Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa

Terminal Evaluation

Final Report

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The project: Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa.
UNDP PIMS No./GEF Project No: 4318/4216
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Country: Samoa
GEF Focal Area: Climate Change
Implementing Partner: UNDP
Executing Partner: MNRE, Samoa
Evaluation Consultant: Salah Hakim

List of Acronyms

ACD	Aid Coordination Division
ACEO	Assistant Executive Officer
ACEOFD	Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Forestry Division
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFAP	Agro-forestry Adaptation Plan
ALM	Adaptation Learning Mechanism
APR	Annual Project Report
AusAID	Australian Assistance for International Development
AWP=	Annual Work Plan
CBA	Community-Based Adaptation
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CBCA	Community-Based Conservation Areas
CCM	Carbon Credit Mechanisms
CCSDP	Community Centered Sustainable Development Programme
CDC	Cabinet Development Committee
CEF	Clean Energy Fund
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CIM=	Coastal Infrastructure Management
CePaCT	Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees
CI	Conservation International
CLEWS	Climate Early Warning System
CRP	Climate Risk Profile
DEC	Division of Environment and Conservation
DLSE	Department of Lands, Survey and Environment
DMO	Disaster Management Office
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EA	Executing Agency
EC	European Community
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCP	Forest Conservation Project (JICA)
FD	Forestry Division
FE	Final Evaluation
FESA	Fire and Emergency Services Authority
FFPM	Forest Fire Prevention Manual
FMS	Forestry Management Strategy
FMT	Financial Management Tool
FNC	First National Communication
FSP	Full-Sized Project
GDP	Gross Domestic Product

GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEF	PAS= Global Environment Facility - Pacific Alliance of Sustainability
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoS	Government of Samoa
GTZ=	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
IA	Implementing Agency
ICCRA&HSS	Integrating Climate Change Risks in the Agriculture and Health Sectors in Samoa
ICCRIFS	Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa
IFES	Integrated Food and Energy System
IPCC	Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change
IR	Inception Report
ITD	Information Technology Division
IW=	Inception Workshop
IWRM=	Integrated Water Resource Management
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JICS =	Japan International Cooperation Service
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
LDC	Least Developed Country
LDCF	Least Developed Country Trust Fund
LMD	Land Management Division
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
MCS	Micro Credit Scheme
MD	Meteorology Division
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
METI	Matuaileoo Environment Trust Inc.
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoH	Ministry of Health
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
MWCSD	Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development
NAP	National Action Plan (for Land Degradation)
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCCCT	National Climate Change Country Team
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategy
NFAP	Native Forestry Adaptation Plan
NGHGAS	National Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategy 2008-2018
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NHS	National Health Services
NISAP	National Invasive Species Action Plan
NIWA	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research
NPCCC	National Policy for Combating Climate Change
NPSFM	National Policy on Sustainable Forest Management
NRMT	Natural Resource Management Tool

NWRAP	National Water Resources Allocation Policy (draft)
NWRM Act	National Water Resources Management Act (2007)
NWRMS	National Water Resources Management Strategy (2007-2017)
NWRMP	National Water Resources Management Plan
OAA	Office Administrative Assistant
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OUM	Oceania University of Medicine
PAB	Project Assurance Body
PACC	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change
PACE-SD	Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development
FPAM	Forestry Protected Area Management
PB	Project Board
PC	Project Coordinator
PD	Project Director
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PGEP	Pacific Growers Export Partnership
PIC	Pacific Island Country
PIR	Project Implementation Review
PM	Project Manager
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPCR	Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience
PPG	Project Preparatory Grant
PTR	Project Terminal Report
PUM Act	Planning and Urban Management Act (2004)
PUMA	Planning and Urban Management Agency
RCU	Regional Coordinating Unit
SAFTP	Samoa Agro-forestry and Tree Farming Program
SamFRIS	Samoa Forestry Resource Information System
SAPS	Silvo-Agro-Pasture System
SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
SBS=	Samoa Bureau of Statistics
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SDS=	Samoa Development Strategy 2008-1012
SFA	Samoa Farmers Association
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIA	Spatial Information Agency
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SLR	Sea Level Rise
SME	Small Medium Enterprise
SMP	Sustainable Management Plan
SNC	Second National Communication
SPA	Strategic Priority on Adaptation
SPBD	South Pacific Business Development
SPC	Secretariat for the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SRF	Strategic Results Framework
SRIM	Soils Resources Interpretation Manual

SAT	Samoan Tala (dollar)
STA	Samoa Tourism Authority
SWA	Samoa Water Authority
TOAF	Technical Officer Agro-forestry
TONF	Technical Officer Native Forestry
TOR	Terms of Reference
TR	Tripartite Review
TST	Technical Support Team
TTR	Terminal Tripartite Review
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP-CO	United Nations Development Programme Country Office
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USP	University of the South Pacific
WB	World Bank
WIBDI	Women in Business for Development Inc.
WRD	Water Resources Division

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Executive Summary

Project Description

The project Integration of Climate Change into Forestry Management in Samoa (ICCRIFS) is funded by the Global Environmental Facility's (GEF) Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) for US$ 2,400,000; it received co-finance of US$ 2,530,000. It is implemented through United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and executed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE). The project falls within the GEF focal area of climate change and responds to UNDP priority areas of poverty alleviation, improved governance, prevention and recovery from natural disasters and gender. As Samoa has suffered from the impact of climate change in the form of cyclones, flooding, drought and rising sea level, reducing climate change risks through adaptation and mitigation measures; and building resilience became a priority of the Government of Samoa.

Project Summary Table

Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa				
GEF Project ID:	4216 (GEF PMIS)		At endorsement (Millions US$)	at completion (Millions US$)
UNDP Project ID:	0077990 (Atlas ID) 4318(UNDP PIMS)	GEF financing:	USD 2,400,000	USD 2,400,000
Country:	Samoa	IA/EA own:		
Region:	Pacific	Government:	USD 470,000	USD 470,000
Focal Area:	Climate Change	Other:	USD 2,060,000	USD 2,060,000
Focal Area Objectives, (OP/SP):	Climate Change Adaptation (OP)/CC-21 Adaptation (SP)	Total co-financing	USD 2,530,000	USD 2,530,000
Executing Agency	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa	Total Project Cost:	USD 4,930,000	USD 4,930,000
Other Partners Involved	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development, Ministry of Finance	Pro.Doc. Signature (date project began):		19 April 2011
		Project Completion Date:	Proposed: 19 July 2016	Actual: 19 July 2016

The project had a slow start but picked up in the following stages. Outcome one which dealt with legislation and policy had only 27.5% average compliance rate at midterm review instead of the expected 50%, but at the terminal evaluation time it recovered and scored 92.5% average compliance of the target. Outcome two which dealt with demonstrating agro-forestry and forestry techniques in lowland and upland areas had a uniform performance scoring average compliance at the midterm review time and the terminal evaluation time of 47.6% and 83.3% respectively. Outcome three dealt with knowledge captured, analyzed and disseminated. The project produced a large amount of publications including technical reports and training and awareness building materials. In this outcome the project exceeded the target by scoring average compliance rates of the

target of 60% and 119.1% at midterm review time and at the terminal evaluation time respectively.

Summary of Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons:
In cooperation with partners, two important tools were developed and updated. Samoa Forest Resources Information System (SamFRIS) was updated with climate information, improving the monitoring and evaluation system of the project. Climate Early Warning System (CLEWS), another important technical tool was adapted for forestry management use. CLEWS is important for effective forestry management. It provided information to both farmers and forest manager. It tracked severe weather events such as cyclones, as well as rainfall. It also provided fire index that provide information on the level of forest fire hazard. These two important technical tools are available for future use by new projects and other initiatives.

The project also produced a successful and popular tool: the Participatory Three Dimensional model (P3D). It helped the communities visualize their village and the surrounding area's topography and vegetation enhancing their participation in community based management plans.

The project gets credit for the successful and well tested agro-forestry plots established in 26 villages. This model brought benefits to the farmers. The project supplied vegetable seeds and fruit saplings, and training enabling the farmer to establish his farm. At the same time the farmer planted forest trees thus contributing into the rehabilitation of affected forest areas. This is a model that can be replicated elsewhere in the country to contribute to poverty alleviation, improving livelihoods and enhance food security.

It is recommended that MNRE seek funding for another project as a follow up for ICCRIFS. The tools developed during the life of the project are there to use including SamFRIS, CLEWS, P3D, the agro-forestry model as well as the large amount of technical and training materials produced. It is important that the momentum created by ICCRIFS is not lost. The follow up project would be similar to ICCRIF in that it would address conservation of upland native forests and use agro-forestry in lowland forests. It would carry knowledge, skills and awareness of the impact of climate change to other communities. May be the focus this time would be on watershed sites for their obvious multiple benefits. The funding climate is favorable. After Paris agreement, under the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCC), adopted on 12 December 2015, the developed countries pledged US$ 100 billion a year to help developing countries implement procedures that reduce green house gases emissions. Samoa is well situated to tap this resource.

Project Rating

Evaluation Rating:			
1. Monitoring and Evaluation	**rating**	**2. IA & EA Execution**	**Rating**
M&E Design at Entry	4 (MS)	Quality of Implementation- Implementing Agency (IA, UNDP)	6 (H)
M&E Plan implementation	5 (S)	Quality of Execution- Executing Agency (EA, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment)	5 (S)
Overall quality of M&E	5 (S)	Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	5 (S)

3. Assessment of Outcomes	rating	4. Sustainability	Rating
Relevance	2 (R)	Financial resources	L
Effectiveness	6 (HS)	Socio-political	ML
Efficiency	5 (S)	Institutional framework	L
Overall Project Rating	5 (S)	Environmental	ML
		Overall likelihood of sustainability	L

The rating scale is in Annex 9.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose of the Evaluation

The primary purpose of this terminal evaluation was to provide a comprehensive assessment of the project performance, results and impact of implementation. The objectives were to assess the achievement of project results, and to draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and contribute to the success of new projects and activities in this area in the future.

1.2. Scope and Methodology of the Evaluation

This terminal evaluation of Integration of Climate Change risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa (ICCRIFS) project was conducted according to the guidance, rules and procedures established by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Global Environmental Facility (GEF) as reflected in the UNDP Evaluation Guidance for GEF Financed Projects. It has been framed using the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact.

Duration of the Evaluation Assignment:
The terminal evaluation was conducted over 20 days. Ten days mission to Samoa and 10 days home based.

