Program for Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience	2,172 (70%/30%)	\$75,200	\$75,200 + 0
16	FY17	Indonesia	Developing Food and Economic Resilience for the Vulnerable Community by Implementing Sustainable Farming in Drought Prone Area in Pangkep District, South Sulawesi	250 (50%/50%)	\$75,200	\$75,200 + 0
17	FY17	Indonesia	Food and Water Resilience for A Climate Change Resilient Community	250 (50%/50%)	\$75,200	\$75,200 + 0
18	FY17	Indonesia	Climate Change Adaptation with Bio-slurry Application in Lombok	7,990 (46%/54%)	\$75,200	\$75,200 + 0
19	FY15	India	Conservation and Management of Coastal Resources as a Potential Adaptation Strategy for Sea Level Rise	5,150 (50.2%/49.8%)	\$689,264	\$689,264 + 0
20	FY15	India	Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Increasing Resilience of Small and Marginal Farmers in Purulia and Bankura Districts of West Bengal	22,810 (51%/49%)	\$2,510,854	\$2,510,854 + 0
21	FY15	India	Building Adaptive Capacities of Small Inland Fishers for Climate Resilience and Livelihood Security, Madhya Pradesh, India	5,344 (67%/33%)	\$1,790,500	\$1,790,500 + 0
22	FY16	India	Climate Smart Actions and Strategies in North Western Himalayan Region for Sustainable Livelihoods of Agriculture-Dependent Hill Communities	4,800 (25%/75%)	\$969,570	\$969,570 + 0
23	FY15	Cambodia	Second Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project (RWSSP2)	8,896 (49.7%/50.3%)	\$265,768	\$265,768 + 0
24	FY15	Cambodia	Reducing the Vulnerability of Cambodian Rural Livelihoods through Enhanced Sub-national Climate Change Planning and Execution of Priority Actions [Gender Component]	15,000 (50%/50%)	\$20,427,500	\$4,567,500 + \$15,860,000
25	FY17	Timor Leste, Indonesia, PNG	Implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas Regional and National Strategic Action Programmes [Gender Component]	115,000 (52%/48%)	\$69,861,184	\$9,745,662 + \$60,115,522
Total				506,450	\$239,456,944	\$194,759,600 + \$44,697,344

No	Year	Country	Project	Beneficiaries (Male/Female)	Total Funding	Grant + Co- financing
Projects in the Pacific						
1	FY13	Samoa	Enhancing the Resilience of Tourism-reliant Communities to Climate Change Risks [Gender Component]	2,500 (55%/45%)	\$9,050,000	\$1,950,000 + \$7,100,000
2	FY14	Samoa	Enhancing the Climate Resilience of Coastal Resources and Communities	45,000 (52%/48%)	\$14,600,000	\$14,600,000 + 0
3	FY15	Samoa	Economy-wide integration of climate change adaptation and DRM/DRR to reduce climate vulnerability of communities in Samoa [Gender Component]	59,584 (51.2%/48.8%)	\$102,322,936	\$12,322,936 + \$90,000,000
4	FY17	Samoa	Integrated Flood Management to Enhance Climate Resilience of the Vaisigano River Catchment in Samoa [Gender Component]	37,000 (50%/50%)	\$65,718,000	\$57,718,000 + \$8,000,000
5	FY14	Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Water Sector Adaptation Project (SIWSAP)	12,000 (52%/48%)	\$50,472,462	\$6,850,000 + \$43,622,462
6	FY14	Vanuatu	Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu [Gender Component]	234,000 (50%/50%)	\$39,205,685	\$8,030,000 + \$31,175,685
7	FY13	Tuvalu	Effective and responsive island-level governance to secure and diversify climate resilient marine-based coastal livelihoods and enhance climate hazard response capacity	10,000 (49.5%/50.5%)	\$24,038,880	\$4,200,000 + \$19,838,880
8	FY13	Tonga	Tonga: Strategic Program for Climate Resilience Project	48,000 (50%/50%)	\$23,110,000	\$19,250,000 + \$3,860,000
9	FY17	FSM	Enhancing the Climate Change Resilience of Vulnerable Island Communities in FSM	9,626 (50%/50%)	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000 + 0
Total				483,710	\$337,517,963	\$133,920,936 + \$203,597,027

