



TUVALU COASTAL ADAPTATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER



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TCAP OVERVIEW

In response to addressing the adverse effect of sea level rise in Tuvalu, the Government of Tuvalu (GoT) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) have jointly committed a total of US\$ 38 million for the Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project (TCAP). The project was approved in June 2016 and began implementation in September 2017.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in close partnership with the GoT will execute the GCF project, providing support to the GoT to take steps to manage the risks of coastal hazards. The combination of intensifying cyclone events and the ongoing acceleration of sea level rise is expected to have direct impacts on Tuvalu. TCAP's main objective is to reduce the vulnerability of three islands of Tuvalu (Funafuti, Nanumea & Nanumaga) to the impact of climate induced sea level rise and to identify storm events on key coastal infrastructure.

The project is in-line with all the key government strategies and policies and will work together with the relevant ministries


to implement the 3 objectives of the project.

The project logo is the product of a drawing competition at Funafuti primary school in 2017.





The project's implementation is managed under the UNDP Resilience and Sustainable Development Team led by Kevin Petrini with project staff based in Tuvalu and Suva.

MEET THE TEAM


 **Alan Resture** –
Project Manager


 **Jone Feresi** –
Deputy Project Manager

 **Arthur Webb** –
Chief Technical
Adviser

 **Mike Ravono**
Finance Associate

 **Timaima Qeranatabua**
Procurement
Associate

 **Pine Andy-Tonga** –
Assistant Admin/
Finance Officer

 **Puanita Taomia Ewekia**
Communication
Officer

TCAP COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Following intense discussions with key project stakeholders, TCAP Communications and Visibility Plan (CVP) has been finalized. The TCAP CVP was developed to set the internal and external communications roadmap throughout the life of the project and will be updated as communication objectives evolve.

The Communications Strategy has five overarching goals which are:

- To raise the profile and visibility of the project
- To promote the achievements of the project to local and international audiences
- To keep communities / beneficiaries updated and provide a feedback loop
- To change behaviors and raise capacity on coastal adaptation
- To share best practices and lessons learned for coastal

resilience

TCAP's official communications platforms include:

- ◆ TCAP website
- ◆ TCAP Twitter
- ◆ TCAP Facebook
- ◆ TCAP Newsletter



**COMMUNICATION STRATEGY KEY
STAKEHOLDERS**

TCAP ENGINEER NOW ON BOARD



TCAP has engaged James Lewis as a Project Engineer Consultant for three years. James will assist TCAP in preparing technical and detailed construction designs of coastal protection for Funafuti, Nanumaga and Nanumea. He is based in Australia and will frequently visit the project sites in

Tuvalu and work closely with the TCAP Project Management Unit. James studied Civil Engineering at Griffith University in Queensland, Australia. Specialising in coastal processes, he has led several remediation projects and vulnerability studies in which he has utilised his substantial professional skillset. His love of travel and for the ocean are also reflected in his career choices.

Shown are the designs for coastal protection for the three islands

TCAP Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project Funafuti

- Long term adaptation to sea level rise.
- Reclamation, 780m x 100m and at least 2.5m above HAT (highest astronomical tide).
- Adjoins existing CEF reclamation and WW2 Catalina ramp.
- Will utilize existing surveyed lagoons sediment resource (SOPAC, 1995).
- Will provide approximately 7.8ha of raised flood free new land.

TCAP Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project Nanumaga

- Berm Top Barrier (BTR) adaptation to storm wave over-wash and flooding - 800m of shoreline protected.
- 150m of as yet unspecified work to protect existing church building foundations at the boat ramp area.
- The TCAP design for the central boat ramp area is subject to finalisation of the Nanumaga Boat Harbour Project (in design phase now).
- Some 950m of the main village shore will receive improved protection from SLR and storm waves.

TCAP Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project Nanumea

- Berm Top Barrier (BTR) adaptation to storm wave over-wash and flooding.
- 1,350m of shoreline protected.
- Concrete Unit (Seabee) seawall to protect existing church compound reclamation.
- 150m of broken seawall replaced.
- In total some 1,500m of the main village, ocean-side shore will receive improved protection from sea level rise and storm waves.



