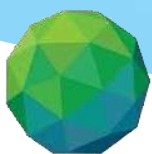


MNRE and GCF-PMU joint site visit
to EbAEDP projects

PROJECT UPDATE

Vaisigano Catchment Project



GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

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



CONTENTS:

2	Summary
3-8	Updates
9	Enquires

A Word from the Green Climate Fund - Vaisigano Catchment Project Management Unit (GCF-PMU)

Welcome and Talofa Lava! Presented to you is the GCF-VCP bi-monthly Newsletter. This 32nd edition highlights updates and progress of various activities under the GCF-VCP three key Outputs in the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB), implemented within the months of March and April 2023 by leading Implementing Agencies (IAs) namely; the Ministry of Works Transport and Infrastructure (MWTI), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Ministry of Health (MoH), and the Land Transport Authority (LTA) supported by the Collaborating partners with management and oversight by the Ministry of Finance (MoF), the Executing Agency (EA) for the Government of Samoa (GoS) and UNDP as the GCF Accredited Entity (AE).

Malo lava le galulue ma le fa'amalolosi IAs and Collaborating Partners.

SUMMARY / What's in this Edition

Output 1, Activity 1.2.3 - As we witness the drastic changes of the weather at times, the MoH ... pg.3

Output 2, Activity 2.1.1 - As part of the development planning and environmental and social ... pg.3

Output 2, Activity 2.1.1 - In the process of finalizing the designs for Segment 3 propose minor ... pg.4

Output 2, Activity 2.2.4 - The MNRE in collaboration with Payment for Ecosystem Services ... pg.5

Output 2, Activity 2.2.5 - The Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP) as the MNRE's ... pg.6

Output 2, Activity 2.2.5 - The MNRE and GCF-PMU carried out a joint spot check visit ... pg.6

Output 3, Activity 3.2.2 - The construction of priority Drainage Sites 5, 6 & 7 was completed ... pg.7

Output 4, Activity 4.1 - GCF-VCP BOARD (PB#20) ... pg.7

Output 4 - Acknowledgment ... pg.8

Updates

Output 1, Activity 1.2.3

TRAIN VILLAGE COUNCILS ON HOW TO PREPARE FOR AND EVACUATE FLOOD-RELATED VICTIMS

As we witness the drastic changes of the weather at times, the MoH are continuously prepping to have portable medical resources available to save lives when severe flooding events occur. With twenty Emergency Response Bags (ERBs) received by MoH in November 2020, the Ministry under their GCF-VCP activity procured an additional fifteen ERBs that arrived on 20th April 2023 from EBOS International, together with Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and Training Manikins. These additional equipment are portable and contains tools and supplies needed to be used by medical practitioners and first responders in response to not only natural disaster emergencies but also health related emergencies.

Output 2, Activity 2.1.1

REVIEW PROPOSED DESIGNS FOR CHANNELIZATION OF SEGMENTS 2, 3 AND 4 OF THE VAISIGANO RIVER INCLUDING THE IMPACT ON CHANNEL CAPACITY OF THE NEW LELATA BRIDGE AND THE POTENTIAL FOR OPTIMIZING SCHEME DESIGN AND DURABILITY

As part of the development planning and environmental and social assessment process of the river wall proposal, MWTI, MNRE, LTA and GCF-PMU held on site consultations and virtual meetings with one of the affected families in Segment 2 on 4th and 24th April 2023. The GoS Team under the MWTI leadership shared a consultation information paper containing GoS responses providing clarification sought by the family.

For the remaining affected families for Segment 2, MNRE and MWTI issued letters of request to reschedule follow-up consultations and follow up pending legal registration of beneficiaries to facilitate drafting of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA), as well as responses to the relevant family/beneficiaries with mitigation measures to the amenity concerns on the proposed designs and land taking.



Virtual consultation



On site consultation



Output 2, Activity 2.1.1

REVIEW PROPOSED DESIGNS FOR CHANNELIZATION OF SEGMENTS 2, 3 AND 4 OF THE VAISIGANO RIVER INCLUDING THE IMPACT ON CHANNEL CAPACITY OF THE NEW LELATA BRIDGE AND THE POTENTIAL FOR OPTIMIZING SCHEME DESIGN AND DURABILITY

In the process of finalizing the designs for Segment 3 proposed minor works (improvement works on the stream bank, cement crossing and box culvert) along the secondary channel at Lelata, MWTI as the lead IA adequately informed six affected families (two indirect and four direct) of its plan of implementation and adopted mitigation measures, and to address any arising concerns raised by the family members.

One of the members from the four direct affected families during a group consultation on 23rd November 2022, requested a survey of their private properties and align the proposed designs to confirm that their lands are not affected. The MNRE completed the pegging out of private boundary lines and the alignment of the proposed design on legal boundaries on March 6th 2023 and confirmed that there is no private land affected and the alignment of the designs is positioned within the GoS reserves. The MWTI and GCF-PMU then carried out individual consultations on 29th and 31st March 2023 with the direct affected families, to walk through the boundary lines showcasing pegs highlighted by MNRE and to obtain their written consent. All four direct affected families completed and endorsed their consent forms supporting the proposed project development. This fulfils the UNDP Free Prior Inform Consent (FPIC) procedures and the Planning Urban Management Agency's Development Consent requirement.