TASK 4: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING FUNDING PROPOSALS

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

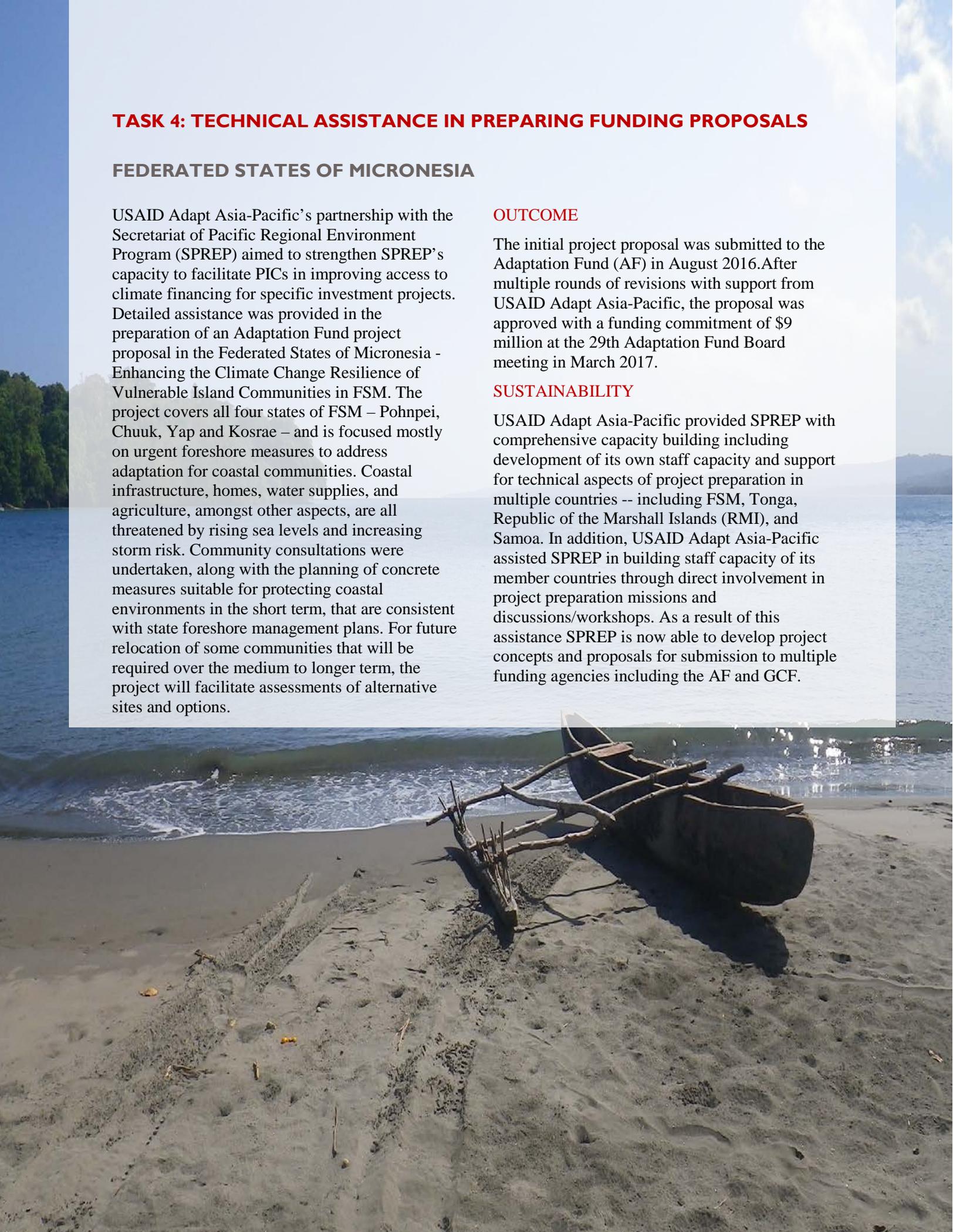
USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's partnership with the Secretariat of Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) aimed to strengthen SPREP's capacity to facilitate PICs in improving access to climate financing for specific investment projects. Detailed assistance was provided in the preparation of an Adaptation Fund project proposal in the Federated States of Micronesia - Enhancing the Climate Change Resilience of Vulnerable Island Communities in FSM. The project covers all four states of FSM – Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap and Kosrae – and is focused mostly on urgent foreshore measures to address adaptation for coastal communities. Coastal infrastructure, homes, water supplies, and agriculture, amongst other aspects, are all threatened by rising sea levels and increasing storm risk. Community consultations were undertaken, along with the planning of concrete measures suitable for protecting coastal environments in the short term, that are consistent with state foreshore management plans. For future relocation of some communities that will be required over the medium to longer term, the project will facilitate assessments of alternative sites and options.

