

July 2019, Issue n.1



MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATE

Vaisigano Catchment Project



“Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risk of vulnerable livelihoods and infrastructure in the Vaisigano Catchment”

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Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the Green Climate Fund Vaisigano Catchment Project (GCF VCP) monthly newsletter.

The GCF VCP is Samoa's largest climate change adaptation project to date, and the first ever to be funded by GCF. The concept and scale of this project is unprecedented. It's the first project of its kind in the country and it involves many different agencies in its implementation and is expected to benefit thousands of people. As such, communicating the key messages and outputs from this project to a number of key audiences is of paramount importance.

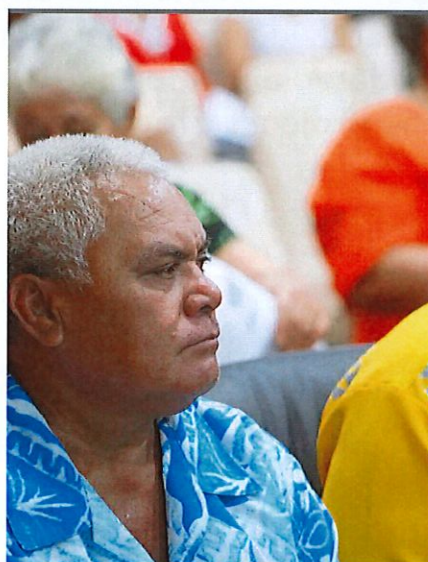
That's why this newsletter was created. It is our hope that the monthly updates provided via this newsletter will capture the progress and activities of the GCF VCP, as well as future plans. We believe that by being well informed of these aspects of the project, stakeholders and beneficiaries alike will be able to not only enjoy the journey as we progress through this project, but are also able to make informed decisions about flooding in the Vaisigano Area and how this project aims to alleviate many of their concerns.

Happy reading!

“

“We are focused on supporting particularly vulnerable developing countries, like Samoa, in a paradigm shift to a more climate-resilient future”

**Ewen McDonald
Co-Chair of the Green Climate Fund
Board.**



MINISTER'S Statement

As the Minister responsible for the Vaisigano Catchment Project (VCP), on behalf of the Government of Samoa, I am pleased to welcome you to the first issue of the monthly Newsletter for the GCF-VCP. This is an avenue where we aim to keep you updated and informed about the project's progress.



— SILI EPA TUIOTI, MINISTER OF FINANCE

A FLAGSHIP PROJECT FOR SAMOA

The GCF-VCP now constitutes a flagship project for Samoa with the signing of the first ever UNDP-supported GCF project and the rollout of its implementation since July 2017. This is Samoa's biggest climate change and disaster resilient project to date executed by the Ministry of Finance, the National Designated Authority and the various Lead Implementing Agencies namely the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Land Transport Authority, Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Women Community and Social Development.



PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATES TO WORK TOGETHER

We trust that by being informed of the project's progress, you are more able to understand and enjoy the benefits this project promises for our country, not just for those who are direct beneficiaries, but our country at large.



GCF PMU

PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT

Based at the Ministry of Finance, the PMU is responsible for the daily management, operations and coordination of the implementation of the GCF-VCP work plan and working collaboratively with all the IAs and responsible partners.



PROJECT TEAM

The project team includes the Project Manager, Chief Technical Advisor, Monitoring & Reporting Analyst; Manager Procurement, Manager Finance, Finance Analyst, and a Procurement Analyst. As of 30th June 2019, the wider GCF-PMU includes two (2) Project Coordinators (PCs), four (4) project officers (POs) which brings the total number of GCF-PMU staff to fourteen (14).

PMU LOCATION

The PMU is housed within the Ministry of Finance (MoF) which is the Implementing Partner (IP) for this project. Within MoF, the responsible division is the Climate Resilience Investment and Co-ordination Division (CRICD). The IP is responsible and accountable for managing the project, including the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of resources.



Ms. Pisaina Leilua-Lei Sam, GCF Project Manager



Ms. Litara Taulealo, ACEO CRICD, MoF

The GCF-PMU is established within the Ministry of Finance, on the 3rd & 4th floor of the Central Bank Building. It is made up of 8 core staff.

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PMU

The overall responsibilities of the PMU as stipulated in the project document are as follows:

- Ensure a coherent project organisation structure and logical set of plans.
- Monitor and control the progress of the project in a strategic manner.
- Promote and ensure that focus is maintained on the project expected outputs.
- Ensure that risks to the beneficiary are frequently monitored.
- Project administration.
- Capture lessons learnt during the project implementation.
- Timely reports for the project and regular updates.
- Coordination and preparation of any activity related to the project.

Project Snapshot



USD \$65M

Total Budget



26,528 direct;
37,000 indirect



2017-
2023

Project Timeframe

MILESTONES TO DATE



TAG GROUP

Establishment of the MNRE Activity 2.2 Technical Advisory Group (TAG).



CASH FOR WORK MOU

Executed and operationalized MOU between MNRE, Ministry of Commerce, Labour and Industry and International Labour Organisation to coordinate the CFWP.



CASH TRANSFER

Completed SBEC Harmonised Assessment for Cash Transfer (HACT).



FLOOD MITIGATION

Completed Feasibility Study: Review of Interdependence of Flood Mitigation Options.



SEGMENT 2 EXTENSION

Completed construction of extension of Segment 2 riverwalls from Vaisigano bridge to Leone bridge.



LEONE FLOODWALLS

Completed construction of extension of 80 meters floodwalls upstream and downstream from Leone bridge.





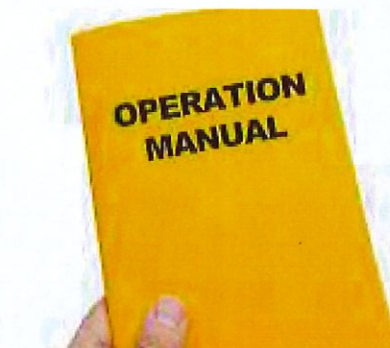
CASH FOR WORK

Commenced Cash for Work program (CfWP) employing 10 community workers.



DRAINAGE WORKS

Completed construction of drainage works for the Apia Waterfront Project (ApWP) in the Apia Urban Area (AUA).



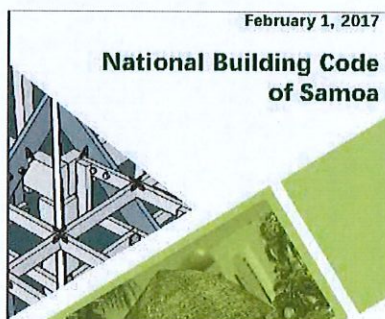
OPERATIONAL MANUAL

Finalised the Operational Manual (OM) for implementation of Activity 2.2 work plan.



EPC RIVERWALL

Completed riverwall construction to protect the Electric Power Corporation (EPC) penstock leading into the Samasoni power station as part of channelization of segment 2.



TRANSLATION WORKS

Completed Translation into Samoan of the new National Building Code.



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Closed the Call for Proposals for the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Enterprise Development programme under Activity 2.2.





GENERAL ENQUIRES

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ACEO CRICD, MOF

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