

## **Annex 6c**

# **UNEP Environmental, Social and Economic Review Note (ESERN)**

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## I. Project Overview

Identification	
Project Title	Enhancing Climate Information and Knowledge Services for resilience in 5 island countries of the Pacific Ocean
Managing Division	Science Division
Type/Location	Regional
Region	Asia Pacific
List Countries	Cook Islands, Niue, Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu
Project Description	<p>The Cook Islands, Niue, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu are at the forefront of climate change. Sea level rise, ocean acidification, coastal inundation and erosion, disruption of rainfall patterns, rising average temperatures and more extreme weather events threaten the ecosystems on which island populations rely. Their great vulnerability to climate change arises from their geography, the exposure of their populations and their lack of resilience to shocks; their limited adaptation capacity is caused by structural constraints on their financial and human resources.</p> <p>The overall objective of the Programme is to support increased climate-resilient sustainable development in the five countries through the achievement of three key outcomes: i) increased generation and use of climate information in decision making; ii) strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks; iii) strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes.</p> <p>The Programme will effect a paradigm shift to science-informed evidence-based climate adaptation, risk reduction and multi-hazard early warning. This will be complemented by a transformation in the way that climate information is communicated to islands populations, so that people at "the last mile" clearly understand what is happening and have the capacity to prepare and respond to its impacts.</p>
Estimated duration of project:	5 years
Estimated cost of the project :	USD 49,923,714

## II. Environmental Social and Economic Screening Determination

### A. Summary of the Safeguard Risks Triggered

Safeguard Standard Triggered by the Project	Impact of Risk <sup>1</sup> (1-5)	Probability of Risk (1-5)	Significance of Risk (L, M, H)
SS 1: Biodiversity, natural habitat and Sustainable Management of Living Resources	2	1	L
SS 2: Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes	2	1	L
SS 3: Safety of Dams	2	1	L
SS 4: Involuntary resettlement	1	1	L
SS 5: Indigenous peoples	1	1	L
SS 6: Labor and working conditions	2	1	L
SS 7: Cultural Heritage	1	1	L
SS 8: Gender equity	1	1	L
SS 9: Economic Sustainability	1	1	L
Additional Safeguard questions for projects seeking GCF-funding (Section IV)			

### B. ESE Screening Decision<sup>2</sup> (Refer to the UNEP ESES Framework (Chapter 2) and the UNEP's ESES Guidelines.)

Low risk ☒ Moderate risk ☐ High risk ☐ Additional information required ☐

### C. Development of ESE Review Note and Screening Decision:

Prepared by: Name: Jochem Zoetelief Date: 13 September 2019

Safeguard Advisor: Name: Yunae Yi Date: 4 November 2019

Project Manager: Name: Jochem Zoetelief Date: 4 November 2019

### D. Recommended further action from the Safeguard Advisor:

This is likely a low risk project. It is great to see that the project already carried out the environmental and social risk screening and confirmed that there are no major foreseen safeguard risks. Some minor concerns are as following:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to UNEP Environment, Social and Economic Sustainability (ESES): Implementation Guidance Note to assign values to the Impact of Risk and the Probability of Risk to determine the overall significance of Risk (Low, Moderate or High).

<sup>2</sup> **Low risk:** Negative impacts negligible: no further study or impact management required.

**Moderate risk:** Potential negative impacts, but less significant; few if any impacts irreversible; impact amenable to management using standard mitigation measures; limited environmental or social analysis may be required to develop a ESEMP. Straightforward application of good practice may be sufficient without additional study.

**High risk:** Potential for significant negative impacts, possibly irreversible, ESEA including a full impact assessment may be required, followed by an effective safeguard management plan.

SS 1: The project should ensure that there is no negative impact to the ecosystem in the sites selected.

SS 2: For disposal of e-waste and other waste, search for the most resource efficient, recycling or sound waste management options (including upcycling opportunities). Avoid transportation and/or use of any toxic materials for construction; ensure that the weather centres are climate resilient; develop the waste management and disposal plan for the safety of the ecosystem and the surrounding communities.

SS3: The project doesn't intend to construct dams. However, construction of weather centres, especially in the ocean, will require some safety measures. Although the safeguard review report noted that the risk is minor, all possible precautionary measure should be taken for the safety of the laborers and the nearby communities.

SS 6: Contractors are likely to be hired for the construction work. Labour and working conditions in the Safeguard Framework should be respected.