James Lewis is in the process of creating basic designs of coastal protection, with the design based on a range of data collected from each island, including on waves, water level, wind, historical photographs of shorelines, and movement of sediment depositions. The Engineer will work closely with Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) who carried out Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and the Tuvalu Government Lands survey department.

Mr Lewis added that each island is unique to each other in their exposure to extreme events and face

different challenges. On the construction works for the coastal interventions at the 3 project islands, the team will work on developing a quantified and detailed tender package for UNDP to release to the international market. The tender process will be undertaken according to the UNDP guidelines and a suitable construction contractor will be engaged.



TUVALU PRIME MINISTER AGREES TCAP TO DESIGN A COASTAL PROTECTION MASTER PLAN FOR TUVALU

At the request of the Honorable Prime Minister of Tuvalu His Excellency Kausea Natano, the TCAP project team will assist in the development of the Master Plan for Coastal Protection for Tuvalu.

At a meeting held in November 2019, with Project Manager Mr Alan Resture and Chief Technical Advisor Arthur Webb, the Prime Minister shared his keen interest in the presentation by the project team on Tuvalu's vulnerability to coastal erosion and the current status of

the project.

The PM stated that the Government will need assistance from TCAP to develop a draft National Master Plan for coastal protection in Tuvalu. In addition the Prime Minister highlighted that Cabinet is interested in the idea of raising land and reclamation of more lands for every island of Tuvalu.

The PM was delighted with the

changes made to the coastal protection design for Funafuti island. He added that the community is planning to extend the reclamation work and needs to purchase the machinery for sand trenching. The PM enquired when construction work will start. The Project Manager advised that the project is carrying-out Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and will proceed with field work once the ESIA are complete.



TCAP SCHOLARSHIPS

In December 2019, six scholarships were awarded to five males and 1 female who met the criteria of scholarship. The six awardees were :

1. Simon Willy
Bachelor of Arts in Geography (GIS) & Environmental/ Marine Studies (USP, Fiji)
2. Panama Niuatui
Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Coastal) (Flinders University – Australia)
3. Charles Leepo
Master of Civil Engineering (Coastal) University of South Australia

4. Lamese Saamu
Masters of Geo-spatial Science (University of Western Australia)
5. Feagaiga Penivao –
Masters of Coastal Management (James Cook University, Australia).
6. Lisepa Fianta Seve Paeniu -
Master in Environmental Law University of New South Wales

The students will study in Fiji and Australia. The scholarships will build Tuvalu's national capacity for coastal management and adaptation in the future. Primary school teacher Simon Ulumoega Willy is 28 years old. He and his five siblings are supported by

their mom's sales of bread and handicrafts. Simon is the youngest of his siblings, his father passed away when he was three years old. All the siblings are working, and Willy is thankful to TCAP for the opportunity to pursue his studies. His dream was always to broaden his knowledge and skills in science and nature.

Willy is studying a Bachelor degree in Geography Science majoring in Marine and Environment. He said he is willing to share what he learns with other students, his community and government and help develop resilience plans for Tuvalu in the future.



Simon Willy Ulumoega (left) & Panama Niuatui (right).

Panama stated that "I will fulfil my younger brother's dream to do a Bachelor of Civil Engineering. My younger brother died incidentally in November 2019 and it has given me courage to go for further studies. My brother was offered a scholarship by Tuvalu Government to complete a Bachelor of Civil Engineering in Flinders University, Australia in 2020. Unfortunately he passed away and I am here to fulfil his dream to support my family financially and assist our community and country in future development planning specializing on coastal protection and engineering." I will study in University of southern Queensland for the same program.



