

# PROJECT PROFILE FORM

[Please keep responses brief and limit each to 200 words]

NAB Project №

[completed by NAB]

GIP code/Project №

[obtain from DSPPAC]

Cost Centre/Activity №

[obtain from Dept.]

Donor/DSPPAC file №

[obtain from DSPPAC]

1.	Project title: Establishing resilient, low carbon agricultural systems in Tonga,     Vanuatu and Samoa							
To the (Cf dep cro	e proposed project will enable the transition from RRA) practices. Through these practices, the deliverence on external inputs reduced. To support the performance market incertions.	n cor very on the a	, Vanuatu and Samoa to the impacts of climate change, nventional to climate-resilient, regenerative agricultural of agricultural ecosystem services will be enhanced and doption of CRRA, the proposed project will: i) strengthen is for CRRA; iii) provide training and support for farmers; esharing initiatives to support learning and adaptive					
3.	Approval sought:   Identification*		Concept					
1	*For identification of project, use first page only  Funding envelope: GCF Project Preparation		9: ;					
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5.	Total funding (Vatu and USD): USD 30,400,000	6.	Access modality: international - funding will go through the accredited entity (SPC)					
7.	Implementing entity/organisation: the Pacific Community (SPC)	8.	Executing entity/lead government agency: SPC Land Resources Division (LRD)					
9.	Other government / partner agencies Tonga: Ministry for Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications Vanuatu: Ministry of Climate Change, Change Adaptation, Meteorology, Geo-Hazards, Environment, Energy and Disaster Management Samoa: Ministry of Finance	10. Project contact details: Dirk Snyman Climate Finance Advisor Pacific Community (SPC) dirks@spc.int Tel: +687 26 20 00 95 Promenade Roger Laroque BP D5 98848 Nouméa Nouvelle-Calédonie						
11.	. Location: Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa	12.	. <b>Duration:</b> 5 Years From November 2022 to October 2027					
13	. Theme(s):	14	Climate/DRR relevancy (% of budget)					
	Mitigation   ☑ Adaptation		High (≥80%) ⊠ Medium (≥50%)					
	Cross cutting DRR / DRM		Low (≥25%) ☐ Marginal (≥5%)					
	. Sector(s) by ministry:		. Scope:					
X	Agriculture, livestock, forestry,		Regional					
	fisheries and biosecurity		Provincial Community					
	Lands and natural resources (geology, mines, water)		. Number of people impacted/affected: Direct 147,239 ☑ Indirect 350 000					
X	Climate change adaptation,		Momon Vouth ( 20 voors)					
	meteorology, geo-hazards, environment, energy and disaster management	-	. Project Type: Capacity building Community awareness					
	Education and training		Disaster response					
	Finance and economic management		Field implementation					
	Foreign affairs, international		Formal education program					
	cooperation and external trade Health		Funding - small grants					
	Infrastructure and public utilities		Informal training courses					

Internal affairs (custom and culture,	$\boxtimes$	Knowledge communication
labour and employment services)	$\boxtimes$	Pilot / trial / demonstration Project
Justice and community services		Planning and governance
Trade, tourism, industry and		Policy formulation and integration
commerce		Policy support
Youth and sports development		Research (feasibility study etc.)
		Other

STOP HERE IF PROJECT ONLY AT IDENTIFICATION STAGE

CONTINUE FROM HERE ONLY IF PROJECT AT CONCEPT OR FUNDING PROPOSAL STAGE

#### 19. Project rationale:

More resilient models of agricultural production and land management are needed to address the impacts of climate change given the fragile and degraded conditions of tropical soils found in Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa. While the adoption of CRRA presents many potential benefits, several systemic barriers have prevented the adoption of these practices in the past. First, there is limited institutional capacity within the national governments of Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa to coordinate responses to land degradation and climate change and effectively implement CRRA initiatives. Second, farmers generally have limited financial capacity and incentives to invest in regenerative agriculture. The short-term gains of regenerative practices may be smaller than those of conventional mono-cropping and farmers have limited access to capital to invest in the equipment needed to transition to CRRA. Third, there is a shortage of technical skills for CRRA among farmers. Fourth, farmers generally have insufficient access to technology and extension services to support the transition to climate-resilient regenerative practices. To address these barriers, this project will develop capacity and partnerships among public sector, private sector and community stakeholders for the design and implementation of CRRA systems.

