

Cover Page for Project Approval Request

1. Country/Region:	Kingdom of Tonga	2. CIF Project ID#:	XPCRT0059A
3. Source of Funding:	<input type="checkbox"/> FIP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PPCR	<input type="checkbox"/> SREP
4. Project/Program Title:	Climate Resilience Sector Project		
5. Type of CIF Investment:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed
6. Funding Request in million USD equivalent:	Grant: \$19.25 million		Non-Grant: None
7. Implementing MDB(s):	Asian Development Bank		
8. National Implementing Agency:	Ministry of Finance and National Planning		
9. MDB Focal Point and Project/Program Task Team Leader (TTL):	<i>Headquarters- Focal Point:</i> <i>Charles Rodgers, Senior Environment Specialist (Climate Change Adaptation)</i>		<i>TTL: Maria Paniagua, Unit Head, Project Administration, Pacific Regional Department, Pacific Subregional Office in Suva, Fiji</i>

10. Project/Program Description (including objectives and expected outcomes):

Objectives: The project will increase resilience of vulnerable communities to climate variability and change, and disaster risk in Tonga

Sectors and Themes:

- (i) Capacity building to facilitate climate resilience mainstreamed into development planning of key vulnerable sectors;
- (ii) Improved monitoring and management of Tonga climate data and information by establishment of national hydro-meteorological and coastal monitoring and data dissemination systems; and improvement of water resource inventories and integrated water resource management (IWRM) and coastal zone monitoring;
- (iii) Sustainable financing mechanism to support community based climate responsive investments encompassing the establishment of Tonga climate change trust fund (CCTF); and
- (iv) Eco-system resilience and climate resilient infrastructure Investments encompassing increased ability of coral reefs to recover after climate related events; improved management of mangroves for climate adaptation; upgraded evacuation and post disaster access roads; enhanced coastal protection; and upgraded schools, and other critical infrastructure.

Outcome:

The overall outcome will be strengthened capacity of government and communities to finance, develop, implement and monitor investments to improve ecosystem resilience and climate proof critical infrastructure.

Please refer to the Report and Recommendations to the President (RRP) and the linked document: Project Administration Manual (PAM) for details.

11. Consistency with Investment Criteria:

The proposed Project is consistent with PPCR objectives and SPCR commitments in terms of mainstreaming climate change into development planning. This is demonstrated by its objectives of (i) capacity building to facilitate climate resilience mainstreamed into development planning of key vulnerable sectors; (ii) sustainable financing mechanism to support community based climate responsive investments encompassing the establishment of Tonga climate change trust fund (CCTF); (iii) improved monitoring and management of Tonga climate data and information by establishment of national hydro-meteorological and coastal monitoring and data dissemination systems, water resource inventories and coastal zone monitoring; (iv) enhance eco-system resilience and undertake climate resilient infrastructure investments identified and implemented by local communities and key agencies of the government; and (v) cooperation and participation with the regional PPCR in the Pacific to exchange information and knowledge and share lessons learned.

12. Stakeholder engagement:

Stakeholder consultation and participation has been an important element in the planning and design of the Project, right from the beginning when the strategic program for climate resilience (SPCR) for Tonga was developed. The SPCR was based on a participatory approach, emphasizing country ownership and collaboration of government, civil society (including private sector and NGOs) and communities, as well as development partners. As one key part of the participatory process, extensive broad-based national consultative workshops were conducted during its development phase. These workshops included representatives from government agencies, civil society and NGOs, and private sector groups, and built on the inclusive and country-driven process used to develop Tonga's Joint National Action Plan (JNAP). Similarly, during the Project preparation phase, similar processes of consultation and participation were employed.

These processes were dictated by principles that include (i) consultation with stakeholders to understand their interests and include them, where appropriate, in the design process; (ii) informing stakeholders on various aspects of investment options including safeguards, accountability, and climate change impacts and possible adaptation options to enhance their understanding and awareness; and (iii) systematic engagement of stakeholders through an agreed stakeholder participation and communication strategy (the strategy) throughout the design and implementation stages. Each of these stakeholder groups plays a distinct role in planning, design and implementation of climate change adaptation and related disaster risk management initiatives. The strategy builds on this process, as well as networks established during the development of JNAP and operation of the JNAP secretariat and technical working group. Importantly, those networks include a wide section of government agencies as well as representatives from civil society and NGOs, and private sector groups.