OUTCOME

The initial project proposal was submitted to the Adaptation Fund (AF) in August 2016. After multiple rounds of revisions with support from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, the proposal was approved with a funding commitment of \$9 million at the 29th Adaptation Fund Board meeting in March 2017.

SUSTAINABILITY

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided SPREP with comprehensive capacity building including development of its own staff capacity and support for technical aspects of project preparation in multiple countries -- including FSM, Tonga, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), and Samoa. In addition, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assisted SPREP in building staff capacity of its member countries through direct involvement in project preparation missions and discussions/workshops. As a result of this assistance SPREP is now able to develop project concepts and proposals for submission to multiple funding agencies including the AF and GCF.



TASK 5: OVERARCHING PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

Maintain Robust Project and Financial Reporting Systems

AECOM successfully established the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project office in Bangkok, along with the financial and administrative systems and reporting mechanisms during the start-up of the project. An Orientation Meeting was organized to present the first-year project work plan and share ideas with USAID Asia. Based on recommendations from USAID Asia, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific submitted the work plan to COR for review and approval within 30 days of the project start date. The work plan was approved on February 29, 2012. In addition, the project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan was approved on January 31, 2012. Annual work plans in the subsequent years were also developed in collaboration with the COR and other staff members of USAID Asia/REO and submitted for USAID Asia approval in accordance with the timeline outlined in the contract.

Over the life of the project, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific developed and submitted quarterly and annual progress reports on the technical progress and accomplishments of the project. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also provided program support to REO for the annual Performance Plan and Report (PPR) and semi-annual OES-EGC indicator reporting. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also successfully conducted annual data quality assessment (DQA) for the performance indicators of the project. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific developed pipeline analyses and financial reports: (i) on a quarterly basis; (ii) before each contract modification; and (iii) accruals information through the end of the contract.

Coordination with Bilateral Missions and Development Partners

Throughout the six years of project implementation, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific coordinated and maintained good relations with USAID bilateral missions and international development partners across the Asia and Pacific regions, building synergies with other donors and U.S. Government programs and avoiding duplication of activities at the country and regional levels. In coordination with USAID Asia, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific made in-person briefings to USAID missions in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Philippines, Timor Leste, Vietnam and U.S. Embassies in Suva, Fiji, and Apia, Samoa to brief them on project objectives and activities and consult with them on the status of ongoing and planned project activities in the respective countries. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also successfully engaged in joint activities with the ADB/CDIA, AusAID, GIZ, the WB, UNDP, UNEP, PIFS, SPREP, USP and other multilateral donor agencies. These joint activities helped the project to reach a larger audience and target specific countries, enabling the project to leverage financial and technical resources for project activities.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also facilitated signing of a Letter of Cooperation between ADB and USAID Asia on joint climate change adaptation activities under the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project. The Letter of Cooperation outlines key areas of partnership in capacity building and project preparation, and underlines the commitments of both sides to work together on climate change adaptation initiatives in Asia and the Pacific.