# 20. Project objective against the baseline:

In Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa, climate change will reduce agricultural productivity because of the direct impacts of increased temperatures, droughts, rainfall variability, tropical cyclone intensity and sea level rise on agriculture. The combination of these conditions will cause increased levels of agricultural soil degradation and erosion, increased spread of pests and diseases, increased crop failure and loss of livestock, and saltwater intrusion. The resulting loss of arable land and reduced yields are exacerbated by land degradation resulting from inappropriate land management, thereby intensifying the negative cycle of degradation. This will contribute to inconsistent food production, loss of farmer livelihoods, food insecurity and related environmental, social and economic instabilities. The proposed project will enable the transition from conventional to CRRA practices which will enhance the response capacity of production systems to extreme climatic conditions and events through the resilience outcomes that are inherent to CRRA management practices such as: i) soil protection and regeneration; ii) enhanced pest, disease and weed control; iii) diversification of agro-ecosystems and incorporation of climate-resilient crops; iv) increased water percolation and retention as well as cleaner runoff; and vi) increased soil carbon sequestration and storage capacity. See the logical framework below.

## 21. Policy coherence and alignment:

The project's proposed CRRA outcomes are aligned with the participating countries' national policy frameworks for climate change mitigation and adaptation. In particular, the long-term benefits of climate-resilient, regenerative, low-carbon agriculture are recognised in Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa, and are integrated into the sustainable land management targets of the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) of each country.

#### 22. Current status:

Revised concept note to be approved by GCF's Climate Investment Committee and PPF to be approved by GCF Secretariat.

#### 23. Market overview: N/A

## 24. Implementing / executing entity background / justification:

SPC is the largest international development organisation in the Pacific and was established in 1947. It has a track record of working in 22 Pacific Island countries and territories, including Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa. The Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability division has overseen projects across the region in partnership with, *inter alia*, the GIZ and European Union Global Climate Change Alliance.

### 25. Institutional / implementation arrangements:

SPC will be the AE for the proposed project with the Climate Finance Unit (CFU) within the Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Division of SPC acting as the primary focal point to the GCF. The CFU will be responsible for overseeing financial management and reporting for the project, and the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of project interventions.

The proposed project will be executed by the LRD within SPC. The LRD will be responsible for ensuring that all project activities are implemented in accordance with GCF and SPC policies and standards.

Within each country, a National Executing Partner will execute on-the-ground project activities in coordination with the regional PMU housed within SPC. The National Executing Partners will be: i) the Tongan Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forests and Fisheries; ii) the Vanuatuan Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity; and iii) the Samoan Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Within each of the three countries, a National Advisory Committee (NAC) will be established to provide guidance and oversight for the project. The NAC will comprise the regional Project Manager and the National Focal Point, as well as representatives of other relevant government institutions and private sector partners.

26.	26. Results Areas [GCF projects only]							
	Reduced emissions from (mitigation):		Increased resilience of (adaptation):					
	Energy access and power generation	$\boxtimes$	Most vulnerable people and communities					
	Low emission transport	$\boxtimes$	Health/well-being, & food/water security					
	Buildings, cities, industries & appliances		Infrastructure and built environment					
	Forestry and land use	X	Ecosystems and ecosystem services					

### 27. Expected performance against investment criteria [GCF projects only]

#### a) Impact Potential:

The benefits of the proposed project are expected to align with three GCF fund-level impact areas, detailed below.

