



RERIPA Project



RERIPA WORKSHOP 1 REPORT

Enhancing Research and Innovation (R&I) to tackle Climate Change Impacts (CCI)
in the Pacific

Wednesday 10 August 2022- USP ICT Videoconference JIC Theater , Rooms 1 &2



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Workshop 1 – Enhancing Research and Innovation (R&I) to tackle Climate Change Impacts (CCI) in the Pacific



Wednesday 10 August 2022- USP ICT Conference Room and Zoom

1. Background

Pacific Island countries are among those who are the most vulnerable to Climate Change Impacts (CCI). Therefore, finding innovative solutions to address these CCI's is crucial to allow for climate mitigation and adaptation tools. **RERIPA** stands for "Renforcement des écosystèmes de Recherche et d'Innovation face aux enjeux climatiques dans le Pacifique" (**Strengthening Research and Innovation Ecosystems to Address the Impact of Climate Change in the Pacific**).

The overall objective of the RERIPA project is to strengthen an inclusive Research and Innovation (R&I) environment, and the knowledge of climate change issues across the Pacific Region to face climate change impacts (CCI). The original approach of RERIPA is to support the co-design and deployment of innovative solutions to tackle climate change by academic actors, companies, NGO's, users' representative, and public

authorities, to respond to identified needs. In particular RERIPA focuses on 3 areas; coastal vulnerability, ocean health and rising sea level.

The workshop held on 10th August 2022 served as the official “launch” of the project. The two main objectives of the workshop were to:

1. Introduce stakeholders to RERIPA and provided detailed information on the project
2. Provide the opportunity to participants to contribute towards the terms of reference (ToR) for “Living Labs”

Refer to [Appendix 1](#) for the full concept note of the workshop.

Participants at the workshop came from all sectors which included Researchers/academics, Civil Society Organisations (CSO’s), Government. [Appendix 2](#) provides the participant list for those who attended the session face to face at the Laucala Campus in Suva Fiji.

2. Summary of Discussions from 10th August Session

Opening Session

The full programme of the event is attached as [Appendix 3](#). The Workshop was officially opened by Dr France Bailly, IRD Representative to New Caledonia. This was followed by remarks from Ambassador Solo Mara, Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF), Dr Giulio Paunga, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Regional Campuses Estates and Infrastructure), University of the South Pacific, Ambassador Sujiro Seam, EU Representative to the Pacific and Prof Pal Ahluwalia, Vice Chancellor, University of the South Pacific.

A key message from the opening remarks was the importance of maintaining partnerships and collaboration to identify solutions to existing challenges facing the Oceania region. It emphasised the importance that RERIPA will have in contributing towards innovative solutions to CCI.

After the opening remarks Cecile Dupouy (RERIPA Project Coordinator) gave a presentation that provided an overview of the RERIPA project. During this time participants were informed that USP had been awarded grants as the lead coordinator for Call 1 – Mapping and diagnosis of R&I capacities and Call 2 – Training and Capacity building for R&I.

MORNING SESSION (SESSION 2 TO 5)

Session 2 and 3 were dedicated to USP as the leads for Call 1 and 2.

During session 2 Prof Sushil Kumar (USP) gave a presentation on all aspects related to Call 1. This included information on how USP will prepare and implement activities to meet the objectives of Call 1.

In session 3, Prof Elisabeth Holland (USP) gave a presentation on all aspects related to Call 2. This included information on how USP will prepare and implement activities to meet the objectives of Call 2. Refer to [appendix 4](#) for the presentation.

In session 5, discussions were conducted to answer four key questions

1. *What are the key priority areas that a living lab should address regarding coastal vulnerability, sea level rise, lagoon, and ocean health?*
2. *What are the expected impacts of these key priority areas in terms of livelihood generation, economic impact and sustainable development of the ACP countries?*
3. *What partnerships can be established to develop the research and innovative sustainable solutions to address the priorities?*
4. *Are there any innovative solutions already existing but still to be implemented/ or adapted to address more efficiently these 3 priorities?*

Minutes of discussions can be obtained from the organizers (contact@reripa.com)

The synthesis of the discussion was on:

Traditional Knowledge

To address the impacts of climate change, indigenous people are mobilizing their in-depth knowledge of the territories that have been the source of their livelihoods for generations. Traditional knowledge operates at a much finer spatial and temporal scale than science and includes understandings of how to cope with and adapt to environmental variability and trends.