Site meeting on pegging of private properties boundary lines



Individual consultations



Output 2, Activity 2.2.4

DEVELOP A COMMUNITY-BASED ADAPTION STRATEGY FOR ECOSYSTEM BASED ALTERNATIVE INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES

The MNRE in collaboration with the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) partners met with the newly appointed Finance Committee of the Catholic Church (CCFC) on 16th March 2023, to discuss the possibility of using the CC lands at Malololelei as one of the PES pilot sites. As a result of the meeting, the MNRE are currently finalizing responses to the CCFC queries, as well as consolidating recommendations to share with the Church for their consideration and final decision on the PES pilot proposal.

The design and implementation of a PES Programme (PESP) is to ensure conservation and protection of the upper watershed landscape, including water intakes.



Team pre-meeting



Meeting with the Finance Committee of the CC



Output 2, Activity 2.2.5

TRAIN MEMBERS OF LOCAL POPULATION ON THESE ALTERNATIVE INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS BUSINESS INCUBATION FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL AGRIBUSINESS AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND FLOOD-RELATED OPTIONS

The Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP) as the MNRE's collaborating partner, conducted a two days' Orientation Workshop on 16th & 17th March 2023, for the remaining thirty-four grantees under the Ecosystem based Adaptation Enterprise Development Programme (EbAEDP) who have recently received funding agreements (FAs). The workshop was to inform the grantees of the conditions of the FA, and to clarify the processes and requirements for the implementation of their projects. Out of thirty four grantees, twenty have countersigned their FAs to proceed with the implementation phase.



The MNRE and GCF-PMU carried out a joint spot check visit on 1st March 2023 to twenty-two EbAEDP projects to assess performance and recommend way forward to assist with CSSP and Samoa Business Hub (SBH) monitoring and implementation processes and operations.



Output 3, Activity 3.2.2

IMPLEMENTATION OF UPGRADES

The construction of priority Drainage Sites 5, 6 & 7 was completed in 2020 with defects liability period (DLP) achieved in May 2021, however, the LTA identified a flaw in drainage response and design of Site 5, that require repair and an extension to make the drainage site fully effective.

The additional drainage site identified as Site 5a was tendered for construction on 17th February 2023, with bids due on 27th March 2023. The pre-bid meeting was held on 2nd March 2023 with five interested bidders in attendance. Three bids were received during bid opening with the first tender evaluation meeting held on 30th March 2023.



Output 4, Activity 4.1

GCF-VCP BOARD (PB#20)/PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC#20)/CLIMATE RESILIENCE STEERING COMMITTEE (CRSC#20)

The GCF-VCP twentieth (20th) PB/PSC (PB/PSC#20) meeting took place in Quarter 2 (Q2) 2023 on 3rd April 2023, 2pm at the Central Bank of Samoa (CBS) conference room at Level 6 of the CBS building. Chaired by the MoF Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO) Tofilau Lae Siliva, the meeting reviewed and considered the final draft of the 2022 Annual Performance Report (APR), financial overview report for Q1, 2023 and Q1 2023 Progress Report amongst other matters for Board decisions.



Output 4

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO GCF-VCP DELIVERY AND PROGRESS

The MoF and GCF-PMU expresses gratitude and appreciation to its former team members who have left the team for greener pastures during this reporting period, for their efforts, contributions and commitments to the implementation of the GCF-VCP. Fa'afetai ma ia manuia galuega ma valaauina ua tofia iai tou Afioga.



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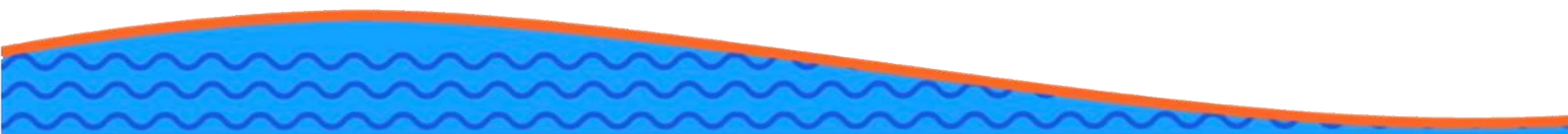
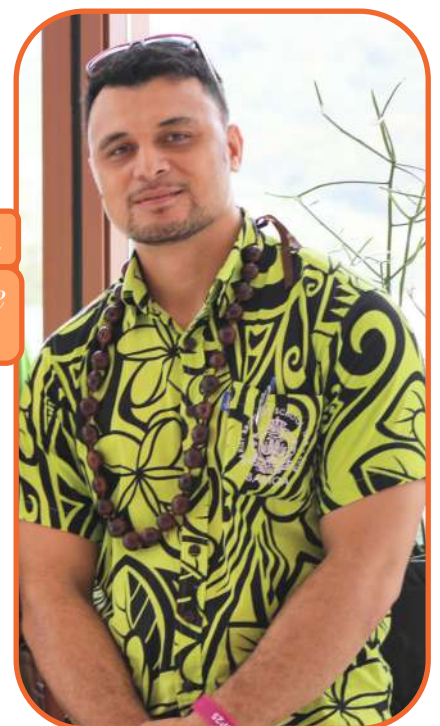


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 *Green Climate Fund - Samoa Vaisigano Catchment Project*