Data Collection*:*
Data was collected from three sources: literature review, interviews with stakeholders and field visits.

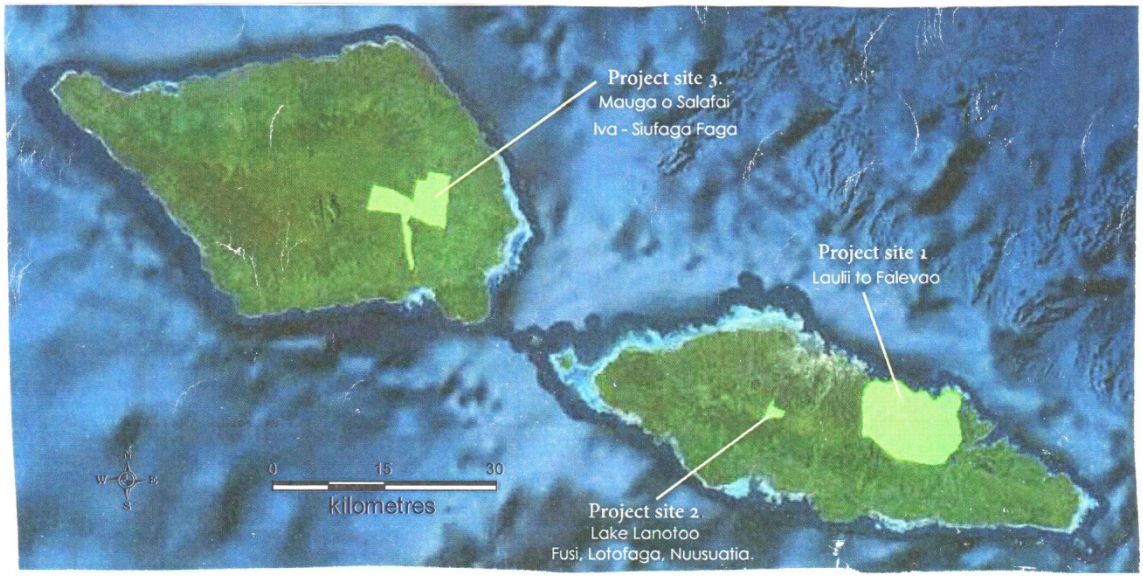
Literature Review:
A wide range of relevant materials were reviewed by the consultant. The complete list is in Annex (5).

Interviews:
Interviews included government officials of relevant ministries and agencies, as well as representative of NGOs partners with the project. Several informal interviews with farmers and village chiefs were conducted. The selection of persons to be interviewed was based on their involvement in the project, as partners or contributors, in such a way to give a complete picture about the project. With the help of the project team the list was compiled and was included in the inception report. A complete list of interviews and field visits conducted is in Annex (3).

Field Visits*:*
The field visits were selected with the help of the project team to represent different types of ecosystems and forests, within the time limitation. Three field visits included the following project sites:
1) Laulii – Falevao project site – Solosolo, Fusi and Saoluafata
2) Lake Lanoto'o - Fusi, Nuusuatia and Lotofaga
3) Mt Salafai – Iva, Sapapalii & Fatausi

Rationale for Data Collection and analysis:
It was important to use these three sources of data to obtain reliable data. The literature produced by the project and about the project was reviewed. It included project reports as well as the MTR report. The literature gave a good insight into the activities of the project, their time frame and the results achieved under each outcome. The interviews were conducted for a wide range of individuals with a wide range of relationships with the project. Individuals to be interviewed were suggested by the project team, the consultant also reviewed the list to make sure that all relevant stakeholders were included, and that was the case. A generic questionnaire was used to explore how these individuals and the organizations they represented viewed the project and its activities and targets. It was very useful in that you got a wide range of views and impressions of the project.
The field visits were recommended by the project team. The consultant ensured that they were representative of the project sites, and they were. The field visits to the project sites gave a good realistic picture of what was actually happening on the ground. It was a chance to talk to people who were most closely involved in the project activities.
It is clear that these three sources of data complemented each other and provided unbiased data to use.
Beside information from the interviews and field visits; the analysis was primarily based on the results framework. The consultant looked at each of the project outcomes and carefully examined the results framework developed by the project team. The consultant used the indicators and baselines and compared the targets to the realized results. Using the criteria matrix suggested by the UNDP/GEF Guidelines, and the rating methodology, the consultant produced the rating of the project.

Figure 1. Project Sites in Samoa



Data Analysis, Evaluation and Rating:
All data collected was analyzed to provide basis for performance evaluation. Project performance was assessed based on the targets as expressed in the logical framework compared to the actual results realized. Impact indicators and corresponding means of verification were used. The evaluation covered the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact. A question matrix based on these criteria was used. The rating scales of UNDP were used in an evaluation rating matrix of the project outcomes.

Draft Final Report:
A comprehensive draft of the final report was submitted for comments on 14 April, 2016. The report was in the format and guidelines of the UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluation of UNDP-supported, GEF-funded Projects.

Final Terminal Evaluation Report:
Comments received will be incorporated in the report, inclusive of "audit report", detailing how all comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final evaluation report will be submitted by 18 May 2016.

1.3. Structure of the evaluation report:

1: Purpose of Evaluation
2: Overview of the project including development context
3: Findings
4: Recommendations
5: Lessons Learned
6: Conclusions

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

The project started on 19 April 2011 and continued for 5 years. It was extended twice from 19 April 2015 to 19 April 2016, then for three months from 19 April 2016 to 19 July 2016. Both extensions were at no extra cost within the budget of the project.

2.1 The Problem the Project Addressed

Background
The impact of climate change on Samoa is well documented. Climate change has been integrated into the Samoa Development Strategy. Climate change impact expressed itself in extreme rainfall causing flood, drought events, rising sea level, and extreme winds and high temperatures. Erratic and low rainfall associated with El Nino resulted in water shortage for households, stress on groundwater and increased the risk of forest fires. Drought spells are common between April and October in the North-western areas of both main island of Upolu and Savaii. Five major forest fires were recoded in Savaii in the drought periods of 1982-83, 1997-98, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2010. These fires devastated forests, destroyed vital infrastructure, and undermined livelihoods and food security of the population. Strong winds associate with cyclones cause severe damage to forests, crops and infrastructure, while heavy rains cause further damage. Tropical cyclones Ofa (1990) and Val (1991) devastated Samoa causing damage estimated as three

times the GDP. Rise of sea level and storm surges cause salt water intrusion and salt water inundation of coastal lowland. This can push people to move further inland or uphill. In this background the project came along, with more commitment of the government to build resilience to climate change impact.

The project aimed to increase the resilience and adaptive capacity of Samoa's forest areas and dependent communities to the significant threat of climate change. It leveraged resources and coordinated with a number of related initiatives supported by different donors and development partners, including the Australian Government (DFAT), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Adaptation Fund/WB-Pilot Programme on Climate Resilience, and worked in partnership with experts of regional and international organizations in the field, such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Secretariat of the Pacific Environmental Programme (SPREP), and Conservation International (CI).

It is evident that climate change has a significant impact on forestry and agro-forestry in Samoa in several ways. Droughts have lead to water shortages resulting in increased frequencies of forest fires. The cyclones strong winds have caused severe devastation of vegetation, crops and infrastructure, while the heavy rains cause floods. Low lands in coastal areas are subject to inundation by sea salt waters.

2.2 Project Objectives

The project intended to integrate climate risks and resilience enhancement into forestry management in Samoa by increasing the resilience and adaptive capacity of Samoa's forest areas and communities depending on them for livelihoods, to the threat of climate change through targeted interventions in lowland agro-forestry and upland native forestry areas.

Through this project, the Government of Samoa (GoS) intended to strengthen institutional capacities to systematically identify and address the climate change-driven risks for the management of native forests and agro-forestry areas. The purpose is to increase the resilience of rural communities and protect their livelihoods from dynamic climate-related damage, pursuant to the attainment of Samoa's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The project intended to achieve the following closely interrelated outcomes:

1. Climate risks and resilience integrated into lowland agro-forestry and upland native forestry policies, strategies and management techniques (Table 5).
2. .Climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry techniques are demonstrated in upland and lowland areas (Table 6).
3. Project knowledge captured, analyzed and disseminated (Table 7).

2.3 Baselines

Baselines were established through surveys of the upland and the lowland forest to determine the areas that needed rehabilitation. The project dealt with baseline indicators such as forest cover, species composition, forest fragmentation and the level of invasive species presence. The baselines became well defined after SamFRIS was updated by an initiative from the inception phase. The baselines were clearly identified and accordingly indicators and targets were determined. All indicators used by the project are SMART.

2.4 Project Stakeholders

Government Partners

The project was implemented by UNDP and executed by MNRE. Ministry of Finance (MoF) ensured coordination amongst Government projects/programmes to avoid duplication of resources and monitored the project budget and oversaw financial matters. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) made an important contribution to the project by working in collaboration with MNRE to ensure that resources were provided to the farmers including seeds, seedlings, saplings and training. The Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD) played a critical role as the entry focal point for the project team and management to the local communities and assisted with access to communities' land. MWCSD also assisted in community training including women and youth groups and management. The farmers association was also involved in the project as the representative of farmers. The project worked with the local communities through village chiefs and mayors. Training was provided for men as well as women groups and youth groups. Farmers in the agro-forestry plots are the primary beneficiaries of the project.

NGOs Partners

The project's primary NGO partners include Samoa Farmers Association (SFA), Women in Business Development Inc. (WIBDI), Matuaileo'o Environment Trust Inc. (METI), and the umbrella organization SUNGO. SFA, WIBIDI and METI and members in the Technical Steering and Advisory Team (TSAT), and SUNGO is a member of the Steering Committee. The project cooperated with WIBDI and METI in capacity building activities. These included workshops throughout the project area. They covered training in the agro-forestry model and climate change risks and resilience as well as training of trainers.

2.5 Expected Results

The project was expected to reduce climate change risks and enhance resilience to the impact of climate change through four outcomes.

Outcome 1: Climate risks and resilience integrated into lowland agro-forestry and upland native forestry policies, strategies and management techniques.

Under this outcome the project intended to achieve the following results:

1. Integrate climate change into forestry policy.
2. Update SamFRIS with climate information forestry tailored CLEWS.
3. Government officers and farmers regularly receive climate early warning and forestry information.

Outcome2: Climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry techniques are demonstrated in upland and lowland areas.