Development of Outreach and Communication Tools and Activities

To increase visibility of the project, and continually engage the project's stakeholders, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific used a variety of methods and tools to share lessons learned around the region. In addition to a quarterly e-newsletter updating project activities, which is distributed to project stakeholders, and

contribution to RDMA/REO's Weekly Update, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific conducted a number of successful outreach activities, e.g. e-discussions, development of posters in both English and local language on the climate proofing of Cambodia's rural community water supply ponds, interactive online tool to support practitioners in the development of gender inclusive adaptation projects, etc. One of the key achievements in outreach and communication was organizing the green-Y event in collaboration with USAID Asia and three other implementing partners. The green-Y event on June 11 in Bangkok attracted around 300 university students and professionals who came together for an afternoon with leading thinkers, innovators, and climate change experts from Asia. Around the theme "Convening Green Minds," the event involved a suite of talks, demonstrations, and ideas aimed at inspiring the next generation to act on climate change. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific was one of the core organizers for the program, sponsoring plenary speakers, supporting the event's photo exhibition and most importantly organizing a Student Challenge aimed at drawing the attention of youth towards the challenges of climate change.

The Student Challenge invited entries from university students to submit a two-minute video presentation in response to the question - "The negative impacts of climate change are affecting communities all across Asia. Everyday lives and livelihoods are being disrupted by sea level rise, severe storms, regular flooding, heat waves and frequent droughts. There are many ways you can address climate change. If you had 100,000 THB how would you tackle climate change in your community?"



Winners of the green-Y Student Challenge with US Ambassador to Thailand, H.E. Glyn T. Davies, AECOM's President for International Development, Torge Gerlach, and Tik Jesadaporn. (Photo Credit Richard Nyberg, USAID)

The entries ranged widely from campaigns to inform the community about the impacts of climate change to initiatives for reducing the carbon footprint of your daily food supply. The ideas reinforced the central theme of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's work in climate change – that promoting climate resiliency is globally imperative.

The organizing committee picked the top three entries and then the audience at the event picked the winners. AECOM's President for International Development, Torge Gerlach, along with US Ambassador to Thailand, H.E. Glyn T. Davies, presented the AECOM-funded student prizes. ABAC Preservers Club from Assumption University won first prize. "The green-Y award is like fuel for us to keep the club going," said Ms. Wanwisa Kudthalaeng, President of ABAC Preservers Club, "It gives us strength and courage to continue doing environmental preservation camps".



3.

INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES & USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

Given the widespread absence of gender considerations in climate change adaptation projects in the region, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific adopted a “beyond mainstreaming” approach that surpasses the mainstreaming of gender with the inclusion of sensitive targets and indicators into the project’s results framework. This approach builds on the underlying tenet that women are a source of unrealized solutions in adapting to climate change. It involves providing expert support to analyze the problem through a gender-sensitive lens and design specific, budgeted actions that respond to those climate change-related challenges that can best be addressed through efforts that promote gender equality and female empowerment.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, in collaboration with Development Training Services (dTS), developed a sourcebook for use by project developers, based on rigorous research on defining gender activities within climate change adaptation projects. As adaptation projects are usually developed around affected sectors, the sourcebook is organized to provide detailed information by sector, useful for gender experts as well as novices. The sourcebook was publicly launched on the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) web portal in December of 2015. Since its publication, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has promoted its utility with projects developed in Indonesia, Timor Leste, RMI, and Samoa with UNDP, and Nepal with RECOFTC, all of which incorporated specific, budgeted solutions aimed at supporting women to adapt, and were approved for funding. The sourcebook has proved useful and thorough in treatment of gender concerns across the elements of project design.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also promoted the sourcebook at relevant events around the region, with a number of institutions, including the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) in Bangladesh. The project partnered with ICCAD to develop a training module for gender-sensitive project design. The module is designed as a number of sessions in order to give it the flexibility to be integrated into the range of training courses and sectors covered by ICCAD. There are two general sessions: a background session introducing the concept of gender in climate change (Session 1); and a session introducing best practice for gender in planning for CCA (Session 2). The module also covers four sectoral sub-modules, on specific considerations of gender in CCA, including: agriculture, coastal water resources and fisheries, urban systems, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).