- A1.0 Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions.
   This will be achieved by increasing the climate-resilience of agricultural livelihoods through facilitating the uptake of CRRA practices.
- A2.0 Increased resilience of health and well-being, and food and water security. By improving the capacity of
  farmers in Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa to produce climate-resilient crops, the project will increase food
  security in the three countries.
- A4.0 Improved resilience of ecosystems and ecosystem services. By facilitating the transition to CRRA
  practices, the project will protect the health of agro-ecosystems and improve the delivery of ecosystem
  services.

The project will also contribute to four GCF project-level outcomes:

- A5.0 Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development.
- A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks; and
- A8.0 Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk reduction processes.

# b) Paradigm Shift Potential:

The proposed project will contribute to a paradigm shift from conventional to regenerative agricultural practices in Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa, with upscaling potential across the rest of the Pacific Community. Specifically, the project will facilitate a shift in agricultural practices from a conventional approach that maximises short-term yields, to a climate-resilient regenerative approach that will support ecosystem health and agricultural productivity in the medium- to long-term. In addition to this practical shift in agricultural methods, the project will build on public-private partnerships to facilitate a transition in the financial sector and agricultural markets to support the sustainable uptake of CRRA. Moreover, gender-responsive activities have been integrated into the project design to support the uptake of new opportunities emerging for women through economic empowerment, training and upskilling, marketing, and the provision of enabling technologies linked to CRRA.

# c) Sustainable Development Potential:

Climate-resilient regenerative agriculture (CRRA) is recognised for promoting long-term agricultural sustainability and enhancing local communities' resilience to projected climate change impacts. The benefits of CRRA include:

- i) promoting soil protection and regeneration;
- ii) enhancing pest, disease and weed control;
- iii) enabling the diversification of climate-resilient crops;
- iv) improving the climate resilience of agricultural and livestock systems.

This enhances communities' food security and adaptability and reduces vulnerability to extreme climate events. In addition to these direct benefits, the project will achieve numerous environmental, social and economic cobenefits, as well as contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In particular, the proposed project will contribute to:

- i) SDG 2 Zero hunger
- ii) SDG 5 Gender equality;

- iii) SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth;
- iv)SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities;
- v)SDG 13 Climate action; and
- vi) SDG 15 Life on land.

Additionally, through its gender-responsive design and by enabling climate-resilient planning, the proposed project will reduce the environmental, social and economic impacts of climate change and extreme climate events — particularly on women. These benefits will largely be underpinned by a reduction in climate risks for livelihoods within the climate-sensitive agricultural sector.

#### d) Needs of the Recipient:

As Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa are highly vulnerable to the impacts of extreme climate events such as tropical cyclones and other natural hazards that can cause substantial loss and damage, particularly in the agricultural sector. As a result of these and other extreme climate events and natural disasters, there is limited financial capacity among government institutions and farmers to proactively invest in improved, climate-resilient agricultural practices. Vanuatu is classified as a Least Developed Country, and Samoa graduated from the category in 2014. All three countries have relatively small economies and substantial development needs, limiting the availability of public funding for climate change adaptation. Moreover, the impact of disasters on agriculture exacerbates food insecurity in each country because of the islands' limited ability to produce the required food supplies for the growing population which results in a reliance on food imports that are vulnerable to disruption during disasters. To improve food security and reduce vulnerability to climate change in the agricultural sector, there is an urgent need to invest in the transition to climate-resilient regenerative agriculture.

## e) Country Ownership:

The proposed project is well aligned with the three countries' climate change adaptation priorities as outlined in their Nationally Determined Contributions. The project is also aligned with national development priorities as set out in country policy and strategy documents. In addition to these national policies, one of the regional priorities listed in the Pacific Community Strategic Plan 2016–2020, is to "Strengthen sustainable management of natural resources" including in the agricultural sector. Multisectoral responses to climate change and gender equality, as well as multi-sectoral responses to food security are other relevant regional priorities identified in this plan.