Under this outcome the project intended to achieve the following results:

1. Develop climate sensitive management plans for national parks.
2. Establish district level committees for the project.
3. Train farmers and villagers in climate resilient land use and forestry planning processes.
4. Train and encourage farmers to implement adaptive agro-forestry practices.

Outcome 3: Project knowledge captured analyzed and disseminated.

Under this outcome the project intended to achieve the following results:

Produce and disseminate field reports reflecting the experience of the project that can be used in training and increasing awareness on climate change impact.

The project also intended to build the capacity of communities to sustain agro-forestry practices beyond the project life and enhance their awareness as to the threat of climate change; as well as improve livelihoods and food security.

3. FINDINGS

3.1 Project Design and formulation

3.1.1 Analysis of Results Framework

The project document initially did not provide clear cut SMART indicators, however, in the inception phase the results framework was adjusted providing clearly defined indicators. Now all the project indicators used are SMART.

The updating of SamFRIS made it possible to determine the baselines in the upland and lowland forested areas. The indicators used are accurate, well defined and can be easily measured, which made the determination of compliance rate with targets accurate. The targets themselves are reasonable considering the time frame and the funds available.
The project was developed during the previous United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), but is in line with UNDAF (2013-2017).It is also most relevant under the Samoa National Plan which determines the Government priorities.

3.1.2 Assumptions and Risks:

1. Effective coordination between ministries and stakeholders:
As 82% of the land in Samoa is of customary ownership, access is a very important issue. In that respect the MWCSD played an important role in linking the project with the leadership of the villages. The relationship between the farmers in the project sites and the project is very good. The farmers viewed the project in a positive light. Therefore, the project team access was not an issue. This is certainly a result of the coordination and collaboration exercised by MNRE with other government agencies. The crops division of MAF provided the project with seeds, seedlings and saplings from its nurseries. It also provided assistance and training in erection and management of community nurseries. They are an important partner of the project. However, they sometimes had some problems with access. They called for closer coordination.

2. Government agencies will maintain their commitment towards combating climate change:
Samoa has integrated climate change into Samoa National Plan which is the overall plan for the country. Now Samoa has a National Policy in Sustainable Forest Management (NPSFM); legislation was amended to include climate change risks in a new National Forestry Sector Plan (NFSP) and now there is a Forest Fire Prevention Strategy. With all these and other policies, plans and strategies, and the clear threat of climate change, it will be unlikely that these Government ministries will abandon their commitments to combating climate change. Add to that any NGOs aware of climate change impact and interested in the project activities, such as WIBDI and METI both members in the Technical Steering and Advisory Team, or the NGO umbrella SUNGO who is a member of

the steering committee can play an important role in keeping climate change impact in the country's agenda.

3. Continuous engagement with farmers:
It is important to continue in the engagement with farmers especially those in the agro-forestry plots the project established. They need encouragement, training and support. MNRE can design a simple program to continue this relationship. This does not require large project or significant amounts of funding. It can be funded through small grant programs or other similar sources. This is an opportunity for the local NGOs to make a difference. They can do this with modest amounts of funding, and can build on the progress the project achieved and use the tools it produced especially the large amount of technical reports and the training and awareness materials.

4. Extreme climate events will not cause severe damage:
Samoa has seen its share of extreme climate events. In the current global environment, climate change can always produce extreme climate events anywhere. However with CLEWS in place, early warning of such events may help reduce the impact of these events. Of course this can only be possible with the cooperation and commitment of the local communities using agr-forestry and help in rehabilitation of the forest.

3.1.3 Lessons from other projects

The project benefited from other parallel projects during implementation. The National Forestry sector Plan has been produced funded by DFAT and part of the agro-forestry component of ICCRIFS. The project also used the SamFRIS and CLEWS both originally were products of FAO and JICA financed project. Forest Preservation Project (FPP) funded by JICA help updating SamFRIS by taking a new forest inventory. SamFRIS enabled the project to establish reliable baselines in forestry areas and develop SMART indicators.

Three projects in the same sector in Samoa started after ICCRIFS will certainly benefit from the knowledge and experience as well as the outcomes ICCRIFS produced. ICCRIFS itself is one out of four projects in the forestry sector. These include Samoa Agro-forestry and Tree Farming Program, which started almost the same time as ICCRIFS and was later integrated into ICCRIFS, Forestry and Protected Areas Management, and Forest Preservation Program.

3.1.4 Stakeholders participation

MoF managed the budget of the project carried out all financial management on behalf of the project. MAF provided seeds and seedlings from its nurseries and helped in training of nursery building. MWCSD was an important link between the project and the local communities arranging for access of the project team and its counterparts. This relationship enhanced project activities and improved communication between the project and the local communities and provided ease of access. The farmers highly value their agro-forestry plots. They expressed their satisfaction with the project work and their willingness to continue this relationship. The farmers participating in the agro-forestry plots received intensive training and reaped benefits. However the project was involved in training and awareness activities with women groups, youth groups and farmers organizations. More than 1500 farmers participated in climate-resilient land use and forestry planning processes, and 500 participated in demo plots.

3.1.5 Replication Approach

ICCRIFS produced a tested successful model in agro-forestry plots. This model can easily be replicated in the forestry sector in the region which faces similar threats from climate change. The project team also used a participatory three dimensional model (P3D) in its work with local communities. The model enabled community members of modest education to visualize their communities and the natural resources in the area and link their activities to the impact on natural resources. The construction of every model was also a valuable learning experience for the Government technical core team. This team deserves credit for promoting this model and implementing it around the country as well as in the region. This model was met with high degree of success as used in the local communities. It has been adopted by some schools in Samoa as well as in other countries in the region including Tonga and Nauru.

3.1.6 UNDP Comparative Advantage

UNDP has five projects in Samoa related to natural resources and the threat of climate change, and one regional project. It also has four regional programs dealing with natural resources and climate change impact. Therefore UNDP is well centered to push the issues of natural resources conservation and combating the risks of climate change in the region. The relationship between UNDP and MNRE is strong and positive. They are working in good coordination and with mutual understanding.

3.1.7 Linkages between the Project and other Interventions within the Sector

There were three other projects in MNRE in the same sector. Samoa Agro-forestry and Tree Farming Program (SATFP) was also working to improve the livelihoods and enhance resilience to climate change and has been merged with ICCRIFS after the Midterm Review. It was funded by DFAT. Another project is Forestry and Protected areas Management, a regional project funded by GEF and implemented by FAO, focused on protected area management and forests conservation. The Forest Preservation Program is funded by the Government of Japan and implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Service (JICS). Its objective is to improve the capacity of the Forestry Division of MNRE in forest monitoring and sustainable use. This is the project that updated SamFRIS which was used by ICCRIFS in improving its monitoring and evaluation system. ICCRIFS also benefited from the use of CLEWS after it was updated to forestry use. Integrating Climate Change Risks in the Agriculture and Health Sectors (ICCRAHSS) also contributed to the development of CLEWS. ICCRIFS also benefited from MNRE's Meteorological Division in capacity building.

3.1.8 Management Arrangements

The project is executed by MNRE, UNDP and MNRE will monitor and evaluate all project activities. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of MNRE is the Project Director and the ACEO of the Forestry Division of MNRE is the Assistant Project Director. The CEO appointed the Project Coordinator (PC) who is responsible for all the planning and implementation of the project. The PC is helped by a Project Assistant, a Native Forest Technical Officer, an Agro-forestry Technical Officer and a Communication and Knowledge Management Officer. The National Climate Change Country Team (NCCCT) is the highest body overseeing all climate change projects. The Project Board (PB) is composed of the MNRE CEO and other relevant Divisions of MNRE, UNDP Representative, MoF, MAF, MFAT, and

MWCSD, and NGOs and community representatives. The PB provides overall guidance and advice on the progress of the project and makes executive management decisions related to the project.

3.2 Project Implementation

3.2.1 Adaptive Management

The inception phase of the project was a valuable opportunity to review the overall project document and project performance in terms of the management of the project and make necessary adjustments to improve the ability of the project to achieve its targeted outcomes.

After the inception phase a new forestry Technical Advisor was added to provide advice and support in the implementation of project activities; another consultant was added to develop, construct the P3D model and provide training on the model, which proved to be very useful in participation of the farmers and communities. Also a legal officer was added to handle the Forestry Management act 2011 to reflect climate change issues as addressed by the project. The inception phase recognized the important support of MoF in financial management of the project.
Perhaps one of the most important adjustments resulting from the inception phase was the decision to use the updated SamFRIS to provide more robust indicators to conduct baselines ecological survey in the upland forests in the three project sites: Laulii – Falevao project site – Solosolo, Fusi and Saoluafata, Lake Lanoto'o - Fusi, Nuusuatia and Lotofaga, Mt Salafai – Iva, Sapapalii & Fatausi. This was essential to provide reliable baseline data for these sites. Based on that, rehabilitation activities were planned and rehabilitation targets were set.

The MTR report had 26 recommendations. The consultant chose the four most important ones to review.
1. Recommendation (2)
It is recommended that MNRE in consultation with UNDP should review the possibility of increasing some of the targets. The most logical to be elevated are those that already have been met and where the results will continue to increase, e.g. the number of beneficiary farmers and farmer organizations.

Result: no targets were increased.

2. Recommendation (4)
To meet the increased targets it would be probably be necessary with an extension of one year, however, within the same GEF financed budget.

Result: the project was extended for one year from 19 April 2015 to 19 April, then for three month from 19 April 2016 to 13 July 2016 at no extra cost.

3. Recommendation (14)
To improve participation of local villages, national NGOs should be involved as soon as possible. The organization WIBDI and SFA should be immediately informed that their proposals have been selected for financing so that they are able to start preparing until

the contracts are ready for signing. The project should however have a dialogue with them to assure better alignment with the project goals and activities, and the agreement with the NGOs should be extended until the end of the project period, if possible without a new procurement process. The project team should also discuss with the NGO umbrella SUNGO a role for it in the capacity building for the NGOs that are participating in the project.

Result: This recommendation did not materialize. However, it is important for the next project to entertain the possibility of involving the local NGOs in the activities of the project. They can be given specific activities to carry out under the supervision of the project leadership.

4. Recommendation (17)
The project should start very soon seedling production in the community nurseries, and to not only use these nurseries as storage and distribution place for seedlings transported from central nurseries. This requires the upgrading of the nurseries and should be followed up with advisory on the seedling production and reforestation, mostly through collaboration with local NGOs and collaboration and technical support from FAO.