The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team was able to troubleshoot most issues encountered and come up with strategies to mitigate potential delays or risks in the achievement of indicator targets. The project was able to complete the tasks outlined in its work plans and meet or exceed its targets overall. However, some key implementation issues or challenges may be worth documenting as institutional memory and precautions for future project implementation. They include:

- Difficulty in scheduling introductory meetings with all USAID country missions in the project's geographic scope and in securing mission approval to work in certain countries – USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific worked with COR to overcome these challenges by providing requested information and/or presentations to assist facilitation of these. A *modus operandi* was put in place between USAID Asia and USAID/Cambodia. USAID Asia and USAID/Cambodia, under the auspices of the U.S. Embassy in Cambodia, negotiated an Action Memo that lays out the background and project description of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, while establishing the coordination procedures between USAID Asia and USAID/Cambodia for the implementation of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project activities in the country. This can serve as an excellent model to establish working relationships between individual regional projects and specific USAID missions. For countries that the project was not able to work in, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific invited government officials from these countries to participate in the project's training and regional events, thus all eligible Asia-Pacific countries benefitted from USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific.
- It took time to develop the working relationships with national governments and regional organizations, such as PIFS, SPREP, USP, etc., and the costs per project activity were higher than participating as a member of a multilateral intermediary project preparation team. These potentially impacted the timely submission of deliverables and budget.
- It was the experience of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific that the multilateral intermediaries with whom the project was cooperating on project preparation activities did not take adequate consideration of gender issues during project design. This had made it difficult for the project to introduce specific gender activities into the design of climate change adaptation projects, which would impact the project's ability to deliver on this indicator target. To address this challenge, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific worked closely with its multilateral intermediary partners to introduce specific gender activities at the upfront project concept development stage in project design.



The long-term sustainability of project-supported activities in furtherance of the project goal and objectives has been and at the forefront of project planning and execution. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has been actively seeking opportunities, as part of ongoing project activities, which will enhance opportunities for the project's sustainability. Discussion below represents our comprehensive approach to long-term sustainability of the project. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific defines its long-term sustainability in terms of three principal elements:

- Sustainability of the knowledge created by the project;
- Strengthening government and institutional capacities in the region; and,
- Establishment and strengthening of institutional arrangements to support national governments in the region to prepare climate change adaptation projects.

SUSTAINABILITY OF PROJECT KNOWLEDGE AND WEB CONTENT

Through its six years of implementation, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has served as a leading regional CCA platform that is rich in knowledge products, reports, guides, and other materials particularly in the area of climate financing and project preparation. To keep this content readily available to the climate adaptation community, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has been seeking collaborating with multiple knowledge platforms. The APAN website for example will continue to host many of the manuals and guides, knowledge products, and reports that were generated as part of Tasks 1, 2 and 3 of the project. With a view to long term sustainability of the content, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has partnered with two additional web portals – weAdapt and Climatelinks - to host parts or all of its content after the project closes in September 2017.

The weAdapt knowledge portal managed by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) is a popular web portal used by the global adaptation community. The portal is organized around thematic areas including climate finance and is very well curated making the content user friendly and easily accessible. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific entered into an agreement with SEI to transition all of its content to the weAdapt portal. SEI has committed to hosting the materials for an indefinite period and to update some of the content on a regular basis. In addition for first two years after the transition, weAdapt will continue to promote the content through its regular email and social media outreach campaigns. The

content will continue to be organized in a manner similar to the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s website. In addition weAdapt has created three hub pages to consolidate the project’s content:

- The first hub page will function as the main page for USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s content. It will provide links to the different tasks of the project and to the multiple knowledge products;
- The second hub page will feature the “Urban Resilience Roadmap” created as part of the final forum. This page will facilitate easy access to the urban resilience related content that has been created by the project and will ensure that any future USAID projects are able to access, use and edit the content as required; and,
- The third hub page will feature the “Online Gender Sourcebook” developed by the project. Given its unique nature and high demand, it was agreed that weAdapt will create a separate page to make the sourcebook widely usable and accessible to multiple audiences globally.

