

# Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP)

## The Climate Action Pacific Partnership Technical Expert Meeting

15 – 16 March, 2018

Holiday Inn, Suva, Fiji

### BACKGROUND ON THE CLIMATE ACTION PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Established under the COP23 Presidency in July 2017<sup>1</sup>, the Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP) is a coalition of Pacific stakeholders from various thematic and cross-cutting areas, supported by regional and international partners. Whilst the Partnership is largely made up of non-Party stakeholders, there is also the strong presence of Parties, particularly at the technical level.

The CAPP serves to –

- a. Create a platform to exchange ideas, technologies, innovations, experiences and challenges among various sectors and stakeholders and to initiate, implement and accelerate climate action in the Pacific
- b. Strengthen partnerships and collaboration between Government and Non-Party stakeholders including the private sector, investors, civil society groups and sub-national agencies
- c. Contribute to the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action
- d. Provide inputs into UNFCCC processes to strengthen Pacific issues

The CAPP is made up of the following thematic expert teams –

1. Agriculture, Forests and Land Use
2. Ocean
3. Water
4. Health
5. Gender and climate justice
6. Climate financing
7. Low carbon development
8. Integrating disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development
9. Decent work and just transition

The CAPP technical experts come from different organisations and bring in vast experience, skills and knowledge. These technical inputs are valuable in identifying transformative on-the-ground

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<sup>1</sup> The CAPP Conference Outcomes Report can be found [here](#)

climate actions and innovative approaches and technologies that are relevant, scalable and replicable in our Pacific island countries.

The Partnership is organised under the umbrella of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, the UNFCCC framework for global climate action.

## **THE CLIMATE ACTION PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (CAPP) TECHNICAL EXPERT MEETING**

The CAPP Technical Expert Meeting (TEM) will be held at the Holiday Inn in Suva, Fiji on 15 and 16 March 2018.

The meeting is organised by the Fiji COP23 Presidency, under the leadership of the high-level climate champion, and will be the first the technical expert meeting on climate action in the Pacific region.

Participants will largely be technical experts of each of the CAPP thematic groups.

### **Objectives of the CAPP technical expert meeting**

The technical meeting has the following specific objectives –

1. Discuss Pacific inputs to the Talanoa Dialogue
2. Reflect on selected main outcomes from the UNFCCC COP23
3. Present the 2018 work programme of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and discuss how participation of Pacific experts can be strengthened
4. Identify Pacific contributions to the Technical Expert Meetings (on adaptation and mitigation) that will be held during the UNFCCC first sessional meeting for 2018 in May
5. Progress the CAPP Action Plan

## **OVERVIEW OF THE SESSIONS**

### **SESSION 1: The Talanoa Dialogue**

A central feature of the Paris Agreement is an ongoing cycle in which parties take stock every five years of collective progress to meeting the objectives of the Agreement in the lead up to the submission of new NDCs.

The first “global stocktake” under the agreement is scheduled for 2023, with new NDCs to be submitted by 2025. Parties to the UNFCCC, however, felt it was important to initiate this cycle prior to the agreement’s anticipated entry into force in 2020.

Hence, Parties were requested to submit new or updated NDCs by 2020, and establish a Facilitative Dialogue in 2018 to take stock of collective efforts in relation to progress towards the long-term goal referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1 of the Paris Agreement. This information will be used to inform the next round of NDCs, due in 2020.

The “2018 facilitative dialogue” was changed to “Talanoa dialogue” in 2017 under the Fijian COP Presidency. The word *talanoa* is a Fijian word denoting the sharing of stories and experiences in an environment of empathy and mutual respect. This is a Fijian and Pacific concept.

Article 4; para 1: In order to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2, Parties aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing country Parties, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

Therefore, the Talanoa Dialogue should follow an inclusive, participatory, constructive and transparent process where all stakeholders can share examples of best practices and lessons learned in order to give the tools to national governments to reach higher and farther towards bringing collective ambition in line with the most ambitious goals possible under the 2015 UNFCCC Paris Agreement and what science tells us it needs to be.

The Talanoa Dialogue was formally launched at COP 23 in November 2017 and will run throughout 2018. The Dialogue centres around three questions: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there?

Both Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to prepare analytical and policy relevant inputs to inform the dialogue and submit them via the Talanoa Portal<sup>2</sup>, by 2 April 2018 for discussions in conjunction with the May climate conference session, and by 29 October 2018 for discussions in conjunction with COP 24.