The strategy has a strong gender component and will aim at achieving gender mainstreaming in its design, management and implementation. Other vulnerable groups, such as elderly and disabled, will also be consulted. Attention will be paid to specific vulnerabilities as well as specific benefits that projects can bring to women and other vulnerable members of society. The strategy, which will be implemented by the Project Management Unit, builds on and expands the participation plan to focus on targeted products for information sharing. The strategy also identifies key communication objectives and risks, formulates key messages, and identifies effective communication channels to engage key audiences, throughout implementation.

Please refer to the linked document: Participation and Communication Strategy and Consultation Plan, for details.

13. Gender considerations:

There are high levels of equality in Tonga in terms of women's rights to access education, health services, employment etc. The main area for improvement supported by this project relates to acknowledgment of women as drivers of transformational change. Apart from single mothers, who are in cultural terms vulnerable, women in general are regarded as important stakeholders and agents of change; and as project beneficiaries.

Nationwide benefits are expected to accrue from the Project through increased capacity to monitor climate change, provision of early warning monitoring systems, access to finance by communities, and development of national data bases and knowledge management systems. All activities will promote the inclusion of poor and vulnerable groups through the implementation of a participation and communication strategy.

The project has been categorized as an effective gender mainstreaming project. A gender action plan has been prepared to support gender-equal participation in decision making for climate change related resource allocation and community-based project designs. An important aspect of gender mainstreaming is the increased involvement of women in decision-making processes (formal and informal), about social values; development directions; and resource and opportunities allocations. The main goal of this strategy is to go beyond women as mere participants, towards enabling women to influence the entire agenda and basic priorities ('agenda-setting'). Thus initiatives proposed in this program are not concentrated on responding to gender differences but rather at seeking to reduce gender inequality. Therefore, the objective is reshaping of the approach to women's pro-active involvement and decision-making, rather than adding activities for women at the margins.. A focal point on gender and development will be established within the PMU.

Please refer to **Gender and Social Dimensions** section of the linked document: **Project Administration Manual, Gender Action Plan, and Summary Poverty Reduction and Social Strategy**, for details.

14. Indicators and Targets (consistent with results framework):

Core Indicator	Target
Number of persons supported by PPCR to cope with effects of climate change	30% of Tonga population (men and women) have been supported by the project apply climate resilient approaches and instruments to cope with effects of climate change, against a zero baseline;
Degree of integration of climate change into national and community planning;	(a) Increased coordination and knowledge management capacity of JNAP Secretariat to improve implementation of the JNAP CCA and DRM policies and coordinate implementation of NIIP, with institutional responsibilities by vulnerable sectors assigned ; (b) 20 investments apply climate proofing and resilience principles

Evidence of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to mainstream CCA	(a) 5 sector policies or plans integrate climate resilience; and 5% increase of dedicated allocations for climate proofing through sector planning and budgeting (as % of overall budget);
Enhanced monitoring and management of Tonga climate data and information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Meteorological monitoring system covering 7 island groups and meeting WMO requirements (as stipulated in WMO Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation) installed and operational by 2017; (b) Real time sea level monitoring system covering at least 7 island groups installed and operational by 2017; (c) MET operates and maintains meteorological and coastal monitoring systems by 2018; (d) Meteorological and coastal observations are available and used to improve forecasting, provide early warning and to monitor climate change by 2018
Quality and extent to which climate responsive investment approaches are developed and tested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 126 hectares of mangrove ecosystems rehabilitated to provide protection to coastal communities; (b) 1000 people in 6 communities benefit from increased ability of coral reefs to recover after climate related events; (c) 90% reduction in number of schools days lost due to climate change related events percent in 5 schools; (d) 2000 people have access to evacuation roads; (e) 370 households in Hahake are better protected from flooding during storm surges; (f) 8 km of road protected from coastal erosion.
<p><i>Development Indicator(s):</i></p> <p>Sustainable financing for climate responsive investments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Tonga Climate Change Trust Fund legally established and operational; (b) Increased capacity of government to identify, select, administer and monitor CCA and DRM community based project. (c) At least 15 communities successfully complete CCA and DRM investments financed by the CCTF against a baseline of 0 (of which at least 30% are awarded to women's groups); (d) 50% of the projects financed by CCTF directly benefit women or other vulnerable

	groups (elderly, handicapped)	
15. Co-Financing:		
	Amount (in USD million):	Type of contribution:
• Government	3.86	Recurrent costs, taxes and duties, and environmental fees
Co-Financing Total:	3.86	
16. Expected Board/MDB Management approval date:		
4 December 2013		