#### f) Efficiency and Effectiveness:

The proposed project will reduce the cost of recovery from droughts and tropical cyclones and reduce reliance on imported food. First, as a nature-based solution (NbS), CRRA is a less capital-intensive way to protect ecosystem health and function than alternative adaptation measures such as the construction of extensive irrigation systems or erosion prevention measures. The prioritisation of NbS enhances the cost-efficiency and effectiveness of the proposed project in protecting ecosystem function. Second, through a focus on cross-sectoral coordination and vertical integration, the project will maximise the efficient use of available resources and build on existing initiatives relating to climate change and agriculture in the region. Third, the development of the project around an adaptive learning cycle will ensure that the most effective CRRA practices in each country are disseminated and that lessons learned feed into making project interventions progressively more effective. Fourth, through public-private partnerships, the project will increase access to finance for investment in CRRA and build potential for upscaling into project initiatives. During the development of the full Funding Proposal, a Financial and Economic Analysis will be conducted to further inform the efficient and effective design of the proposed project.

#### 28. Consultation:

The proposed project has been designed using a consultative approach. This process has been driven by the SPC (the project Accredited Entity) and included multiple stakeholders from each country, including the NDAs and ministries responsible for agriculture, as well as private sector partners. These stakeholders and others will continue to be involved throughout the project design and implementation. During the development of the full Funding Proposal, further stakeholder engagement will be undertaken.

## 29. Potential overlaps / duplication to be resolved:

The Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project (2019-2025), conducted by the IFAD and the World Bank, aims to increase productivity and access to markets by targeting producers, improving the management of targeted natural resources, and to provide an immediate response network in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency. Its capacity building plan includes elements to integrate climate adaptation into agriculture which will contribute to enabling the transition towards CRRA. We will

communicate with the project implementers to learn about their experience so far in Samoa so that we can draw upon it for the development of Funding Proposal. Other potential overlaps with similar projects will be further examined during the development of the full Funding Proposal.

## 30. Technical feasibility/evaluation:

The project will involve local staff with relevant skills and technical background. Public private partnerships will be developed with three primary project partners: Savaia Village Council in Samoa; Nishi Trading Co Ltd in Tonga; Tebakor Island Products Ltd (Alain Jacobe) in Vanuatu. National government in kind co-financing will include staff time of selected technical staff and senior manager of relevant Ministries including Agriculture and Livestock. Support and training will be brought to microfinance institutions and local farmers to ensure they have the technical knowledge to achieve the project's objectives.

### 31. Economic and financial analysis/viability:

See Expected performance against investment criteria\ f) Efficiency and Effectiveness section above. During the development of the full Funding Proposal, a Financial and Economic Analysis will be conducted to further inform the efficient and effective design of the proposed project.

# 32. Financial management and procurement:

These documents will be developed during the funding proposal preparation phase (through the PPF).

# 33. Environmental and social considerations:

An environmental and social screening has been conducted and the project has been evaluated as a category C risk (low risk).

#### 34. Gender and social inclusion considerations:

To ensure that CRRA initiatives under the project are gender responsive, equal gender representation will be promoted in the CRRA working groups, and the participation of women in decision-making processes will be ensured. During the development of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) for the project, lessons will be drawn from existing women-focussed CBOs — as well as ongoing initiatives in the region focussed on gender and agriculture. In this way, the project will ensure that the working groups consider and respond effectively and appropriately to gender roles and inequalities in the agricultural sector. Equal gender representation will also be ensured across all levels of training, including both those running and attending the ToT programmes. There will have to be a focus on gender-responsive marketing to ensure that: i) the products marketed include those grown by both women and men; ii) female farmers participate in the development of marketing materials; and iii) marketing materials do not promote or entrench gender inequality in agriculture but support the empowerment of female farmers and entrepreneurs. Socio-economic aspects with an emphasis on gender representation as well as other marginalised and under-represented groups will be part of the criteria for selecting the beneficiaries of the program.