Result: all the nurseries I visited did not produce seedlings. They received seedlings from the central nurseries. This is a good idea but will require resources including training.

3.2.2 Partnerships Arrangements

The main partners of the project from NGOs were Samoa Farmers Association (SFA), Women in Business Development Inc. (WIBDI), Matuaileo'o Environment Trust Inc. (METI) and the umbrella organization Samoa Union of Non-governmental Organizations (SUNGO). The first three are represented in the technical steering committee and the advisory team (TSAT), while SUNGO is represented in the project's steering committee.

3.2.3 Feedback from Monitoring and Evaluation

The feedback from monitoring and evaluation helped the project determine the size of the forest areas needing rehabilitation; thus providing the determination of the baselines. Then the indicators were devised and the targets set.

3.2.4 Finance

The project had a total budget of US$ 4,930,000. GEF contributed US$ 2,400,000; while co-financing from other donors contributed USD 2,530,000 (Table 1).

Table 1. Project Summary Table

Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa				
GEF Project ID:	4216 (GEF PMIS)		At endorsement (Millions US$)	at completion (Millions US$)
UNDP Project ID:	0077990 (Atlas ID) 4318(UNDP PIMS)	GEF financing:	USD 2,400,000	USD 2,400,000
Country:	Samoa	IA/EA own:		

Region:	Pacific	Government:	USD 470,000	USD 470,000
Focal Area:	Climate Change	Other:	USD 2,060,000	USD 2,060,000
Focal Area Objectives, (OP/SP):	Climate Change Adaptation (OP)/CC-21 Adaptation (SP)	Total co-financing	USD 2,530,000	USD 2,530,000
Executing Agency	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa	Total Project Cost:	USD 4,930,000	USD 4,930,000
Other Partners Involved	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development, Ministry of Finance	Pro.Doc. Signature (date project began)		19 April 2011
		Project Completion Date	Proposed: 19 July 2016	Actual: 19 July 2016

According to Atlas UN_GL_EXP_SUMMARY as of 21 April 2016, the total expenditure against LDCF fund is $2,364,548.43 which leaves a balance of $35,451.57. The delivery is 98.5% as of 21 April 2016 (Table2).

Table 2. GEF/LDC Budget

ICCRIFS GEF LDC budget US$2,400,000	**Budget (US$)**		**Remaining Funds**	
	Original (PD)	**Budget at Inception**	**Total Spent**	**Balance**
Outcome 1	398,200.00	409,328.00	399,101.01	10,226.99
Outcome 2	1,650,300.00	1,477,342.00	1,406,835.97	70,506.03
Outcome 3	111,500.00	222,964.00	249,052.58	-26,088.58
Project Mgmt.	240,000.00	290,366.00	280,859.59	9,506.41
Unrealized Gains/Losses			28,699.28	28,699.28
Overall Total	2,400,000.00	2,400,000.00	2,364,548.43	35,451.57

The project received a total co-financing of US$2,530,000. Australian Assistance for International Development (AusAID) contributed US$1,250,000 of that. The rest was provided by JICA, Government, (SPC), and CI, (Table 3).

Table 3. Co-finance

Co-financing	UNDP Own financing (US$40,000)		Government In kind (US$470,000)		Partner Agency Parallel (US$2,060,000)		Total (mill.US$)	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Grants								
Loans/Concessions								
• In-kind support	40,000	40,000	470,000	470,000	2,020,000	2,020,000	2,530,000	2,530,000
• other								
Total	40,000	40,000	470,000	470,000	2,020,000	2,020,000	2,530,000	2,530,000

3.2.5 Monitoring and Evaluation

As mentioned before, the initial M&E activities including surveys was to provide preliminary baselines data. After SamFRIS was updated with forestry tailored climate information, these baselines became more defined and improved the M&E system of the project significantly. It became possible to determine baselines for upland and lowland forests. Therefore as baselines became reliable, indicators became more robust and clear targets were determined accordingly. However, the M&E of the project did not only cover upland forest and agro-forestry activities. It also covered training provided for farmers and villagers, farmers adopting climate resilient processes, literature produced by the project and other aspect of the project activities. The indicators of the project are SMART, so monitoring and evaluation system of the project is effective.

3.2.6 UNDP/MNRE Coordination

UNDP is the implementing agency for GEF. In this capacity, UNDP is accountable to the effective implementation of the project and has provided key general and specialized technical support services. UNDP passes funds as needed to MoF which in turn provides funding for the project activities. Also UNDP monitors project reporting and outputs for quality control. UNDP also can provide technical assistance through regional experts, and facilitate the work of the project. For instance UNDP facilitated the engagement of SPREP and CI producing and updating technical tools that were used in the demo sites. From interviews with both sides I gather they are in regular and effective communication, and cooperation.

3.3 Project Results

3.3.1 Overall Results

The overall results are fairly good averaging 89.2% (Table 4). However there are variations. In Lake Lanoto'o forests 70.8% of the minimum area target was rehabilitated. In Mauga o Salafai upland montane and cloud forests 29.1 ha have been rehabilitated almost three times the minimum target. On the other hand in Northern Upolu upland forests and lowland forests only half the minimum area of 28 ha target was rehabilitated, and the same was true for Mauga o Salafai only 5 ha were rehabilitated out of a minimum target of 10 ha.

To increase the adaptive capacity of farmers through implementing agro-forestry adaptive measures, the project reached three farmers organizations out of a target of four. However, the number of farmers implementing these practices is only 104 out of a target of 1000 which is fairly low. These farmers' organizations need to continue this work beyond the life of the project. They need to raise funds to do that. It will not necessarily require a large budget to do that, but they would have met their obligation to their members. The cost can be covered through a small grants program or similar sources.

The project succeeded in providing 2,300 farmers with information in good adaptive practices and made them participate in knowledge sharing activities, out of a target of 3000. This is only 77% of the target however, the absolute number is good.

Table 4. Project results compared to baseline and targets

Indicator Description	Baseline	Target	Result by MTR	%Compliance At MTR	Result at TE	%Compliance At TE
Ha of increase in forest coverage in upland forestry areas composed of climate resilient native species	Northern Upolu upland healthy forests (montane and ridge rainforests) 4724 ha	At least 28 ha increase (rehabilitation of disturbed forests). Total target: 4,752 ha	1 ha	3.6	14 ha	50
	Lake Lanoto'o upland healthy forests (montane rainforests): 342ha	At least 12 ha increase (rehabilitation of disturbed forests). Total target: 354 ha	2.6 ha	21.7	8.5 ha	70.8
	Mauga o Salafai upland healthy forests (Cloud and montane rainforests): 5,532	At least 10 ha increase (rehabilitation of disturbed forests). Total target: 5,542 ha	16 ha rehab. (montane forests)	100	29.1 ha (montane rainforest)	291
Ha of increase in forest coverage in lowland forestry areas composed of climate resilient and high-value Species	Northern Upolu lowland healthy forests: 922 ha	Increase of 28 ha. Total resilient lowland forests: 950 ha	2 ha increase	7.1	14 ha increase	50
	Mauga o Salafai lowland healthy forests:0	Increase of 10 ha. Total resilient lowland forests: 10 ha	0 ha	0%	5 ha	50
Number of farmers organizations/networks and farmers in Samoa who have increased their adaptive capacity through: a) Implementing forestry and agro-forestry adaptive measures. b) Receiving climate information services on a regular basis. c) Receiving information on good adaptive practices and participating in knowledge sharing activities.	Rural communities in Samoa lack the capacity to integrate climate-resilient management techniques into their forestry use and agro-forestry management practices	By the end of the project: a) 4 Farmers' org./networks, and at least 1000 farmers in the 26 pilot villages are implementing adaptive practices	3 farmers' org./network 54 local farmers/workers in 4 pilot villages	75 5.4	3 farmers'/netw. 104 local farmer/workers in 8 pilot villages	75 10.4
		b) At least 2000 farmers receiving climate and forestry information services on regular basis	0 local farmers	0	At least 1000 farmers forest fire index installed/SMS texting etc	50
		c) At least 3000 farmers receiving information in good adaptive practices and participating in knowledge sharing activities.	1456 local farmers and villagers	0	2,300 farmers and villagers	76.7
Average				35.7		89.2

3.3.2 Relevance

The project is highly relevant considering that Samoa and the region in general have experienced the impact of climate change. Adaptation to climate change is a very important objective for the country.

The impact of climate change in Samoa is very evident, manifesting itself in:

- Drought: El Nino cause erratic rainfall leading to water shortages, stress on groundwater resources and increasing frequency of forest fires. Prolonged periods

of drought lasting three months or more have been recorded in Savaii Island. Drought also can cause extensive fires impacting normal forest succession, destroying plantation forests, and infrastructure, constituting risk to human life, and threatening food security. They also expose pristine forests to fires because burned areas tend to produce bush growth more susceptible to fires.

- Cyclones: the cyclones strong winds cause severe destruction of vegetation, crops and infrastructure, and heavy rains cause floods which cause damage and increase water born and other diseases. In 1990 and 1991 tropical cyclones Ofa and Val devastated Samoa causing damage estimated as three times the GDP with special impact on forest and agro-forestry areas.
- The increased frequency of heavy rainfall events causing flooding, in Apia over the last decade, is inherently linked to poor forest and watershed management upstream of the city.
- Increasing heat stress on humans and animals.
- Low-lying coastal areas are subjected to erosion, saltwater inundation caused by rising sea level. These factors tend to force people to move further inland leading to more forest clearing.

Climate change has priority in the Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS). The project was based on Samoa National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA). It is in line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).It also falls within GEF focal area of climate change. The National Environment and Development Sector Plan (NESP) produced by Samoa Government place high priority on climate change adaptation. As in NESP, the project activities targeted upland and lowland forests.

Therefore, the project activities and intended outcomes are relevant to the priorities of the Government, NESP, MNRE policy and the interest of local communities targeted. They are also relevant to the priorities of GEF and LDCF and UNDP seeking to enhance resilience to climate change and reduce emission of green house gases.

3.3.3 Effectiveness and Efficiency

3.3.3.1 Effectiveness:

The general effectiveness of the project is rated high. It has produced a successful tested model in agro-forestry that has been praised by satisfied farmers. They get to produce vegetables and some fruits, and at the same time forest trees are planted in affected areas and slopes. This model can be easily replicated elsewhere to enhance resilience to climate change while producing benefits to the local communities. As a result of the inception phase the project designed and used the P3D model. It was met with significant success among the stakeholders and was picked up by other users in Samoa and in other countries in the region.

