APPROVAL BY MAIL: PPCR PAPUA NEW GUINEA: BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA PROJECT (ADB)

Response submitted by the Asian Development Bank to the comments submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom

COMMENT

UNITED KINGDOM

There are targets for the number of latrines and water points mentioned in the course of the project document but not in the results framework, is there any reason why these are not represented? Also – How will the latrines and water points be adapted to be climate resilient?

If possible it would be useful to see gender disaggregation included in the project indicators.

The radio and VHF repeater stations will be a valuable addition in ensuring quick responses to emergencies, but will depend on the availability of reliable energy access - it would be helpful to understand how this will be ensured.

There seem to be conflicting targets for area of mangrove ecosystems to be rehabilitated in the results framework from the cover sheet, as below:

- Rehabilitation technologies developed for nine mangroves ecosystems (100 ha) to enhance their function for the benefit of island communities.' (Under 'Quality and extent to which climate responsive instruments/ investment models are developed and tested.)
- Nine mangrove forest rehabilitation demonstrations with 270 ha of mangroves.

(Under 'Extent to which the relevant institutions, businesses, and public sector services use improved PPCR supported tools, instruments, strategies, and activities to respond to climate variability or climate change, including climate resilient design standards.')

RESPONSE

Anticipated numbers are presented in the DMF of the RRP page 14. The latrines and water points will be located taking climate change i projections and related impacts as presented in the CCVAPs into account so as to continue to be functional under various climate change scenarios depending on the locations where these will be built, since the CCVAPs will take due consideration of location specific climate projections. It is likely that capacities of gutters and delivery pipes into storage tanks will be adjusted to accommodate increased rainfall intensity in order to capture all available precipitation in that location.

Gender disaggregation will be applied throughout data collected on performance indicators. The DMF on page 14 of the RRP reflect gender disaggregated data.

Base stations are to be located on existing towers with power connections already established. Island transmitter and receiver stations will have solar panels and back-up battery systems to assure continuous power supplies.

The target for mangrove rehabilitation is 30 ha per pilot in each of the nine sites - total 270 ha for the project. Figures amended.

While it is possible that the criteria may apply to different interventions, consistency will be ensured with associated documents including the DMF of the Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors (RRP). ADB will monitor the indicators identified in the RRP

Are there different interventions planned against each of these criteria? There are also different results frameworks outlined in the RRP and the project cover sheet, so it would be useful to know which will be reported against.

DMF on a routine basis and report the same to CIF. In addition, independent monitoring has been proposed for PNG's SPCR and such an indicator may also warrant inclusion under the more general SPCR framework.

GERMANY

Individual Comments

The Concept Note mentions that the Building Resilience to Climate Change in Papua New Guinea (PNG) Project includes the preparation of climate projections as well as site-specific climate change risk and vulnerability assessments. While we very much appreciate this, it remains unclear in what respect current and future climate information is used in the context of climate proofing Samarai wharf and in decision-making regarding adaptation options. Moreover, the trainings that will be provided to national, provincial and local personnel do not seem to entail modules on access to and appropriate use of climate information. However, using available climate information for adaptation decisionmaking is vital in order to facilitate more effective, climate resilient planning. Thus, we recommend elaborating how climate information is used in the context of climate proofing coastal infrastructure and whether it will be taken into account in capacity development activities. During the implementation of knowledge management activities, it is important to ensure that data and information is made available in appropriate formats.

Romeo Bertolini 07.07.2015 18:17

Overall Comments

The proposal does neither outline how the project is aligned with the National Climate Compatible Development Policy 2014 and relevant sector strategies nor does it mention relevant sector policies and plans which focus on sector-specific responses to climate change. We recommend describing briefly how the proposed project is aligned with the National Climate Compatible Development Policy 2014 and relevant sector strategies. Given that mainstreaming climate change is the overall objective of the proposed project, we also recommend elaborating how the proposed activities fit into the context of a potential National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process for Papua New Guinea.

Please note that the Alotau Provincial Government Wharf and the Wharf on Samarai Island are different structures - both in Milne Bay Province. The Government has confirmed the Alotau Provincial Government Wharf as its priority for upgrading and climate proofing whereas Samarai wharf was the subject of an earlier application for additional financing.