## 35. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation:

The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project interventions will be the responsibility of the primary project partners in collaboration with community beneficiaries. Information on performance indicators will be reported on as part of the project — with this information being available from in-country partners and CRRA working groups specifically — and monitored by SPC throughout the lifespan of the project. Project performance will be iteratively improved upon via the adaptive learning cycle approach, which will be overseen by the CRRA working groups that will be established as part of the project. Annual workshops will be hosted for disseminating knowledge products as based on feedback from the M&E process.

## 36. Sustainability measures:

The sustainability of the proposed project interventions will be ensured through several elements of project design, including: i) stakeholder engagement; ii) community ownership; iii) capacity development; iv) the development of enabling institutional and market structures; and v) ongoing monitoring and evaluation linked with active adaptive management.

37. Supporting documents [where applicable]									
$\boxtimes$	Budget template [mandatory]	$\boxtimes$	Risk assessment [mandatory	] 🗵	Logical framework				
$\boxtimes$	Concept note		Funding proposal		Financial analysis				
	Environmental analysis		Project timetable		Letter of support				
	Consultation evidence	X	Location map [detailed plans	where co	onstruction is involved]				

## 38. Provincial consultation certification by implementing/executing entity

I certify that the Province has been consulted with and the project is consistent with the Provincial Governments Provincial Plan. I also confirm that I am not aware of any ongoing disputes or disagreements that may adversely impact on the implementation of the project. A letter of support is attached.

Name Signature Date

### 39. Director of Lead Government Agency

I certify I have checked the project profile, and any other supporting information for screening this project. I am satisfied that this project proposal is ready for presentation for approval.

Name Signature Date

# 40. DSPPAC Sectoral Specialist sign off

I certify I have checked the project profile, and any other supporting information for screening this project. I am satisfied that this project proposal is ready for presentation for approval.

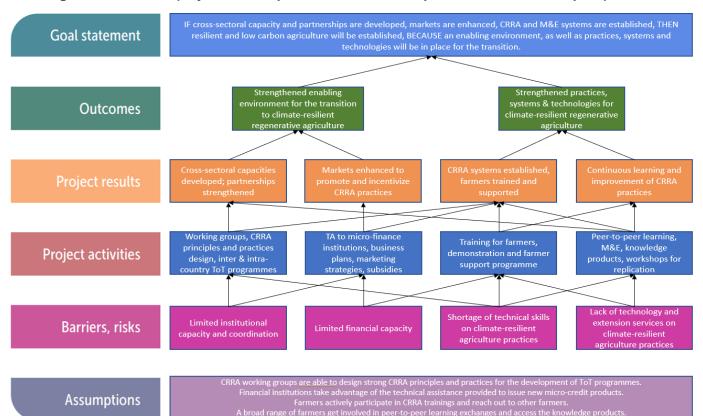
Name Signature Date

#### 41. Director General's Certification

I certify that I have checked the project profile, and any other supporting information for screening this project. I am satisfied that this project proposal is ready for presentation for approval. I understand that no Government funding will be released for the project until the project has been approved by the appropriate government authorities, any additional government contribution has been appropriated, the approved donor funding has been released and a detailed project income and expenditure form has been submitted.

Name Signature Date

#### 42. Logical framework (objectives, impacts, outcomes, outputs, activities and inputs)



43. Project budget summary (estimated in Vatu '000)

Items/component	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total	% of Total
Loans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
GCF Grants	635,976	635,976	635,976	635,976	635,976	3,179,88 0	95%
Aid in kind* from National Governments	33,009	33,009	33,009	33,009	33,009	165,045	5%
Total	668,985. 2	668,985. 2	668,985. 2	668,985. 2	668,985. 2	3,344,92 6	100%

<sup>\*</sup> contributions made directly towards projects realisation such as equipment, materials, labour, T/A, building works, vehicles, time etc. and other quantifiable resources that count towards the achievement of the project results

These amounts were converted from US dollars to Vatus on the 20/07/2021. The change rate was: 1 USD = 110.03 VUV.