This session will initiate discussions on the Talanoa Dialogue and how Pacific input can be efficiently and effectively represented.

## SESSION 2: Reflect on selected main outcomes of COP23

A number of outcomes from COP23 would benefit from inputs from Pacific technical experts. This session will highlight some of these outcomes and encourage exchanges between Parties and non-Party stakeholders in preparing their submissions and participation. Outcomes selected for discussion are given below. However, other outcomes relevant for the CAPP technical experts may be presented as well.

### a. Koronivia joint work on agriculture<sup>3</sup>

Parties reached a historic agreement on agriculture that will help countries to address the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and develop approaches to addressing food

<sup>2</sup> [http://unfccc.int/focus/talanoa\\_dialogue/items/10265.php](http://unfccc.int/focus/talanoa_dialogue/items/10265.php)

<sup>3</sup> [https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn\\_nov\\_2017/application/pdf/cp23\\_auv\\_agri.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_nov_2017/application/pdf/cp23_auv_agri.pdf)

security. This was the first time in the climate negotiations where Parties reached an agreement on agriculture.

Parties agreed to work over the next few years on a series of issues linking climate change and agriculture. Countries are asked to submit their views<sup>4</sup> on what should be included in the work by **31 March 2018**<sup>5</sup>, with options including - how to improve soil carbon and fertility, how to assess adaptation and resilience and the creation of better livestock management systems.

#### **b. Gender Action Plan<sup>6</sup>**

Parties adopted the first ever Gender Action Plan (GAP) under the UNFCCC at COP23. The GAP, created under the Lima work programme on gender, seeks to advance women's full, equal and meaningful participation and promote gender-responsive climate policy and the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Convention and the work of Parties, the secretariat, United Nations entities and all stakeholders at all levels.

The GAP sets out five priorities areas: capacity building, knowledge sharing and communication; gender balance and women's leadership; coherence; gender responsive implementation of the convention and the Paris Agreement; and monitoring and reporting.

Submissions are requested from Parties and observers on the following, including sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis, where applicable: (a) Information on the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men, with special attention paid to local communities and indigenous peoples; (b) Integration of gender considerations into adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building, Action for Climate Empowerment, technology and finance policies, plans and actions; (c) Policies and plans for and progress made in enhancing gender balance in national climate delegations (Gender Action Plan, activity E.1)

Deadline for submissions is **31 March 2018**

#### **c. Open Dialogue between Parties and NGO Observer groups (admitted NGO constituencies)<sup>7</sup>**

The Fijian COP23 Presidency presided over the first ever Open Dialogue between Parties and Observer groups. Discussions were held surrounding two important topics. The first was how non-Party stakeholders can help countries design and implement more ambitious NDCs and the second was how to better integrate non-Party stakeholder into the climate negotiations process.

*Outcomes outside the formal UNFCCC process*

#### **d. The Ocean Pathway Partnership**

Fiji launched the Ocean Pathway Partnership to encourage the climate negotiations process to better address the relationship between climate change and the ocean. The partnership will consolidate existing work being done to create a coordinated effort among governments at all levels, existing ocean alliances and coalitions, civil society and the private sector to create a stronger link between climate action and a healthy ocean.

#### **e. The Regional Pacific NDC Hub**

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<sup>4</sup> Instructions for submissions (including to non-Party Stakeholders who are not registered observers):

[http://unfccc.int/documentation/submissions\\_and\\_statements/items/5900.php#gc\\_2](http://unfccc.int/documentation/submissions_and_statements/items/5900.php#gc_2)

<sup>5</sup> Submission portal: <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionportal/Pages/Home.aspx>

<sup>6</sup> [https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn\\_nov\\_2017/application/pdf/cp23\\_auv\\_gender.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_nov_2017/application/pdf/cp23_auv_gender.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://unfccc.int/files/parties\\_and\\_observers/application/pdf/final\\_presidencys\\_open\\_dialogue\\_report\\_171117.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/parties_and_observers/application/pdf/final_presidencys_open_dialogue_report_171117.pdf)

The establishment of the regional hub was announced at COP23. The regional hub will be established in 2018 to support the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the Pacific and will be based in Suva, Fiji. The hub aims to provide expertise on the review and enhancement of NDCs and its implementation. Initial donors are Germany, the United Kingdom and Australia. Consultations on the establishment of the hub are currently underway. The hub will serve as a regional arm to the NDC Platform.