It raised the awareness of farmers and members of targeted local communities as to the impact of climate change and trained a significant number of farmers in adaptive practices in the face of climate change as well as made such information available to farmers' organizations (Table 5). The project also produced a large amount of literature making this knowledge available to a wide range of users. It can be used in training or in implementing activities similar to that of the project in Samoa or other countries in the region, or by future projects of similar objectives.

Outcomes Effectiveness:

Outcome 1. Climate risks and resilience integrated into lowland agro-forestry and upland native forestry policies, strategies and management techniques (Table 5)

National policies, Plans and Strategies:
Climate change risks have been integrated into Samoa National Plan, which governs all sectors of the government. Other legislations are now in place. The National Policy on Sustainable Forest Management (NPSFM) has been revised and completed. It will improve sustainable management of forests across Samoa. The Forest Fire Prevention Strategy (NFFMS) has been developed. This is of primary importance as forest fire is very important threat for Samoa. Repeated bouts of drought frequently result in forest fires. This is another impact of climate change. The National Forestry Sector Plan was revised to integrate climate change risks.

These legislation point to the fact that Samoa Government takes climate change risks very seriously. This is because Samoa has suffered from the impact of climate change in the past. El Nino caused erratic rainfall causing bouts of drought which increased forest fires. In 1990 and 1991 tropical cyclones Ofa and Val devastated Samoa forest and infrastructure causing extensive damage estimated as three folds the GDP. Increased frequency of heavy rain caused flooding in Apia and other places. Samoa also experienced salt water inundation in lowland coastal areas resulting from rising sea level triggered by climate change.

Forestry and Climate Information Tools
Samoa Forest Resource Information System (SamFRIS) was updated with climate information. A rainfall map and database model developed by Meteorology Division of MNRE and Matuaileo'o Environmental Trust Inc. (METI), was incorporated into SamFRIS. Climate Early Warning System (CLEWS) has been tailored to provide early warning system to the forestry sector. CLEWS was not initially capable of doing that.

Climate and Forestry Information to Government Officers and Farmers
The update of CLEWS was essential in providing this service to Government officers and farmers. Fifty government officers received climate early warning and forestry information out of a target of fifty. One thousand farmers received this information out of a target of 2000 with 50% compliance.

Table 5. Results under outcome 1 compared to baseline and targets

Indicator Description	Baseline	Target	Result by MTR	%Compliance At MTR	Result at TE	%Compliance At TE
National Policy in Sustainable Forest Management (NPSFM)	Forest policy frameworks do not integrate climate risks	By end of year 2: NPSFM revised	0	0	Final Policy completed	95
		By end of year 2: NFSP developed	0	0	Final Policy completed	95
		By end of year 2: FFPS developed	1	100	1	100

Management Bill revised to integrate CC risks, and new National Forestry Sector Plan (NFSP) and Forest Fire Prevention Strategy (FFPS) developed with adaptation options incorporated.		By the end of year 3: Forest Management Act revised	1	100	1	100
Existence of forestry climate information tools	SamFRIS is outdated and includes only limited climate info, CLEWS is not tailored to the forestry sector	End of year 2: SamFRIS is updated with climate information forestry tailored CLEWS	10% of updating done	10	100% of updating done	100
		End of year 2: Forestry tailored CLEWS	10% of updating done	10	100% of updating done	100
Number of Government officers and farmers regularly receiving climate early warning and forestry information services	Officers and end users do not receive tailored climate and forestry supporting forestry and agro-forestry practices	End of year 3: 50 officers receiving climate early warning and forestry information services	0 MNRE officers	0	More than 50 MNRE officers and government staff	100
		End of year 3: 2000 farmers receiving climate early warning and forestry information services	0 farmers	0	1000 farmers at this stage-designing methodology	50
Outcome Average				27.5		92.5

Outcome 2. Climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry techniques are demonstrated in upland and lowland areas (Table 6)

The project worked to conserve forests in the upland and lowland areas in the two islands. In the lowland where most people live and use natural resources, the project implemented agro-forestry techniques. In the upland the project carried out conservation and rehabilitation activities.

Climate Sensitive Management Plans

In cooperation with SPREP and Conservation International (CI) the project produced effective and easy to use climate sensitive management plans for Lake Lanoto'o, Mauga Salafai national parks and Laulii – Falevao area. That is three management plans out of the three in the project targets. The P3D model, initiated in the inception phase was fully developed. This model empowered local communities and all stakeholders in planning effective management of their local areas for more climate resilience and effective conservation. It combined topographic information with local knowledge, built trust between the project and local communities and increased the sense of ownership of the local communities. Using the P3D models Community-based conservation areas were established and their management plans developed in 14 villages in Laulii-Falevao.

District-level Committees Established

The target was to establish three committees at the district level. That target was met and three committees were established in the three project sites. Also three demonstration sites were established meeting the project's target. These district level committees have

the task of activities related to establishment of and management of community nurseries, demonstration plots and the P3D model demonstrations.

Climate-resilient Forestry Planning

The project launched a wide scale training program for farmers in the local communities targeted. The farmers were exposed to climate resilient and land use and forestry planning processes. They were trained in establishment of community nurseries and management as well as adaptive techniques in agro-forestry and native tree species.

Table 6. Results under outcome 2 compared to baseline and targets.

Indicator Description	Baseline	Target	Result by MTR	%Com-pliance At MTR	Result at TE	%Com-pliance At TE
Existence of climate sensitive management plans in the National Parks and community-based conservation areas	No management plans for the national parks to be covered	End of year 2: 3 climate-sensitive management plans (Lake Lanoto'o, Mauga and Salafai NP)	1 Draft M (L. Lanoto'o), other two P3D scoping	33.3	3 Final draft management plan as well as P3D scoping vulnerability assessment with EbA specialist	90
		CBCA established with management plan for the 14 Laui'i-Falevao upland	Draft MP and P3D model consultations for 14 villages	50	Final draft MP and P3D model, consultation for 14 villages vulnerability assessment with EbA specialist	80
No. of district level committees established and functioning	No district committee established and functioning	End of year 1: 3 district level functioning	3 committees Established and functioning	100	3 committees established and functioning	100
		End of year 1: 3 community demonstration sites established	0	0	3 agro-forestry demonstratio n plots established	80
No. of farmers participating in climate-resilient land use and forestry planning processes, and no. of farmers implementing adaptive forestry and agro-forestry practices	Zero: Communities lack awareness, physical and financial resources and leadership to anticipate CC risks and implement adaptive solution	End year 2: 1500 farmers participating in climate resilient land use and forestry planning processes	1456 villagers and farmers have participated	97.1	More than 1,500 villagers and farmers have participated	100
		End of the project: 1000 farmers implementing adaptive agro-forestry and forestry practices in 26 pilot villages	54 farmers and workers have participated (in 6 villages)	5.4 (23%)	500 farmers and workers have participate (in8 villages) with demo plots in Lotofaga, Nuusuatia, Fusi, Fusi Safotulafai, Leusoalii, Valafai,	50

					Sapapalii, Lalomalava and Luatuanuu	
Outcome Average				47.6		83.3

Outcome 3. Project knowledge captured, analyzed and disseminated (Table 7)
The project produced a large number of technical documents. These are very useful for staff working in the field of forestry conservation and climate change resilience. It can be used for training as well as carrying activities similar to those of the project in the future.

Knowledge management products
The project published 14 technical reports in good practice and lessons learned, out of a target of 15. These technical reports are valuable to practitioners working in the field of forestry and climate change risks, in Samoa and in the region. They provide lessons learned and their analysis, techniques the project used and their evaluation (Annex 12).

Farmers receiving knowledge management products
The project provided tailored knowledge management products on good adaptive practices to 1732 farmers exceeding the intended target of 1000. These farmers and villagers were given the opportunity for knowledge and information sharing in areas such as climate risks, forest conservation, climate change vulnerability assessment, and planning adaptive processes.

Events and platforms where the project experience was presented
The project convened 6 national workshops twice as many as in the target. It also met the target in convening two Pacific conferences and one international conference. It also displayed 2 success stories on a web-based platform. This outcome effectiveness is very high for all targets. Some targets were almost met and some were exceeded.

Table 7. Results under outcome 3 compared to baseline and targets.

Indicator Description	Baseline	Target	Result by MTR	%Com-pliance At MTR	Result at TE	%Com-pliance At TE
No. of knowledge management products generated and disseminated	Analysis and dissemination of adaptation lessons is very fragmented and limited to few incipient projects	At least 5 lessons learning and best practices consolidated every year from year 2 (total15: 8.75 until date MTR)	7 technical and field reports published in good practice + lessons learned	46.7	14 technical and field reports published on good practice +lessons learned	93
No. of farmers receiving tailored knowledge management products on good adaptive practices and practicing in knowledge sharing activities	0	1500 farmers in the pilot villages participate in knowledge sharing activities	1592 villagers and farmers have received information in knowledge sharing activities	106.1	1,732 villagers and farmers have received information and knowledge sharing	115.4

No. of national, regional or international events and platforms where the experience of the project is presented	0	Project experience and KM materials presented in: 2 national workshops 2 regional events 2 international web-based platforms	1 National workshop 1 Pacific conference 1 success story in web-based platform	50 50 50	6 national workshops 2 Pacific conferences and 1 international conference CIDS 2 success stories in web-based platform	200 100 100
Average				60.6		119.1

Summary of effectiveness

Table 8 shows a summary of effectiveness for ICCRIFS project. It is evident that the project was very effective at 96%. The knowledge and lessons learned exceeded expectations while the other components also did very well.

Table 8. Summary of Effectiveness

Component	Summary of content	%Compliance with expected results at MTR	%Compliance with expected results at TE
Project objective	Increase the resilience and adaptive capacity	71.4	89.1
1	CC resilience into forest policy	44.0	92.5
2	CC resilience into forestry and agro-forestry	56.9	83.3
3	Knowledge and lessons learned	118.5	119.1
Project		72.7	96

3.3.3.2 Efficiency

Project Funding

The project had a total budget of USD 4,930,000. GEF contributed USD 2,400,000; while co-financing from other donors contributed USD 2,530,000 (Table 6). According to Atlas UN_GL_EXP_SUMMARY as of 21 April, the total expenditure against LDCF fund is USD 2,364,548.43 which leaves a balance of USD 35,451.57, that means that the project spent 98.5% as of 21 April 2016 of these funds. From co-financing funds $227,481.37 (SAT) are left by December 2015 with the project spending to that date 96% of the available funds. And there is still life in the project up to 19 July 2016. It is clear that the project used the funds available efficiently. However, this should be viewed in comparison to the project outputs, as we have seen under effectiveness the project was very effective in producing outputs under all three outcomes.

