



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

between the

APEC Climate Center (APCC)

and the

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into effect on the last date of the final signature between the APEC Climate Center, hereinafter referred to as "APCC", and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, hereinafter referred to as "SPREP" (collectively hereinafter referred to as "the Parties").

APCC is a non-profit organisation located in the Republic of Korea that aims to enhance the socio-economic well-being of the Asia Pacific region by utilizing up-to-date scientific knowledge, applying innovative climate prediction techniques, and promoting application of climate information through various programs for capacity building and reducing climate risks in the region. APCC provides assistance to countries in developing and implementing applications of climate information to climate-sensitive sectors like disaster management, agriculture, and water management to improve their performance. In order to enhance the impact of its services, APCC conducts various training programs to assist capacity building in regional developing countries.

SPREP is a regional, inter-governmental organisation comprising 26 members consisting of 21 Pacific Island Countries and Territories and 5 developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific region. The purposes of SPREP are to promote co-operation in the Pacific region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations.

Whereas the Parties have mutual interest in the coordination, development, and practical application of climate science and services to support resilient planning and development in the Pacific region.

The Parties have reached the following understandings:

1. Objectives

Based on the principles of equality and reciprocity, this MOU serves as a general framework for cooperation between the Parties and is intended to facilitate the development of specific opportunities for future collaboration on programs or projects.

Accordingly, the main objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are to provide:

1. A commitment of intent to encourage and support enhanced coordination and collaboration in developing and implementing joint research activities and other areas of mutual interest and benefit to both Parties
2. A platform for building and maintaining a productive and trusted partnership for exchange of information and strengthened and sustained collaboration on development and delivery of climate science, services, knowledge and capacity for the Pacific region as an initial focus, and
3. Facilitate discussions on other areas of research collaboration of mutual interest to pursue in the future.

2. Collaborative Activities

The Parties agree to commit to the pursuit of future project/program-based partnership opportunities subject to donor support and direction, with the allocation of resources in a manner that will maximize efficiency and effectiveness in the pursuit of shared objectives. These future project/program based partnership opportunities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Consultation between the Parties regarding strategies, planning, priorities, stakeholder engagement, and other associated matters in relation to ongoing or future joint projects, with initial emphasis on climate variability, extremes, and change.
2. Provision of support to the World Meteorological Organization Regional Association – Five (RA-V) virtual Pacific Island Regional Climate Centre (PI-RCC) Network, as consortium members.
3. Organisation of relevant bilateral meetings with the objective of sharing relevant research, knowledge and information, project development, project implementation, capacity building, and other relevant and innovative initiatives that are underway to seek opportunities for collaboration between the Parties.
4. Extension of standing invitations between the Parties as observers at appropriate meetings, including the annual SPREP Council Meeting, the Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology, the Pacific Meteorological Council Meeting, and other regional/inter-regional strategic planning meetings as appropriate.
5. Organisation of relevant meetings and associated stakeholder engagements in relation to donor-funded activities in the Pacific.
6. Coordination of joint climate and ocean science and application research in line with the vision of the Parties, particularly those that focus on the design and delivery of project/programs that address critical regional and country climate science and service priorities, including the Green Climate Fund and other relevant donor-funded initiatives. The parties shall encourage the engagement of countries in the design and delivery of research and improved application of research outputs.
7. Support of awareness-raising efforts and capacity building initiatives in relation to the environment, with initial emphasis on climate science, information, products, and services.
8. Promote Gender Equity, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) throughout all collaborative activities in the MOU.
9. Promulgation of cooperative activities and efforts undertaken pursuant to this MOU to the Parties' respective networks.

3. Operational Provisions

1. This MOU is not intended to be a binding legal document by either international or domestic law. It is only an expression and record of the purpose and intention of the Parties concerned, to which they each honorably pledge themselves with the fullest confidence. This is based on their relationship with each other, and the understanding that this MOU will be carried through by each Party with mutual respect, loyalty, and friendly cooperation.
2. The Parties' actions under this MOU shall be considered to be each Party's sole and separate action for all purposes, including liability, and neither Party shall claim to be acting on behalf of, or as an agent for, the other Party of this MOU.
3. Any differences between the Parties concerning the interpretation and/or application of this MOU should be settled amicably through mutual agreement.
4. The execution of this MOU does not commit either Party to any financial obligation and the activities carried out through this MOU will be determined by the availability of the Parties' funds or by other financial assistance obtained from external sources by either Party.
5. The Parties retain their autonomy to conduct research, maintain intellectual property and confidential information, and fully engage in activities independently of this MOU.

6. Any defined collaborative project/program and the sharing of explicitly confidential information in regard to that project/program will be subject to formal agreement in the form of a project/program-based MOU attached to this document as an Annex. Therefore, a reference to this MOU includes a reference to all attached Annexes.
7. The following focal points have been designated to oversee and facilitate the implementation of this MOU, in association with other appropriate administrators in the Parties:
 - Ms. Sangwon Moon, Head, External Affairs Department, APCC
 - Ms Tagaloa Cooper, Director, Climate Change Resilience Programme, SPREP
8. The Parties will update the designated focal points above as necessary and will inform the other Party in writing in a timely manner.

4. Duration, Amendments, and Termination

1. This MOU will take effect immediately on the most recent date of signing and will remain in effect for five years from the most recent date of signing.
2. This MOU is renewable subject to joint evaluation of the arrangement and to joint agreement between the Parties.
3. This MOU may be amended in writing between the Parties by mutual consent.
4. This MOU will be automatically terminated five years from the most recent date of signing.
5. In the event that one party wishes to terminate the MOU prior to the expiration date, that party shall inform the other party in writing 3 months prior to the termination date.
6. Termination of this MOU will incur no liability to the Parties and will not affect any external agreements or other legally binding arrangements in place between the Parties.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Parties, have caused this MOU to be executed from the date of the last signature shown below.

Signed by:

APEC Climate Center



Won-Tae Kwon
Executive Director

Date: 6/10/2021

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme



Kosi Latu
Director General

Date: 4/10/2021

Witnessed by:



Sangwon Moon
Head
External Affairs Department

Date: 6/10/2021



Tagaloa Cooper-Halo
Director
Climate Change Resilience Programme

Date: 5/10/21.