Climatelinks is a USAID managed global web portal for climate related content. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has collaborated periodically with Climatelinks to cross-post materials of interest. In discussions prior to the close of the project, the Climatelinks team has expressed interest in hosting many of the training materials and guides developed by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific. These materials have been made available to Climatelinks and will be hosted on the portal after the close of the project.

Similarly, the websites of many of the partner universities of the project will feature and host some of the content. ITB, Indonesia for example will host the UCCAR and PP&F training materials that have been translated to Bahasa Indonesia. Finally USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific will continue to keep its website alive for a year after the project. The project website will feature a banner informing visitors to access the content via the weAdapt portals.



A screenshot of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific web content hosted on the weAdapt knowledge portal.

STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT CAPACITIES IN THE REGION

Selected governments in the Asia-Pacific region at all levels – local, provincial, and national, as well as regional networks or coordinating entities, are being strengthened to better understand, analyze, and prepare themselves to become more resilient to climate change impacts through a number of capacity building efforts.

DIRECT SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THROUGH FACILITATING TWINNING ARRANGEMENTS

As a follow-on to the development of a National Climate Change Research Strategy and Plan for Thailand to guide all future national CCA and resilience efforts, the project continues to facilitate a ‘twinning arrangement’ between the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and the U.S. Forest

Service (USFS) and National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). Both organizations have signed Letters of Cooperation to build CCA factors into a 'reef-to-ridge' vulnerability and adaptation assessment of the watershed containing the Royal Princess Sirindhorn International Environmental Park (SIEP) in Petchaburi province. It is our goal that this demonstration will serve as a learning and interpretation model for the region.

GOVERNMENT TRAINING SUPPORT PROGRAM

Through this program USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided financial assistance to well-matched, deserving, and needy mid- to senior-level government officials in the Asia and Pacific region. With these scholarships, they were able to attend relevant, high-quality training programs on climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and building greater climate resilience at training institutions (e.g. ADPC, RECOFTC, etc.) and universities (Oxford, the Hague Academy, etc.) around the world. In all the project training for 40 carefully selected government officials; by the end of the project, we hope to have appreciably increased that number with those officials acting as CCA 'champions' back in their home offices.

DEVELOPING STANDALONE TRAINING PROGRAMS

The five training programs developed by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific will possibly have the greatest impact on sustaining the knowledge and activities of the project. Throughout the implementation of the training programs they have enjoyed significant support for development partners and an ever increasing demand from governments and climate adaptation professionals in the region. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has ensured that the training programs will continue to be offered by a wide range of universities beyond the life of the project. In addition, many of the institutions have committed to actively update the materials, contextualize them as needed to the different countries and translate them into local languages. Below is a list of the training programs and institutions that will continue to offer the trainings:



Participants at the UCCAR training in Manila, Philippines develop Problem and Objective Trees to define specific projects from broad climate change adaptation strategies.

- **ECCA:** UNDP will continue to build the program and integrate it within the NAP process for many countries. AIT is currently leading the delivery of the course and will continue to offer it in the future. AIT will also incorporate elements of the training into its curriculum.
- **UCCAR:** ITB-Indonesia, AIT-Thailand, UP-SURP-Philippines, NIUA-India, YKK-Indonesia, and ICCCAD-Bangladesh, will continue to update, contextualize and offer the training programs in their respective countries. ITB-Indonesia as the knowledge hub in Indonesia is further expanding the network of universities and already supporting Khairun University and University of West Papua to implement the course.