The project Management Unit

The Project Management Unit (PMU) consists of a Project Coordinator, a Project Assistant, a Native Forest Technical Officer, an Agro-forestry Technical Officer, and the Communication and Knowledge Management Officer. The project used a small core team and depended on hiring consultants from time to time as needed to carry out activities

required beyond the capacity of the team members. This is a very efficient way of using technical assistance to assist in technical areas and funds. The smaller project team would require less funds than if it hired permanent consultants. This is a good lesson learned for other projects. It is an efficient way of using funds and proved successful as proved by the significant outputs of the project.

3.3.4 Country ownership

As a result of the project efforts, now Samoa has a National Policy on sustainable Forest Management (NSFM), has a National Forestry Sector Plan (NFSP) and has a Forest Fire Prevention Strategy (FFPS). This changed forestry management in Samoa and brought climate change impact to the forefront.

In cooperation with partners and during the life of the project important technical tools were produced and updated and improved most importantly SamFRIS and CLEWS. The project also developed and used the successful P3D models. All these are available for future use in Samoa.

The project trained 1732 farmers and villagers in good adaptive practices and exposed them to knowledge and information sharing in areas such as climate risks, forest conservation, and climate change vulnerability assessment and planning adaptive processes. This knowledge will stay in these villages and hopefully spread out into other villages.

The agro-forestry model produced by the project provided benefits to the farmer and at the same time contributed to the rehabilitation of affected forest areas, and has been part of the forest landscape. It can be replicated by future projects and activities of similar objectives.

3.3.5 Mainstreaming

ICCRIFS was in line with UNDP priorities. It was also in agreement with the Government policies and priorities, as mentioned earlier. Climate change was integrated into Samoa Development Strategy, and other Samoa National Plans. It brought benefits for farmers involved providing vegetable seeds, fruit saplings and training satisfying the poverty alleviation UNDP priority. About 82% of Samoa land is customary ownership. The project worked with these communities in their land providing its services to them. These communities benefited while preserving their rights to their land and management of their resources in agreement with improving governance as a UNDP priority area. The project addresses disaster prevention by working with the farmers and villagers to enhance resilience to climate change impact and rehabilitating affected areas due to previous disasters including cyclones in Samoa. The project also addressed the gender issue by providing training for women in adaptive processes and training for increasing awareness as to the impact of climate change and means to build resilience.
Women also became committee members at the community and the district levels. Also women are represented in the project team. Therefore, the project did take the gender issues into consideration.

3.3.6 Sustainability

Financial Sustainability

Agro-forestry plots and conservation of upland forests

Now the project is closing, it is important to protect the outcomes the project produced and keep the momentum it created. The agro-forestry plots model has been very successful in providing benefits to the local population while helping in rehabilitation and forest conservation. The sustainability of these plots is very important for the local communities and for the conservation of the forest resources. Some people interviewed held the view that these farmers can continue in these plots without further external help. However, what if there was a setback and they needed help? The water sector pledged that they will continue providing support to the plots in watershed areas. The farmers interviewed also said they received such assurance. To continue providing support to the other plots MNRE need more funds to continue communication with these farmers and providing technical support. It will be easier to get small funds to such activities from small grants programs, rather than call for large sums of money or funding of big projects. However, the upland forest conservation activities do need funds to continue. Luckily the funding atmosphere is very encouraging, specially after Paris climate change agreement was signed, in which the developed countries pledged $100 Billion per year for developing countries that engage in reducing emission of green house gases. At least MNRE can get limited funds from small grants that can keep the agro-forestry plots going while it seeks funding for a full fledge project. Such a project will be vital to keep the momentum created by this project going, and safeguard the achievements realized.

Socioeconomic Sustainability

Adaptive techniques and capacity building

The project made significant strides in capacity building. Five hundred farmers are implementing adaptive agro-forestry, and 1500 farmers participated in climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry planning processes. Three farmers' organizations have been involved in adaptive forestry and agro-forestry measures. This knowledge and awareness is an important factor of sustainability. The hope is that these farmers' organization will continue advocating these techniques to their members after the end of the project. They can take a step further by seeking modest funds to keep some of the activities important to them such as the agro-forestry plots going; that would be a significant achievement.

Link with local communities

The project developed a strong and effective link with the farmers and villagers in the targeted areas. MWCSD played a vital role in this link. It was effective because it came through the present leadership of villages, through village leaders of chiefs and mayors.
It is also significant that it communicated with women and youth groups. However we learned that the youth were not as involved as the women groups. This link with local communities, need to be sustained as it opens the door to access and cooperation of these communities. It is also the window for knowledge sharing and awareness activities spreading to inform the local communities of the threat of climate change risks.

Institutional Framework and Governance

Legislations and policy

Climate change is now integrated into Samoa Development Strategy, which can affect a wide range of legislations and regulation in different government agencies. Also the fact that MNRE and the project could achieve National Policy on Sustainable Forest

Management (NSFM), National Forestry Sector Plan (NFS) with climate change risks integrated into it, and Forest Fire Prevention Strategy (FFPS), is significant. After this progress, it will be almost impossible to go back to the time when commercial forest exploitation was the norm. MNRE proved to be effective in rallying other government agencies to cooperate in climate change goals including MoF, MAF, MWCSD, as well as UN and donors. Therefore attraction of more funding for a project similar to ICCRIFS is feasible.

The role of local NGOs

In coordination with MNRE, the local NGOs can play an important part in the sustainability of the project outcomes. For instance they can raise modest funds to follow up with farmers in agro-forestry plots, or may be able to replicate the model in other villages. They also have a role to play in raising awareness of the impact of climate change and building resilience. They can make use of the large amount of literature produced by the project including awareness materials.

Environmental Risk

Severe weather events can happen any time any place. However, there are measures that can be taken to reduce the impact of such events.

Project Literature

As mentioned earlier, the large amount of materials produced by the project is an important element of sustainability. It contains a variety of documents including technical report, management plans, training, and awareness materials. It is available to be used by practitioners, NGOs, Local communities or new projects dealing with similar issues. Raising the awareness of local communities as to the risk of climate change, and the practices they can invoke to build resilience to those risks is a very important element in building environmental sustainability. The availability of technical knowledge that can be used in reducing climate change risks is another element of sustainability.

Technical tools developed

During the life of the project important technical tools were developed and updated with the contribution of the project. The most important of these is SamFRIS which was updated with climate information, CLEWS which was forestry tailored, and the popular and successful P3D model. All these tools will be available to other future projects as well as those who work in the field of forestry and climate change impact.

Overall Sustainability

No one project can protect against the impact of climate change. However, it is the accumulation of the contributions of several projects and initiatives that can eventually reduce green house gases emissions and limit risks of and build resilience to climate change in the long term. MNRE was successful in working with other government agencies. The policy and legislations are in place. The funding atmosphere is favorable. What is needed now is to develop a sustainability strategy. One component of this strategy can be building a coalition of Government agencies, NGOs, local, regional and international, private sector and UN agencies. Each member of the coalition will have a specific role to play. Such a coalition will make attracting funds much easier, and sustainability more attainable. Getting another similar project is critical for sustainability,

but judging from all the information available, it is feasible. Therefore, sustainability is likely.

3.3.7 Project Impact

The idea is to identify outcomes of the project that will have a lasting impact in the medium and long term in reducing risks and enhancing resilience to the impact of climate change.

Legislation, Policy, and Sector Plans

Now climate change risks and resilience are integrated into Samoa National Plan which impacts all sectors of the Government, as they exercise their duties. The project pushed for and achieved legislations, policies and plans that changed the environment in which forestry management was practiced in Samoa. There is now a National Policy on sustainable Forest Management (NPSFM), a new National Forestry Sector Plan with climate change risk integrated into it, and the Forest Fire Prevention Strategy (FFPS). This legislation environment would certainly safeguards forest conservation in the future and prevents any activities that may put forest or natural resources conservation at risk.
It sends a clear message to the international community that Samoa is serious in safeguarding its natural resources and combating climate change impact.

Technical Tools

In cooperation with other partners the project produced important tools that are being used and will be used in the future by practitioners in the field of forestry and natural resources conservation. One of these tools is the P3D models used in village communities with great success and acceptance from the local communities. It enabled villagers and farmers to participate in community-based management of their resources, and visualize the connection between their activities and the conservation of the forests.
Another important tool was SamFRIS which was updated with climate information which enabled the project to determine baseline in forest areas and develop indicators to measure compliance with targets. Climate Early Warning System (CLEWS) was forestry tailored and became an important forest management tool. These tools are available to new projects and similar activities and have a significant impact on future work in the sector. The fact that Samoa has these three tools and has the experience of using them is significant. Any project proposal in the future should emphasize these facts, as factors that can increase the chances of project success. In this light, donors and the international organizations would look favorably to such proposals.

Awareness and knowledge sharing

The project made significant strides in raising the awareness of the targeted communities. More than 1500 villagers participated in climate-resilient land use and forestry planning processes; and 500 farmers are implementing agro-forestry and forestry practices resilient to climate change risks. Fifty government officials and 1000 farmers regularly received climate early warning and forestry information services. Most probably farmers and villagers in targeted communities know now about climate change impact than ever before. Such knowledge will most likely remain in these communities for a long time. Farmers, who are implementing these agro-forestry and forestry climate change resilient practices, are likely to teach them to others. This knowledge coupled with high environmental awareness gained from the project teachings; make these farmers less likely to engage in practices that would undermine the forest and the ecosystem

conservation. They are less likely to start fires or cut down trees in watershed areas. The spread of this knowledge and awareness will improve the chances of the conservation of the forestry sector in Samoa, an important pillar of the Samoan economy.

Forest rehabilitation

Although only 70 ha of forest have been rehabilitated by the project, and that is a low number, however the real impact is in the model of agro-forestry developed by the project. This is a successful and tested model. It gave farmers benefits while pushing forward forest conservation. It is a model that can be used by future projects in Samoa and in other countries in the region. The project set an example in rehabilitation of upland forest as well as agro-forestry in lowland areas. Although the area rehabilitated is limited but the model and the experience is there to use. Rehabilitation of degraded areas in the forest is very important to protect the resource. Degraded or damaged areas attract the growth of brush which increases forest fire hazard; they cause soil erosion and reduce the quality and quantity of water from forest sources. Forest rehabilitation is very important for the conservation of this important Samoan resource for the future.

