MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING (MEL) IN THE PACIFIC – REGIONAL PROGRESS AND UPDATES UNDER THE FRDP

SEPTEMBER 2020

The Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) Support Unit is hosting a series of webinars or online seminars on the FRDP and PRP throughout 2020 and 2021. These sessions will focus on creating a sharing and learning platform through structured sessions utilizing web-based platforms such as zoom.

Sessions on the 15th and 23rd September will be held in partnership with the NAP Global Network, with the overall goal to provide a platform for Pacific SIDS to share perspectives, experiences and lessons learned on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) to inform national adaptation planning and implementation.

This briefing note provides some background information for participants on the status of regional MEL activities under the FRDP.

- The Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP), endorsed by PIC Leaders in 2016, details that a “monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework will be developed in consultation with PICTs to be endorsed by PICTs, with support from regional organisations and development partners”. Such a framework is intended to align with PIC reporting to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), the Sendai Framework, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement as well as each country’s National Development Plan.

- In 2019 Pacific Leaders further directed the PRP Taskforce to “elaborate the FRDP in line with the Paris Agreement and finalise the monitoring & evaluation framework by the end of 2021, with a progress update in 2020”.

- Several regional partners have supported activities to progress this work. The USAID/Pacific Community (SPC) ISACC Project supported an FRDP MEL Needs Assessment in 2019. The report from this assessment (available here) assesses the gaps and opportunities for monitoring and evaluating the FRDP, and highlights stakeholder views of what is considered important considerations for monitoring and evaluating the FRDP.

- From this assessment, an FRDP M&E Strategy has been developed (available here). The M&E Strategy proposes three factors as critical to the development and operationalisation of an FRDP M&E framework. There are:
  1. Strengthened and operable national M&E systems for resilient development;
  2. Resilient development reporting systems that are coherent, vertical and horizontally integrated and gender and socially inclusive; and
  3. Cooperation among resilient development stakeholders that is based on genuine and enduring partnerships.
This virtual learning session contributes to each of these factors, by providing a platform to share experiences from the national level and to strengthen partnerships in the M&E space.

- The FRDP M&E Strategy is complemented by ongoing work on the Pacific Resilience Standards (PRS). The PRS, founded on the guiding principles of the FRDP, share regionally agreed effectiveness and behavioural values for guiding and enhancing resilience building in the Pacific. They operationalise the FRDP principles and agree and establish regional “good practice essentials” for integrated, inclusive, informed and sustained resilience building. Further consultation on the PRS will be undertaken on 30 September 2020.

- Finally, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) under the European Union funded Intra-ACP GCCA+ Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES) Project, supported by SPREP, is currently supporting technical assistance to build on these activities towards the development of the FRDP M&E framework. Case studies on national best practice for resilient development M&E Systems are being developed, to identify common elements across the region which can form the basis of an M&E framework for the FRDP.

- The PRP Support Unit will look to hosting another M&E focused webinar event later in the series, drawing on some of the inputs to this September session, to inform broader discussions on M&E of resilience building efforts in the Pacific.

For further information contact

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