Lamese Saamu
"I want to study GIS and Coastal Management to assist Tuvalu's sustainable development in the future"

Another recipient, Lamese Saamu, brought up in Niulakita, a remote island in Tuvalu, will now head to Australia to pursue his dream when borders are open due to Covid 19 lockdown. Saamu said it will be a great opportunity for him to learn the different contexts of Australia and Tuvalu. Saamu is a Database and Statistician in the Ministry of Education and an Environmental Data Specialist with the Ridge to Reef Project. He wants to pursue his studies on GIS and Environment for the betterment of Tuvalu and its sustainable development in this area. Saamu is married with two children .

On completing their studies in the future, the students will return home to assist and help out the community in the field they have learned

Feagaiga Penivao will start his studies online in 2021. He was planning to take his family to Australia, but due to Covid 19 he will start his online course next year and await for borders to uplift.

The only female candidate will study master in environmental law .

One of TCAP's mandates is to build capacity for locals in the areas of environment sustainability, coastal vulnerability reduction and coastal protection and management.



TCAP TUVALU STAFF WITH TCAP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES FOR 2020

CABINET INTERESTED IN LIDAR SURVEY AND DATA

On the 19 December, 2019, Cabinet Ministers invited TCAP Chief Technical Advisor Arthur Webb & Project Manager Alan Resture to present the important of Lidar survey data information' for decision making related to the Coastal Protection Master Plan and development plan for each island. The Cabinet has requested TCAP to assist in developing Coastal Protection Master Plan. The presentation of future projection on sea level rise was an issue of concern during the discussion. In addition, Arthur stated that, "The provision of this data is widely

seen as an extraordinary step towards improving planning and understanding resources needed and able to identify vulnerability areas". Important services, such as navigation in shallow waters, will also be greatly enhanced and the baseline data will be of key interest to development partners and local authorities. The Lidar team from Fugro Company in Australia is expected to return to Tuvalu to present the survey report and conduct trainings with project

managers and directors on how to use data and information for decision making and development planning from the lidar survey and another training with technical staffs from line ministries who are interested in learning in producing data from lidar survey photos.

The team's returning dates will be confirmed once the lockdown due to COVID19 ends.



LIDAR SURVEY TEAM- FUGROCOMPANY FROM AUSTRALIA AND TCAP CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

TCAP STRENGTHENING GENDER INCLUSION

In November, TCAP Gender Consultant, Aliti Vunisea met with different ministries in the GoT, community leaders, NGOs and key stakeholders of TCAP to discuss gender inclusion issues for TCAP. The main outcomes were :

- To identify strategies and activities that can ensure gender inclusion in the TCAP
- To introduce participatory tools that can be used to ensure gender participation at the community level
- Guidelines to conducting gender analysis and gender assessment of projects and activities implemented
- Gender mainstreaming in the implementation of projects
- To develop a gender strategy that will target institutional strengthening, capacity building, women economic empowerment and women in decision making.



TRAINING ON GENDER FOR TCAP STAKEHOLDERS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE IN-LINE MINISTRIES AND DEVELOPING THE TCAP GENDER STRATEGY

The TCAP project will make direct contributions to improving representation of women in community decision-making and capacity building and make indirect, contributions towards women's economic empowerment through engaging women in technical, income earning opportunities.

Through her engagement and training with stakeholders including 13 women and 9 men from various ministries and community leaders, Ms Vunisea observed that Tuvalu has seen a lot of changes in both men's and women's responsibilities. Men nowadays are able to carry out women's responsibilities and visa versa, this demonstrates a more gender inclusive approach by Tuvalu people, where women are being included and given responsibility for roles that were traditionally done by men.

The TCAP construction works at 3 sites in Funafuti, Nanumaga and Nanumea is anticipated to involve women. During consultations most agreed for women to participate in coastal protection construction. Thus activities will build the capacity of women in construction and give them an opportunity to earn income. Youth representatives recommended that there should be proper consultation and training for both men and women working in construction. She recommended that consultation will need to focus on safeguarding the work environment, and will be based on:

- Elimination of discrimination against women
- Elimination of violence against women in the work force
- Training of women to do tasks in the field
- Encouraging everyone to be aware of their safety and to respect each other

TCAP'S GOAL

TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY OF TUVALU TO FUTURE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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