Benefits to the local communities

In 26 villages the local farmers benefited from the project through agro-forestry plots. The project provided training, seeds, seedlings and saplings. This enabled farmers develop their vegetable farms. The project also provided saplings for fruit trees. On the other hand farmers helped in planting forest saplings in affected areas and learned adaptive practices and have participated in knowledge sharing activities. At the same time the awareness of farmers as related to climate change impact has been raised. The agro-forestry model proved to be very successful. Farmers are excited about it. It can be replicated elsewhere in Samoa by the Government, NGOs, or new similar projects. It contributed to poverty alleviation by providing extra income to the farmers. It improved the livelihood of those who participated in the program. Through the production of more vegetables and fruits, it enhanced the food security of these communities.

Table 9. Project Rating

Evaluation Rating:			
1. Monitoring and Evaluation	**rating**	**2. IA & EA Execution**	**Rating**
M&E Design at Entry	4 (MS)	Quality of Implementation-Implementing Agency (IA, UNDP)	6 (H)
M&E Plan implementation	5 (S)	Quality of Execution- Executing Agency (EA, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment)	5 (S)
Overall quality of M&E	5 (S)	Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	5 (S)
3. Assessment of Outcomes	**rating**	**4. Sustainability**	**Rating**
Relevance	2 (R)	Financial resources	L
Effectiveness	6 (HS)	Socio-political	ML
Efficiency	5 (S)	Institutional framework	L
Overall Project Rating	5 (S)	Environmental	ML
		Overall likelihood of sustainability	L

The rating scale is in Annex 9.

4. CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND LESSONS

4.1 Conclusions

1. The project is highly relevant. It falls in GEF climate change focal area and in UNDP portfolio. It is relevant to Samoa situation as it has experienced the impact of climate change in cyclones, bouts of drought, flooding, and coastal land inundation due to sea level rise.
2. The inception phase made important revisions and changes that made the project more relevant and effective. Climate was integrated into SamFRIS and reliable baselines were possible to produce, and based on that indicators and targets. So it gave a strong push to the M&E system of the project.
3. The project had a slow start, but picked up on its implementation in later stages as witnessed from the percent compliance with targets in the midterm review compared to the terminal evaluation.
4. Outcome 1. Climate risks and resilience integrated into lowland agro-forestry and upland native forestry policies, strategies and management techniques. Under this outcome at the midterm review the average compliance was 27.5% which is very low compared to an expected 50% compliance by midterm review. However, at the time of terminal evaluation the compliance rate was 92.5%. Therefore the performance of the project improved significantly in the period after the midterm review. This slow start was probably due to the delay in NPSFM review to integrate climate change risks, and delay in the revision of Forestry Management Bill and new National Forestry Sector Plan (NFSP). This delay is also related to the delay in upgrading SamFRIS and CLEWS.
5. Outcome 2. Climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry techniques are demonstrated in upland and lowland areas. The project performance under this outcome seemed uniform from the beginning of the project to the midterm review time and in the period after the midterm review to the terminal evaluation, with midterm review of compliance with targets of 47.6% and terminal evaluation compliance of 83.3%.
6. In cooperation with other partners, two important technical information tools were developed, updated and adapted to the needs of the project work in climate change and forestry rehabilitation and management. These were SamFRIS and CLEWS.
7. Outcome 3: Project Knowledge captured, analyzed and disseminated. In this outcome the project exceeded targets at the midterm review level and at the terminal evaluation level by 60.0% and 119.1% respectively. So this component was very successful.

8. Another success of the project is the development of the P3D model, which was initiated and developed during the inception phase. It became an effective tool in enhancing the participation of local farmers and villagers in the community-based management plans.
9. With the help of MWCSD the project reached to women groups and youth groups in the targeted areas. Women and girls were trained in the same subjects men received. Training included climate resilient land use forest management, and awareness raising to the impact of climate change.
10. As indicated before the agro-forestry model developed by the project is an important success story.

4.2. Recommendations

4.2.1 Corrective actions

1. Important corrective actions were initiated and carried out during the inception phase of the project. The project revised the result framework to improve the M&E system to produce reliable indicators and robust baselines. The inception phase also initiated in cooperation with its partners the updating of SamFRIS with climate information to be used in determination of baselines for forest areas further improving the monitoring and evaluation system of the project. Also another development during the inception phase was the development of the successful P3D model which enhanced the participation of farmers and villagers in community-based management of their resources. It is recommended that these important corrective actions and the use of SamFRIS and P3D continue in any new project or any future activities in forestry management and conservation of natural resources in the face of risks imposed by climate change.

4.2.2 Actions to follow up

2. As a result of the project training and knowledge sharing, now over 1700 farmers are trained in adaptive practice to climate change impact. The project also passed these tools and knowledge to Samoa Farmers Association. As the project is coming to an end, it is recommended that the association develop a program that passes this knowledge to farmers who were not exposed to such training.

3. The project produced a large amount of technical reports and training and awareness raising materials. It is recommended that the local NGOs tap into this resource and continue the project work in these areas. This will require modest funds that can be raised from small grants programs and other sources. International organizations including international NGOs may be a good source of such funding.

4.2.3. Proposal for future directions

4. Based on the experience ICRIFS accumulated and the favorable international funding atmosphere; it is highly recommended that MNRE move quickly to seek funding for a new project as a follow up to ICCRIFS. Because technical tools the project updated including SamFRIS and CLEWS are ready for use. The project successful P3D is also available. The project produced a successful tested model in agro-forestry that can easily be replicated avoiding all possible loopholes. On the other hand the funding atmosphere could not be better. In 12 December 2015, Paris agreement was adopted by 195 countries under the United Nations Framework of Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC). This agreement was under discussion for decades because of disagreement between industrialized and

developing countries. Under this agreement the industrialized countries pledge to provide US$100 billion a year in aid to developing countries to help them implement procedures that minimize GHG emissions and reduce climate change impact. This is the time for MNRE to quickly move forward to tap this resource. MNRE can look at the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) tools such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), or Reduction of Emissions of Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus (REDD+). With REDD+ the developed countries would fund projects that reduce emissions in developing countries and use the carbon credit generated by these projects to meet their obligation towards Kyoto Protocol.

5. If funding was secured from IPCC in the form of a new follow up project it is recommended that the new project continue the agro-forestry program. The agro-forestry plots achieved significant success in rehabilitations and producing benefits to the local communities in terms of awareness and improving farming skills and enhancing food security.

6. The upland forest rehabilitation is also vital to the success of reducing risks and enhancing resilience to climate change. Therefore it is recommended that these activities continue especially if funding was secured. It is vital in the face of the risks of climate change, and what the country has experienced in the past.

7. In any follow up project it is recommended that the gender issues addressed by ICCRIFS continue to be addressed. Training for women is vital in building the awareness of climate change risks and promoting resilience to climate change through adopting behavior and activities to that goal. Also it is important for women to continue active participation in the future project teams as well as in district and village committees.

8. In a follow up future project it is highly recommended that the new project seeks to involve the local and regional NGOs in the activities of the project. The project can assign specific activities to NGOs according to their capacity and line of their expertise under the close supervision of the project.

9. It is recommended that any follow up project is to adopt the strategy of small core project team and use of consultant as needed. It will save funds and has proved effective in ICCRIFS project experience. This project management arrangement can also be passed on to other countries in the region.

10. The project in its early stages experienced delays in procurement that had a negative impact on the project progress. It is recommended that government selected staff receive training in procurement procedures. This will make procurement processes more smooth in the future and avoid any such delays in future projects.

11. It is recommended that the rehabilitated sites in upland forests be monitored annually to assess rehabilitation success and progress. Such data produced can be used in improvements in future rehabilitation strategies.

12. MWCSD provided the project with the important link to the local communities in the project sites. It made it possible for the project to access the community leaderships, and

farmers and villagers as well as women and youth groups. It is recommended that MNRE continue to engage these groups and keep channels of communication open with them.

13. It is recommended that the community nurseries be maintained and enabled to produce seedlings and saplings that can be used in continuous rehabilitation activities as well as future agro-forestry plots. Coupled with that is the need to train local community members to maintain and manage these nurseries.

14. The consultant recommends that MNRE starts using extension officers who are selected from members of the local communities and can be embedded in their own communities. They can initially be brought to the MNRE for training in awareness as related to risks and resilience to climate change, as well as climate change resilience practices. A suitable curriculum should be developed for training these extension officers. This approach has been used with great success in several UN projects of similar circumstances. These extension officers could receive a modest pay and would be a valuable asset for MNRE that could continuously carry its message to these communities.

15. Because of the gravity of the impact of climate change in Samoa, it is recommended that government develops a central unit focused on rehabilitation and building resilience to climate change. Donor funded project can operate under the guidance of this unit, but the unit should have its own ongoing program.

16. To enhance funding of new projects, it would be helpful if MNRE would develop an easy access database of all regulations and activities conducted in Samoa in the area of climate change risks and resilience. The donors would be encouraged to fund projects when they detect seriousness and determination of the government as reflected in the effort already made in that area.

4.2.4 Best practices and lessons

The slow start in outcome one up to the MTR time was obviously due to legislation and policy elements. These usually take longer than the activities executed by the project team. However, those elements were in place at the TE time. Also initial delays in procurement were eventually resolved. Another factor contributing to the delay was the high turnover of the project team members.

The project and partners contribution was successful in the production of SamFRIS with climate information tailored to forestry. Another important technical tool was CLEWS tailored to forestry. These two technical tools are a big contribution to forestry management in Samoa and the region as related to climate change impact.

Another tool credited to ICCRIFS is the production and use of the P3D model that was used in community-based management plans with active participation of farmers and villagers. This tool has also been used in Tonga.

The agro-forestry plots, developed by the project have been very successful. They provided benefits to the farmers while contributed to the rehabilitation of affected forest areas. The farmers value these plots and are determined to keep them. This model can

be easily replicated as the technical and social information are all made available by the project.

The project used a PMU made up of five team members and hired consultants from time to time as needed. This strategy reduced cost and did not affect project performance as the outcomes compliance with targets rates indicated.

As mentioned earlier the project produced a large number of technical report and training and awareness raising materials. These materials are available for use by future projects and other initiatives.