## 44. Project component costs (estimated in Vatu '000)

Component / Output	Indicative cost				
Component 1 : Enabling environment for the transition to climate-r	esilient regenerative agriculture				
Output 1: Cross-sectoral capacity and partnerships for the adaptive implementation of CRRA practices	330,091				
Output 2: Markets enhanced to promote and incentivise CRRA initiatives	550,152				
Component 2 : Practices, systems, and technologies for climate-resilient regenerative agriculture					
Output 3: CRRA systems established through training, demonstration and farmer support	1,870,517				
Output 4: Monitoring and evaluation system established for continuous learning and improvement of CRRA practices	440,122				
Project management costs	154,043				
Indicative total cost	3,344,926				

These amounts were converted from US dollars to Vatus on the 20/07/2021. The change rate was: 1 USD = 110.03 VUV. The project components costs will be further detailed during the PPF.

# 45. Project risk factors, mitigation measures, and assessment tool\*

Selected Risk Factor 1 Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability	Score
Inadequate coordination at a national level in the implementation of the	Technical and operational	Medium	High 6	
project				
Mitigation Measure(s)				
stakeholders. Extensive stakeholder couphases to ensure alignment between the Selected Risk Factor 2				entation
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability	Score
Environmental and social risks	Social and environmental	Low (<5% of project value)	Low	1
Mitigation Measure(s)				
<ul> <li>During the development of the f</li> </ul>			Social Impact Asse a result of project	

**Selected Risk Factor 3** 

Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability	Score
Unequal project benefits delivered to women and men in part because of limited engagement with women groups and limited ability and capacity of women to participate in project activities	Social and environmental	Medium (5.1-20% of project value)	Medium	4

#### Mitigation Measure(s)

- During the development of the full Funding Proposal, a Gender Assessment and Action Plan will be developed to ensure that all proposed project interventions will confer gender-responsive benefits to women and men.
- The training curricula and delivery of the ToT programmes in the proposed project will be gender-responsive and consider the differing needs of all participating groups.
- The development of CRRA business models and investment strategies in the proposed project will consider the requirements and address the barriers constraining access to finance and market access for women, femaleheaded households, and underrepresented groups in the three countries.

Selected Risk Factor 4				
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability	Score
Delays in project implementation as a result of limited capacity of national institutions in providing expertise on CRRA practices	Technical and operational	Low (<5% of project value)	Medium	2
Mitigation Measure(s)				

- Incentives and insurance mechanisms to reduce the risks associated with a transition to regenerative agricultural practices will be designed in consultation with relevant stakeholders.
- Technical assistance will be provided to micro-finance institutions to develop products tailored to assisting farmers to adopt CRRA practices.

Selected Risk Factor 5				
Description	Risk category	Level of impact	Probability	Score
Insufficient willingness to pay for the additional cost of CRRA products results in reduction in farmer income	Technical and operational	Low (<5% of project value)	Medium	2
Mitigation Measure(s)				

- A comprehensive market assessment will be undertaken during the development of the full Funding Proposal to inform the selection of viable CRRA practices, crops and systems.
- Marketing materials for CRRA products will be developed under the project, based on the market assessment, to increase demand for CRRA products.

Total score (add all the scores and divide by the total number of risk factors)

N/A

\*These are project related risks, not broader, general, global climatic and environment risks

	Probability	Low	Medium	High
Impact	Score	(1)	(2)	(3)
Low	(1)	1	2	3
Medium	(2)	2	4	6

Multiply the impact of each risk factor by the probability of each risk factor to give an individual risk factor score. Then add all the individual risk factor scores and divide by

High	(3)	3	6	<b>U</b>	the number of risk factors to give an overoject risk score.		an overall		
Key	1 Negligible	2 Mine	or 3 Mo	oderate 4	Major [	6	Severe	9	Extreme

**History of the document** 

Version	Date	Nature of revision
1.0	NAB Meeting 6 August 2021	