In the course of detailed engineering design (to be financed under the PPG application), site specific climate vulnerabilities will be identified, assessed and addressed in the design. This data is different from that obtained for the 21 vulnerable islands under Output 1 that will be used for vulnerability assessments in those locations.

The consistency has been explained in detail in the project administration manual. In addition, you may please refer to para 7 of the RRP which reads as follows "The Papua New Guinea Vision 2050 (Vision 2050)[1] sets out the longer-term development strategy and framework. One of its seven strategic focus areas is "Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change."[2] PNG's Development Strategic Plan (2010-2030) includes climate change as a crosscutting issue, with one of its goals being to "Adapt to the domestic impacts of climate change and contribute to global efforts to abate greenhouse gas emissions." The PNG Medium

We highly appreciate that the project seeks to foster mainstreaming adaptation in development planning at different levels and improve the capacities of communities, government agencies, and civil society to plan and respond to the impacts of climate change. Yet, given the complexity of the topic, we feel that the proposal would have benefited from a greater level of detail, e.g. regarding tools that will be applied to support mainstreaming and entry points in the planning and budgetary cycles. Thus, we recommend elaborating in more detail how climate risk and adaptation considerations will be systematically integrated in decision-making and planning processes.

We appreciate that the proposal foresees preparing local climate projections, carrying out climate change and vulnerability assessments and developing adaptation plans for target communities. Yet, it does not become apparent how adaptation options are identified, prioritized and selected on the basis of the vulnerability assessments. We recommend explaining in more detail how adaptation measures are developed and selected based on the results of vulnerability assessments and/or other assessments (e.g. costbenefit-analyses). We recommend bringing out more strongly the links and synergies between Output 1 to 3 and explain how the activities under Output 2 and 3 will benefit from the climate projections and vulnerability assessments generated under Output 1.

Term Development Plan (2011-2015)[3] focuses on "developing governance and institutional capacity together with essential infrastructure and policies ... to improve the quality of life." The Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) developed a Climate Compatible Development Strategy[4] aimed at "shaping development to be more climate resilient" and setting up a sustainable climate change financing framework, both priorities under Vision 2050. The institutional framework is in place but under resourced, while human capacities in these institutions are constraining efforts to mitigate climate risk."

The process of identification of climate vulnerabilities and prioritizing adaptation measures by the communities and then incorporating those plans into the local level government and provincial development plans is described in detail in the Project Administration Manual (Annex 1 pages 112-116). It is an iterative process whereby communities are guided by technical options (specialists) to address their priority concerns from climate change. Annex 2 to the Project Administration Manual also identifies the facilitation process to be used in the vulnerability assessment facilitated by NGOs and provides an example of the instrument that might be used in undertaking the vulnerability assessment.

See comments immediately above. As for linkages between the vulnerability assessments on island communities and the activities of Output 2, the food security assessment will be based on the vulnerability assessment and demonstrations / interventions developed accordingly as appropriate for each local farming system practiced.

The projections developed under the project will inform the site specific climate vulnerabilities and the design of the wharf (to be financed under the PPG application). This data is very different from that obtained for the 21 vulnerable islands under Output 1 that will be used for vulnerability assessments in those locations. The capacity building provided under the project will include training of key agencies on how to interpret and

Synergies with German Climate Change Related Engagement in the Country/Region We appreciate that the proposal takes into account possible synergies with other projects supported by international development partners, such as EU and GEF, as well as regional institutions, such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). In addition, the proposed PPCR investment could also benefit from coordination with the Germansupported project Coping with climate change in the Pacific island region that seeks to increase climate resilience in Pacific island states. We suggest coordination and collaboration between the proposed PPCR investment and the Germansupported project, in order to benefit from lessons learned and from already established working relationships.

use the climate projections generated for climate resilient planning.

Noted. The project will coordinate with the expanded SPC/GIZ 'Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region' Program which includes PNG. In addition to this program, the PNG PPCR project management unit is expected to coordinate through OCCD on all relevant climate change related programs including Regional Pacific PPCR program implemented through the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS). Meetings, training and workshops could be combined on related projects/activities for those with same or similar target groups. The relevant section in the project documents will be further strengthened to ensure adequate level of coordination and synergies across climate change related programs.