- **PP&F:** ITB-Indonesia, AIT-Thailand, TERI-India, and USP-Pacific, will continue to update, contextualize and offer the training programs in their respective countries and regions. As with the UCCAR course, ITB-Indonesia will act as the knowledge hub in Indonesia and is further expanding the network of universities. AIT in collaboration with UNDP has already planned multiple future deliveries of the program. The training has also been customized to national funds in Indonesia and the Philippines.
- **P-CBA:** USP and SPC in the Pacific have access to the training materials and intend to deliver the training through their regular programs. USP will integrate the tools and materials as part of its regular teaching programs.
- **GCCA:** This training was developed in collaboration with ICCCAD-Bangladesh and is being incorporated into many of their course offerings. Other institutions like AIT-Thailand have also shown interest in using the materials both as standalone training and for integrating within their other course offerings.

SUPPORTING PROJECT PREPARATION FACILITIES IN THE ASIA- PACIFIC REGION

The extent to which USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s project preparation activities are sustained after the project completion date in FY2017 will depend in part on the capacities built up in the 27 targeted countries. Considerable effort was devoted to bridging the capacity building, knowledge management, and project preparation components of the project. Specific project preparation capacity building is being provided to NABARD (India) and ICCTF (Indonesia).

ASSISTANCE TO ICCTF IN INDONESIA

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assistance to ICCTF included:

- Preparation of project prioritization and selection criteria;
- Development of a monitoring and evaluation system for adaptation projects;
- Preparation of several small-scale projects;
- Funding and sustainability strategy for ICCTF; and,
- Supporting prioritization and preparation of several climate change adaptation projects for financing under a USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific-facilitated USAID/Indonesia US\$5 million contribution to ICCTF.

Throughout this assistance, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has provided *ad hoc* advice to ICCTF Secretariat staff on a wide range of implementation issues, leading up to the launch and ICCTF role in implementation of the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (RAN-API).



Participants interviewing key informants during a transect walk in a flood-prone community in Bandung, Indonesia, August 11, 2016. The transect walk was part of a training that utilized the UCCAR materials.

ASSISTANCE TO NABARD

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has provided technical assistance to NABARD, Asia's only NIE with accreditation with the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund (AF) and recently the Green Climate Fund (GCF), in three principal areas of project preparation:

- Formulation of a methodology to carry out climate change adaptation vulnerability assessments;
- Development of a tool to appraise projects for financing under the Adaptation Fund (AF) in NABARD's core business areas of agriculture and natural resource management; and,
- Assistance to NABARD and its National Executing Entities (EEs) in the preparation of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) project proposals for submission to AF for financing.

The project worked closely with NABARD and five individual EEs to strengthen and finalize four CCA project proposals and one project concept. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific assisted in ensuring that the four project submissions are compliant with AF guidelines and respond satisfactorily to previous round(s) of AF observations and comments, as necessary, particularly with respect to the preparation of project log frames and their alignment with AF guidelines, identification and development of appropriate CCA interventions, project implementation arrangements, development of project financial plans, and sustainability mechanisms. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also worked with NABARD to put in place a more rigorous process for selecting and developing project proposals and for developing a methodology for vulnerability assessments that can be used by NABARD and other stakeholders engaged in implementing CCA projects. Through this hands-on approach, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has built sustainable capacity with NABARD and its EEs to develop CCA projects that can meet the requirements of the AF and other vertical funds.



Indian farmers planting mangroves to protect shorelines against coastal flooding in Andhra Pradesh, India. (Photo: M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation)

COLLABORATION WITH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Finally, with respect to sustaining the project's principal elements, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific sees CDIA as a key project preparation facility for Asia. In the Pacific region, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) is seen as crucial climate financing coordination body, whose capacity the project strengthened. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific also provided technical assistance in project preparation in conjunction with SPREP's recent accreditation with both the Adaptation and Green Climate Funds and the Pacific Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) being established in SPREP and SPC under the regional Pilot Program on Climate Resilience, implemented by the Asian Development Bank to support preparation of project investment proposals.

