



## Project Fact Sheet - August 2024

### Overview

*Climate Resilient Farming in Pacific Islands is about strengthening inclusive climate and disaster resilience for Pacific farmers. The framework is being supported by the Australian Government with co-financing linked to the FO4ACP Program funded by the European Union and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.*

Pacific Farmer Organisations (PFO) is the umbrella body for national farmer organisations in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) with a vision to make Pacific farmer organisations - important local civil society organisations - vibrant, viable and sustainable. PFO is a key partner in supporting farmers and rural communities to respond to the challenges of climate change. Climate change impacts are already being felt and are likely to increase in severity over time affecting the food security, water security and livelihoods of a large number of people in the Pacific. These impacts are uneven and often more adverse for women, youth, and other vulnerable groups such as those living with disabilities. Integrated strategies that connect resilience with livelihoods including women's economic empowerment through to better water catchment management are needed. Building community resilience through managing and adapting to climate variability in the short term is seen as the best way to prepare for longer-term impacts. Doing so requires intensive and sustained support for farmers to build their capacity to adapt.

The objective of the Climate Resilient Farming in the Pacific project is “to strengthen resilience, food and water security of Pacific farmers by helping them adapt to the threat of changing climate and natural disasters”. It aims to achieve this through three components:

**Component 1:** Climate Resilient Farming Households - Farmer centered practical adaptation responses for climate resilient farming

**Component 2:** Farmers’ Voices are heard - Farmers have a voice at the table of policy / international frameworks to ensure resources are allocated appropriately and generate results

**Component 3:** Stronger Farmer Organisations - Building resilience at organisational level; stronger organisations with the right technical expertise and tools so they will be there as a vehicle to address the future threats.

### Expected Results

The Climate Resilient Farming in the Pacific is a transformational program that acknowledges the critical role farmers in the Pacific play in climate adaptation and provides resources to support local solutions.

The expected results of the five year CRF Program include new technologies that respond to the resilience and adaptation needs of small farmers reaching up to 84,190 farming households in seven countries through 23 farmer organisations; FOs with stronger capacity including new knowledge in climate change, gender, women’s economic empowerment, water security and disaster risk reduction; new and more effective partnerships and collective action to address climate change and resilience; policy, planning and climate finance accountability of governments improved through increased voice of farmers and their organisations.



*The CRF project hosted a “Climate Change Adaptation Assessment Training” in from June 3-8, 2024 in Deuba, Fiji Islands. The event brought together 22 organisations and delegates from 12 countries in the Pacific region.*

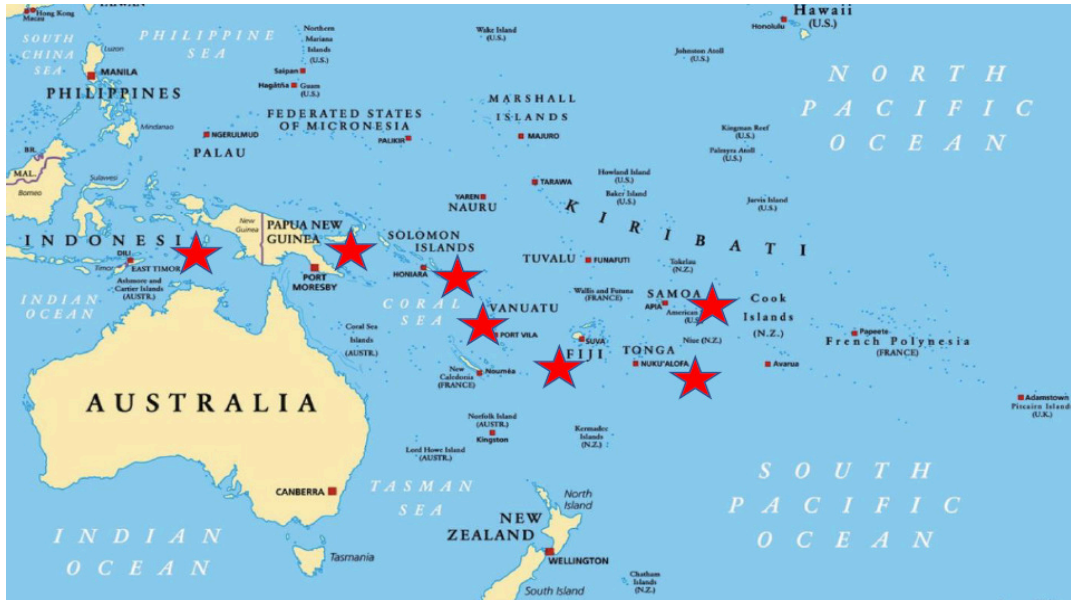
**Rapid Adaptation Activities for the first 12 months**

The Rapid Adaptation Activities form part of the Australian Government’s funding to the new Climate Resilient Farming in the Pacific Islands project (CRF-PI), implemented by the Pacific Farmers Organisation (PFO). The Rapid Adaptation Activities will be implemented in the first 12-months of the project by Farmer Organisations in seven countries: Fiji, Timor-Leste, Samoa, Tonga, PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

In parallel to the Rapid Adaptation Activities, CRF-PI will coordinate organisational capacity strengthening, advocacy activities, assessments for climate adaptation in the seven participating countries and development of adaptation plans. Much of the funding for these activities is from the existing EU-IFAD project Farmer Organisations for Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific (FO4ACP).