SS 7: Did the project confirm that there are no cultural heritage objects among proposed project sites?

SS 8: Gender Action Plan is developed to help the project gender-responsive. Gender and right-holder perspective should be considered throughout the project.



### III. ESES Principle and Safeguard checklist

(Section III and IV should be retained in UNEP)

Precautionary Approach	
The project will take precautionary measures even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically and there is risk of causing harm to the people or to the environment.	
Human Rights Principle	
The project will make an effort to include any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular vulnerable and marginalized groups; from the decision-making process that may affect them.	
The project will respond to any significant concerns or disputes raised during the stakeholder engagement process.	
The project will make an effort to avoid inequitable or discriminatory negative impacts on the quality of and access to resources or basic services, on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups. <sup>3</sup>	

Screening checklist		
	Y/N/ Maybe	Comment
<b>Safeguard Standard 1: Biodiversity, natural habitat and Sustainable Management of Living Resources</b>		
Will the proposed project support directly or indirectly any activities that significantly convert or degrade biodiversity and habitat including modified habitat, natural habitat and critical natural habitat?	N	A shipboard AWS system has been chosen as the best way to improve marine meteorological data collection without additional environmental and social impacts, and systems will be fitted to six ships that already make regular trips in the target areas. The proposed installation and subsequent removal of the portable tidal gauges are expected to cause no significant impacts. They will be

<sup>3</sup> Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

		installed in Penrhyn and Pukapuka to gather tidal information in order to create accurate tide charts for the area. They are planned to be removed after one year of information gathering. Certified experts will be contracted for this work.  Further oceanographic and meteorological data will be collected using Saildrones, autonomous long-range wind and solar powered devices. Environmental impacts are limited to the shipping of the devices and support equipment, and air travel of the certified technicians that will set up the systems.
Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are legally protected?	N	
Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are officially proposed for protection? (e.g.: National Park, Nature Conservancy, Indigenous Community Conserved Area, (ICCA); etc.)	N	
Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are identified by authoritative sources for their high conservation and biodiversity value?	N	
Will the proposed project likely convert or degrade habitats that are recognized- including by authoritative sources and /or the national and local government entity, as protected and conserved by traditional local communities?	N	
Will the proposed project approach possibly not be legally permitted or inconsistent with any officially recognized management plans for the area?	N	
Will the proposed project activities result in soils deterioration and land degradation?	N	
Will the proposed project interventions cause any changes to the quality or quantity of water in rivers, ponds, lakes or other wetlands?	N	
Will the proposed project possibly introduce or utilize any invasive alien species of flora and fauna, whether accidental or intentional?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 2: Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes</b>		
Will the proposed project likely result in the significant release of pollutants to air, water or soil?	N	



Will the proposed project likely consume or cause significant consumption of water, energy or other resources through its own footprint or through the boundary of influence of the activity?	N	
Will the proposed project likely cause significant generation of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions during and/or after the project?	N	
Will the proposed project likely generate wastes, including hazardous waste that cannot be reused, recycled or disposed in an environmentally sound and safe manner?	N	
Will the proposed project use, cause the use of, or manage the use of, storage and disposal of hazardous chemicals, including pesticides?	N	
Will the proposed project involve the manufacturing, trade, release and/or use of hazardous materials subject to international action bans or phase-outs, such as DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol?	N	
Will the proposed project require the procurement of chemical pesticides that is not a component of integrated pest management (IPM) <sup>4</sup> or integrated vector management (IVM) <sup>5</sup> approaches?	N	
Will the proposed project require inclusion of chemical pesticides that are included in IPM or IVM but high in human toxicity?	N	
Will the proposed project have difficulty in abiding to FAO's International Code of Conduct <sup>6</sup> in terms of handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides?	N	
Will the proposed project potentially expose the public to hazardous materials and substances and pose potentially serious risk to human health and the environment?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 3: Safety of Dams</b>		
Will the proposed project involve constructing a new dam(s)?	N	
Will the proposed project involve rehabilitating an existing dam(s)?	N	
Will the proposed project activities involve dam safety operations?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 4: Involuntary resettlement</b>		
Will the proposed project likely involve full or partial physical displacement or relocation of people?	N	

<sup>4</sup> "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) means the careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms  
<http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/thematic-sitemap/theme/pests/ipmap/en/>