Comments were made by a participant on how traditional knowledge should be part of the living lab from a community perspective. Giving community ownership by building spatial maps as part of an archive document as a bottom-up approach rather than top-down method. There are natural solutions that are being used by communities to adapt and be resilient to the impacts of climate change. In this way there could be an approach where all this knowledge is captured and revived in communities. Comments were also made to include nature-based solutions to infrastructure resilience

Therefore, traditional knowledge makes an important contribution to climate change policy, and Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate action; by observing changing climates, adapting to impacts and contributing to global mitigation efforts.

Capacity Building in Communities

Capacity building is often, if not always, essential components of climate change adaptation initiatives. Comments were made on how research & innovation information contributes to decision making in communities. The concept of living lab should be a pathway of intervention & impact

evaluation on community. It is important that communities benefit from such projects, and it is important to understand what the communities voice. Comments were also raised on localizing solutions.

Partnerships

A main comment pointed out was on collective intelligence as a best solution in coming up with innovative ways to address the climate change. Collective intelligence based approaches can also help partners better involve people in developing environment and climate change policies and strategies.

AFTERNOON SESSION (SESSION 6 TO 8)

In session 6 Viliamu Powell gave definitions of what could be Living Labs (LL) in the CCI Pacific Context was given by. Refer [Appendix 5](#).

In session 7 Viliamu Powell exposed practical modalities to answer the RERIPA funding –Call 3. Refer [appendix 6](#).

During session 8 the CMT lead a general discussion was with all participants on all aspects of the RERIPA project.

3. Appendix

Documents available

Please click the links below to access the various appendices.

[Appendix 1 – Concept Note](#)

[Appendix 2 – Attendee List at the Laucala Campus](#)

[Appendix 3 – Workshop Program](#)

[Appendix 4 – Call 2 Presentation – Elisabeth Holland](#)

[Appendix 5 – Living Labs Presentation](#)

[Appendix 6 – How to apply for RERIPA funding](#)

Additional Information

- 1- Video Recordings of the various Sessions
 - a. [Opening Session – Zoom recording](#)
 - b. [Morning Session – Session 2 and 3](#)
 - c. [Morning Session – Session 4 and 5](#)
 - d. [Afternoon Session – Session 6 to 8](#)
- 2- [Workshop Pictures from USP photographer](#)

Any question or comment can be sent to contact@reripa.com

PDF Files will be available on demand at to download at the RERIPA web site

contact@reripa.com

UPDATED PROGRAM of the RERIPA WORKSHOP

Timing	Session	
Wednesday 10 August 2022		
8:00 – 8:55	Registration and welcome	
8:55 – 9:00	Prayer	
9:00 – 9:30	<p>Launching of the Project</p> <p>Opening remarks by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IRD – Dr France Bailly - PIDF – Ambassador Solo Mara - USP Dr Giulio Masasso Tu'ikolongahau Pāunga Deputy Vice Chancellor (Regional Campuses and Estates & Infrastructure) - EU Delegation – Ambassador Sujiro Seam - USP Vice Chancellor Pal Aluwhalia 	
9:30 – 10:15	<p>Session 1: General Overview of the RERIPA project*</p> <p>*25 Minute presentation and 20 min Q&A</p>	Dr Cécile DUPOUY IRD
10:15 -10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45 – 11:15	Session 2: RERIPA Call 1 - Mapping & Diagnosis of Research & Innovation Ecosystems, network facilitation and R&I Strategy	Pr Sushil Kumar USP
11:15 – 11:45	Session 3: RERIPA Call 2 – Capacity Building in Innovation and Valorisation	Pr Elisabeth Holland PaCE-SD USP
11:45 – 12:15	Lunch	
12:15 – 13:15	<p>Session 4: Priorities related to Climate Change Impact in the Pacific</p> <p>Introduction: Impacts of Climate Change in the Pacific Region with an emphasis on the three areas which have been identified, coastal vulnerability, sea level rise and lagoon health</p>	Pr Elisabeth Holland, PaCE-SD USP

Timing	Session	
13:15 to 14:15	<p>Session 5: Breakout session</p> <p>Group discussion on the three key priority areas* of the RERIPA project. How do these priority areas directly affect the various stakeholders? Particularly in case of coastal vulnerability, sea level rise and lagoon health</p>	
14:15 – 14:55	<p>Session 6: Defining Living Labs in the CCI Pacific Context /</p> <p>Introduction to the Living Labs concept (10 min) Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there ways we can effectively co-construct living labs? • How do we design living labs to be sustainable? 	Viliamu Powell RERIPA
14:55 – 15:25	<p>Session 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to apply to RERIPA funding 	Viliamu Powell RERIPA
15:25	Afternoon Tea	

Acknowledgements:

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