### **SESSION 3: The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MPGCA) work programme and participation of Pacific experts**

Parties to the Paris Agreement recognised explicitly that action by national governments alone would be insufficient to limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius and avoid the worst effects of climate change. We need concerted action from all levels of government, the private sector, and civil society.

The Marrakech Partnership works to catalyse, recognize and support this concerted action in line with countries' Nationally Determined Contributions. The Partnership is a platform where like-minded stakeholders, who are actively undertaking climate initiatives and innovations, can share experiences, work together, and multiply their efforts.

Another key role of the Partnership is to feed experiences and lessons from action on the ground into the formal UNFCCC process and to the Parties, to support a more informed decision-making process. This year, this will be through the important Talanoa Dialogue.

This session will identify strategies and actions to strengthen the participation of CAPP in the MPGCA. The Fiji high-level champion urges the participation of Pacific stakeholders and initiatives in MPGCA networks, including the further development of the Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP) and the integration of CAPP technical experts in the MPGCA thematic work streams. This also serves to ensure that the priorities, initiatives and achievements of small Pacific island countries and stakeholders are represented and recognised in the Marrakech partnership; at the Technical Expert Meetings; in the Summary for Policy Makers on Global Climate Action and in the Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2018 (Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2017 [here](#)).

Regional approaches including south-south and north-south cooperation and exchanges can be explored with members of the MPGCA. This will include sharing of technologies and approaches between cities / companies / local communities and stronger participation of Pacific technical experts in the Asia-Pacific Climate Week and other regional events.

### **SESSION 4: Contributions to the Technical Expert Meetings during May Session of UN Climate Conference**

The Technical Examination Process (TEP) for mitigation and adaptation is for the period 2016–2020 with the main objective to further accelerate mitigation and adaptation action by 2020 in order to implement scalable best practice policies and bridge the ambition gap.

The decision from Paris COP21 (1/CP.21) called for the strengthening of the existing technical examination of opportunities with high mitigation potential and associated adaptation, health and sustainable development co-benefits (for the TEP on mitigation) and to identify concrete

opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerabilities, and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions (for the TEP on adaptation).

At COP23 an assessment of the TEPs was carried out. The report<sup>8</sup> highlights the need to better integrate the TEPs with the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and to focus the technical examination processes on specific policy options and opportunities for enhancing mitigation and adaptation that are actionable in the short term, including those with sustainable development co-benefits.

Upon the request of the Parties at COP23, the high-level champions identified<sup>9</sup> the topics for the TEP on mitigation for the period until 2020. These topics will be announced shortly.

As part of the TEPs, technical expert meetings (TEMs) on adaptation and mitigation are held during the May sessions and include contributions from both Parties and observer groups. The outcomes of the TEMs are then summarised in the “Summary for Policymakers” that is published before the COP later in the year ([2017 Climate Action Now - Summary for Policy Makers](#)). TEMs are a vehicle to facilitate the implementation of transformative climate actions before 2020. In 2018, the TEMs will be very important as it will feed information to the Talanoa Dialogue.

The COP last year invited Parties and non-Party stakeholders to organise regional TEMs to examine specific finance, technology and capacity-building resources necessary to scale up actions in regional contexts, including through regional mitigation and adaptation initiatives, and to provide their reports thereon to the secretariat as input to the technical examination processes.

This session will aim to initiate preparations of Pacific initiatives and coalitions in the TEMs in the May climate meeting and other technical expert meetings. This will include focussed thematic discussions on the topics for the May TEMs. The session will also explore ways on how the Pacific regional technical expert meetings can be enhanced and better connected to regional events and international UNFCCC processes, including inputting into the TEPs via reports submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

## **SESSION 5: Progress the CAPP Action Plan**

The basis for the action plan are the recommendations that emerged from the CAPP conference in July 2017. The action plan will serve to guide climate actions in the Pacific and provide a roadmap on how climate action implementers, advocates, supporters, and various initiatives can work together and create partnerships and synergies to strengthen resilience, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to sustainable development in the region.

The drafting of the action plan for the CAPP will be carried out along the different thematic groups and follows on from the working group session during the Partnership Days that was held in October 2017. Given it will be under the umbrella of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, there will be linkages to global processes as well – both in the non-Party climate action space and in the UNFCCC process.

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<sup>8</sup> [https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn\\_nov\\_2017/application/pdf/cp23\\_auv\\_tep.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_nov_2017/application/pdf/cp23_auv_tep.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> In consultation with the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network