<sup>5</sup> "IVM is a rational decision-making process for the optimal use of resources for vector control. The approach seeks to improve the efficacy, cost-effectiveness, ecological soundness and sustainability of disease-vector control. The ultimate goal is to prevent the transmission of vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue, Japanese encephalitis, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis and Chagas disease." ([http://www.who.int/neglected\\_diseases/vector\\_ecology/ivm\\_concept/en/](http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/vector_ecology/ivm_concept/en/))

<sup>6</sup> Find more information from [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/agphome/documents/Pests\\_Pesticides/Code/Code\\_2014Sep\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/agphome/documents/Pests_Pesticides/Code/Code_2014Sep_ENG.pdf)



Will the proposed project involve involuntary restrictions on land use that deny a community the use of resources to which they have traditional or recognizable use rights?	N	
Will the proposed project likely cause restrictions on access to land or use of resources that are sources of livelihood?	N	
Will the proposed project likely cause or involve temporary/permanent loss of land?	N	
Will the proposed project likely cause or involve economic displacements affecting their crops, businesses, income generation sources and assets?	N	
Will the proposed project likely cause or involve forced eviction?	N	
Will the proposed project likely affect land tenure arrangements, including communal and/or customary/traditional land tenure patterns negatively?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 5: Indigenous peoples<sup>7</sup></b>		
Will indigenous peoples be present in the proposed project area or area of influence?	N	
Will the proposed project be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	N	
Will the proposed project likely affect livelihoods of indigenous peoples negatively through affecting the rights, lands and territories claimed by them?	N	
Will the proposed project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	N	
Will the project negatively affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples defined by them?	N	
Will the project potentially affect the traditional livelihoods, physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	N	
Will the project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 6: Labor and working conditions</b>		
Will the proposed project involve the use of forced labor and child labor?	N	
Will the proposed project cause the increase of local or regional un-employment?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 7: Cultural Heritage</b>		
Will the proposed project potentially have negative impact on objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values and archeological sites that are internationally recognized or legally protected?	N	
Will the proposed project rely on or profit from tangible cultural heritage (e.g., tourism)?	N	
Will the proposed project involve land clearing or excavation with the possibility of encountering previously undetected tangible cultural heritage?	N	

<sup>7</sup> Refer to the Toolkit for the application of the UNEP Indigenous Peoples Policy Guidance for further information.



Will the proposed project involve in land clearing or excavation?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 8: Gender equity</b>		
Will the proposed project likely have inequitable negative impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	N	
Will the proposed project potentially discriminate against women or other groups based on gender, especially regarding participation in the design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	N	
Will the proposed project have impacts that could negatively affect women's and men's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services?	N	
<b>Safeguard Standard 9: Economic Sustainability</b>		
Will the proposed project likely bring immediate or short-term net gain to the local communities or countries at the risk of generating long-term economic burden (e.g., agriculture for food vs. biofuel; mangrove vs. commercial shrimp farm in terms of fishing, forest products and protection, etc.)?	N	
Will the proposed project likely bring unequal economic benefits to a limited subset of the target group?	N	

#### IV. Additional Safeguard Questions for Projects seeking GCF-funding

<b>Community Health, Safety, and Security</b>		
Will there be potential risks and negative impacts to the health and safety of the Affected Communities during the project life-cycle?	N	
Will the proposed project involve design, construction, operation and decommissioning of the structural elements such as new buildings or structures?	Y	Construction of weather stations and rehabilitating some existing ones?

			Five outer islands in Tuvalu - The impact risks involved are low and relate to environmental impacts from construction and the transportation of materials, and social risks relating to the location of the sites and occupational health and safety.
Will the proposed project involve constructing new buildings or structures that will be accessed by public?	N		
Will the proposed project possibly cause direct or indirect health-related risks and impacts to the Affected Communities due to the diminution or degradation of natural resources, and ecosystem services?	N		
Will the proposed project activities potentially cause community exposure to health issues such as water-born, water-based, water-related, vector-borne diseases, and communicable diseases?	N		
In case of an emergency event, will the project team, including partners, have the capacity to respond together with relevant local and national authorities?	Y		
Will the proposed project need to retain workers to provide security to safeguard its personnel and property?	N		
<b>Labor and Supply Chain</b>			
Will UNEP or the implementing/executing partner(s) involve suppliers of goods and services who may have high risk of significant safety issues related to their own workers?	N		