| Activity  | Response/ driver   | Examples  | FO/ country  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Conservation agriculture and water management practices         | Sustainable access to water and healthy soil will be critical for maintaining diverse adaptation options for agriculture and the environment | Training and demonstrations in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water harvest and sustainable irrigation</li> <li>• Soil health</li> <li>• Fertiliser efficiency, Mulching</li> <li>• Cover cropping</li> <li>• Contour farming</li> <li>• Incorporating windbreaks</li> </ul>   | ANAPROFIKO<br>Timor-Leste<br>TTT Fiji<br>KGA Solomons<br>FSA Vanuatu   |
| Production and distribution of climate resilient plant material | Sourcing and sharing planting material (including locally adapted and traditional varieties) that are suited to future climate conditions    | Depending on the FO and its networks, activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upscaling existing nurseries</li> <li>• Evaluation of superior and/or traditional varieties</li> <li>• Promoting traditional varieties suited to local conditions</li> <li>• Collecting and bulking traditional crops for disaster preparedness</li> <li>• Multiplication of seeds and planting material</li> <li>• Distribution to communities, seed groups, farmers</li> </ul> | ANAPROFIKO<br>Timor-Leste<br>TTT Fiji<br>KGA Solomons<br>WiADF PNG<br>WIBDI Samoa<br>GROFED Tonga<br>FSA Vanuatu |
| Household-based processing and storage                          | Preservation of harvest, particularly for disaster preparedness and retention of traditional techniques                                      | Training in traditional preservation practices and use of traditional and local foods for nutrition   | TTT Fiji<br>WiADF PNG  |
| Climate action awareness and training                           | Raise community and farmer awareness of climate trends, likely impacts and practical solutions and preparedness                              | Community awareness and training, including : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TOT and women farmer activities</li> <li>• Demonstration plots, including school gardens</li> <li>• Showcases, including Diversity Fairs, field days, seed exchanges, model gardens</li> <li>• Farmer competitions</li> <li>• Awareness raising and practical guidance publications</li> </ul>   | ANAPROFIKO<br>Timor-Leste<br>TTT Fiji<br>KGA Solomons<br>WiADF PNG<br>WIBDI Samoa<br>GROFED Tonga<br>FSA Vanuatu |





*CRF is currently fully active in 7 countries, with the aim to expand to 13 countries by 2025.*

## Overview of Rapid Adaptation Activities by country

**Fiji's** participating Farmer Organisation - Tei Tei Taveuni (TTT) - is based in Taveuni, which is prone to water shortages, drought and deforestation. Their activities are focused around water harvesting and sustainable irrigation, reforestation to protect their watersheds, crops and environment, workshops on food preservation and storage in preparation for natural disasters and training and awareness, particularly for women.

**Timor-Leste's** priority issues are drought, soil health and the need for water conservation. Asosiasaun Nasional Produtor Fini Komersial (ANAPROFIKO) will focus on multiplying and distributing seed material to their 52 community associations, expanding the varieties they are growing to include more climate-resilient crops and promoting practices such as minimum tillage and mucuna intercropping.

The focus for **Tonga's** Growers Federation of Tonga (GROFED) will be on extending climate change awareness to farming communities, through promotion of their climate smart farm models, demonstration sites in schools and 'climate change smart' competitions, training and guidance material. They will be producing and sharing seeds and seedlings of climate resilient crops and fruit trees, as well as plants that are important to maintain environmental properties (eg windbreak trees).

**Samoa's** Women in Business and Development Incorporated (WiBDI) aim to deliver a package of climate resilient practices and knowledge to their target communities. This includes training in sustainable farming and gardening practices for climate resilience, water conservation and soil health and provision of planting material and tools to farmers. They will also upscale their existing nurseries by evaluating and expanding the diversity of resilient and traditional crop varieties.

The **Solomon Islands'** Kastom Gaden Association (KGA) will focus on evaluating and distributing climate resilient crop varieties to three provinces, including collection and multiplication of traditional and local food crops adapted to disasters. They are planning a range of awareness and training activities to showcase practical tools for climate resilience, including duplicating their 'climate smart model gardens', training in conservation agriculture techniques and a diversity fair.

Activities for PNG's Women in Agriculture Development Foundation (PNGWiADF) revolve around training and supporting women's group leaders in climate change awareness, household agro-processing for disaster preparedness, identifying and using drought tolerant crops and nutritious traditional vegetables. Through their partnership with the National Agricultural Research Institute, they will source and distribute resilient planting material to women's and community groups to multiply, use and distribute further.

Vanuatu's Farm Support Association (FSA) aims to work on 3 islands with the distribution of climate resilient planting materials including seeds for nurseries. Water catchment equipment will also be supplied to the targeted communities. The training to be conducted will cover pest & disease management, soil fertility and the importance of nursery houses.



Farmer Exchanges grow awareness, and allow for discussions at the grassroots that ultimately provide the necessary solutions for adaptation. Discussions on traditional knowledge and good farming practices help to build resilience.

Building a sound base of technical experts to support the awareness efforts, and to support the implementation of solutions. In addition, they represent the voice of farmers at the various platforms from national to regional to international.



Participatory tools help in identifying stakeholders who can support climate change adaptation, including raising awareness, finding solutions, and influencing policy.

Setting the foundations through practical solutions shared between communities, and supporting their efforts through capacity building and advocacy.

Each of the participating countries aim to reach over 2000 farming households, with clear targets for women and men, and more modest targets for youth and people with disabilities. Each set of proposed activities includes at least one with an explicit gender outcome.

Pacific Farmers Organisation is actively seeking additional donor partners to support years 2-5 of the CRF program including to expand it to other Pacific countries who have expressed interest and have similar urgent needs for climate change adaptation led by their own farmers organisations. The project has an intensive focus on monitoring, evaluation and learning and this will strongly inform the direction of future years of Australian Government support and will identify and provide evidence for resourcing proposals to other donors. For more information please contact: [info@pacificfarmers.com](mailto:info@pacificfarmers.com)