MWCSD provided the project with the link to the targeted villages' communities. It linked the project with village leaderships represented by chiefs and mayors. The project worked with three groups: the chiefs group, the women group and the youth group. Each group was exposed to training and awareness raising activities. About half of those trained were women. The project team itself has a significant number of women. There is a female representative for each village in the district committee for the three project sites. Females have been participating in the P3D models exercises and training in nursery construction and management. Therefore, it is clear that the project was serious in addressing the gender issues and has made a significant contribution in that area.

5. ANNEXES

Annex 1: TOR

A. Project Title: Integration of Climate Change into Forestry Management in Samoa

B. Project Description or Context and Background

In accordance with UNDP and GEF M&E policies and procedures, all full and medium-sized UNDP support GEF financed projects are required to undergo a terminal evaluation upon completion of implementation. These terms of reference (TOR) sets out the expectations for the Terminal Evaluation (TE) of the full-size project Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa (PIMS 4318). The Implementing Agency (IA) for this project is the United Nations Development

Programme. The Executing Agency (EA) for this project is the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa (MNRE). The essentials of the project to be evaluated are as follows:

Project Summary Table

Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa				
GEF Project ID:	4216 (GEF PMIS)		At endorsement (Millions US$)	at completion (Millions US$)
UNDP Project ID:	0077990 (Atlas ID) 41318(UNDP PMIS)	GEF financing:	USD 2,400,000	USD 2,400,000
Country:	Samoa	IA/EA own:		
Region:	Pacific	Government:	USD 470,000	USD 470,000
Focal Area:	Climate Change	Other:	USD 2,060,000	USD 2,060,000
Focal Area Objectives, (OP/SP):	Climate Change Adaptation (OP)/CC-21 Adaptation (SP)	Total co-financing	USD 2,530,000	USD 2,530,000
Executing Agency	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa	Total Project Cost:	USD 4,930,000	USD 4,930,000
Other Partners Involved	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women, Social Community Development, Ministry of Finance	Pro.Doc. Signature (date project began)		19 April 2011

C. Scope of Work:

Through this project, the Government of Samoa (GoS) will strengthen institutional capacities to systematically identify and address the climate change-driven risks for the management of native forests and agro-forestry areas, in order to increase the resilience of rural communities and protect their livelihoods from dynamic climate-related damage, pursuant to the attainment of Samoa's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) resources will be used to achieve the following closely interrelated outcomes:

a. Climate change risks and resilience are integrated into forestry policy frameworks
b. Climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry techniques are demonstrated in lowland agro-forestry and upland native forest areas.
c. Project knowledge and lessons learned are captured, analyzed and disseminated.

The TE will be conducted according to the guidance, rules and procedures established by UNDP and GEF as reflected in the UNDP Evaluation Guidance for GEF Financed Projects.

The objectives of the evaluation are to assess the achievement of project results,

and to draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming.

Evaluation Approach and Method

An overall approach and method[1] for conducting project terminal evaluations of UNDP supported GEF financed projects has developed over time. The evaluator is expected to frame the evaluation effort using the criteria of **relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact,** as defined and explained in the UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed Projects[2]. A set of questions covering each of these criteria should be drafted using the Evaluation Question Matrix (see *Annex C*). The evaluator is expected to amend, complete and submit this matrix as part of an evaluation inception report, and shall include it as an annex to the final report.

The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The evaluator is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with government counterparts, in particular the GEF operational focal point, UNDP Country Office, project team, UNDP GEF Technical Adviser based in the region and key stakeholders. The evaluator is expected to conduct a field mission to Samoa, including the following project sites:

1) Laulii – Falevao project site – Solosolo, Fusi and Saoluafata
2) Lake Lanoto'o - Fusi, Nuusuatia and Lotofaga
3) Mt Salafai – Iva, Sapapalii & Fatausi

Interviews will be held with the following organizations and individuals at a minimum:

1) Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
   - CEO
   - ACEO GEF
   - ACEO Forestry Division
   - ICCRIFS Project Team (Coordinator, KMC Officer, TNOC Officer)
2) Ministry of Finance
   - ACEO Aid Coordination & Debt Management
3) MAF
   - ACEO Crops
4) MWCSD
   - ACEO Internal Affairs
5) NGOS
   - SUNGO
   - WIBDI
   - SFA
   - METI
6) Regional / International Organizations
   - Conservation International
   - Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
   - CTA

The evaluator will review all relevant sources of information, such as the project document, project reports – including Annual PIRs, project budget revisions, midterm

review, progress reports, project files, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the evaluator considers useful for this evidence-based assessment. A list of documents that the project team will provide to the evaluator for review is included in Annex B of this Terms of Reference.

Evaluation Criteria's & Rating

An assessment of project performance will be carried out, based against expectations set out in the Project Logical Framework/Results Framework (see Annex A), which provides performance and impact indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. The evaluation will at a minimum cover the criteria of: **relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact.** Ratings must be provided on the following performance criteria. The completed table must be included in the evaluation executive summary. The obligatory rating scales are included in Annex D

Evaluation Rating:			
1. Monitoring and Evaluation	**rating**	**2. IA & EA Execution**	**rating**
M&E Design at Entry		Quality of Implementation- Implementing Agency (IA, UNDP)	
M&E Plan implementation		Quality of Execution- Executing Agency (EA, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment)	
Overall quality of M&E		Overall quality of Implementation/Execution	
3. Assessment of Outcomes	**rating**	**4. Sustainability**	**rating**
Relevance		Financial resources	
Effectiveness		Socio-political	
Efficiency		Institutional framework	
Overall Project Rating		Environmental	
		Overall likelihood of sustainability	

Project Finance/Co-Finance

The Evaluation will assess the key financial aspects of the project, including the extent of co-financing planned and realized. Project cost and funding data will be required, including annual expenditures. Variances between planned and actual expenditures will need to be assessed and explained. Results from recent financial audits, as available, should be taken into consideration. The evaluator will receive assistance from the Multi-Country Office (MCO) and Project Team to obtain financial data in order to complete the co-financing table below, which will be included in the terminal evaluation report.

Co-financing	UNDP Own financing (mill.US$)		Government (mill.US$)		Partner Agency (mill.US$)		Total (mill.US$)	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Grants								
Loans/Concessions								
• In-kind support								
• other								
Total								

Mainstreaming

UNDP supported GEF financed projects are key components in UNDP country programming, as well as regional and global programmes. The evaluation will assess the extent to which the project was successfully mainstreamed with other UNDP priorities, including poverty alleviation, improved governance, the prevention and recovery from natural disasters, and gender.

Impact

The evaluator will assess the extent to which the project is achieving impacts or progressing towards the achievement of impacts. Key findings that should be brought out in the evaluations include whether the project has demonstrated: a) verifiable improvements in ecological status, b) verifiable reductions in stress on ecological systems, and/or c) demonstrated progress towards these impact achievements.

Conclusions, Recommendations & Lessons

The evaluation report must include a chapter providing a set of conclusions, recommendations and lessons.

D: Expected Outcomes and Deliverables

Deliverable	Content	Ti mi	Responsibilities
Inception Report	Evaluator provides clarifications on timing and method	No later than 2 weeks before the evaluation mission.	Evaluator submits to UNDP MCO
Presentation	Initial Findings	End of evaluation mission	To project management, UNDP MCO
Draft Final Report	Full report, (per annexed template) with annexes	Within 3 weeks of the evaluation mission	Sent to MCO, reviewed by RTA, PCU, GEF OFPs
Final Report*	Revised report	Within 1 week of receiving UNDP comments on draft	Sent to MCO for uploading to UNDP

*When submitting the final evaluation report, the evaluator is required also to provide an 'audit trail', detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final evaluation report. See Annex H for an audit trail template.

E: Institutional Arrangement

The principal responsibility for managing this evaluation resides with the UNDP MCO in Samoa. The UNDP MCO will contract the evaluators and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within the country for the evaluation team. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the Evaluator to set up stakeholder interviews, arrange field visits, coordinate with the Government etc.

F. Duration of Work

The total duration of the evaluation will be 20 days over duration of max 3 months* according to the following plan:

Activity	Timing	Completion Date
Preparation	2 working days	29 February 2016
Evaluation Mission	10 Days	14-23 March 2016
Draft Evaluation Report	6 working days	10 April 2016
Final Report	2 working days	29 April 2016

* *The indicated max duration takes into account consultant's initial desk review and quality check of the finalreport from UNDP MCO, as well as potential delays due to unforeseen circumstances, not included as deliverables in the table above.*

Duty Station

Home-based with travel to Apia, Samoa. It is expected that the consultant will spend 10 days in Apia, Samoa. When in Samoa the consultant will be based at the UNDP Office or MNRE.

H. Competences:

Corporate Competencies

The independent consultant:

- Demonstrates integrity by complying with the UN's values and ethical standards;
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP;
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.

Functional

The independent consultant should possess proven and strong analytical and communication skills, including the ability to produce high quality reports.

Project & Resource Management

The independent consultant should have strong organizational skills;

The independent consultant should be able to work independently and collectively to produce individual high quality inputs and collectively high quality and TOR-compliant outputs;

The independent consultant should possess sound judgment, strategic thinking and the ability to manage competing priorities.

Team Work

Demonstrated ability of the team to work in a multi-cultural environment.

I. Qualifications and Experience of the Successful Contractor:

The evaluation team will be composed of 1 independent evaluator. The consultant shall have prior experience in evaluating GEF or GEF/LDCF projects. The evaluator selected should not have participated in the project preparation and/or implementation and should not have conflict of interest with project related activities. The selected candidate must be equipped with his/her own computing equipment.

Evaluation consultants will be held to the highest ethical standards and are required to sign a Code of Conduct
(Annex E) upon acceptance of the assignment. UNDP evaluations are conducted

in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluations'.

The consultant must present the following qualifications:

- Post-graduate degree in environmental science or climate change, natural resources management, or other closely related field (forestry focus is considered as an asset) (25 points)
- Minimum 7 years of relevant professional experience in Climate Change Adaptation/Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Forestry Management (30 points)
- Experience working with the GEF/GEF-LDCF programs (30 points)
- Technical knowledge in the targeted focal areas: Climate Change Adaptation/Disaster Risk Management and Sustainable Forestry Management (5 points)
- Experience working in the Pacific region (5 points)
- Excellent knowledge of English language (5 points)

Offers will be evaluated according to the Combined Scoring method – where the technical criteria will be weighted at 70% and the financial offer will be weighted at 30%.

Annex 2: TE Mission Schedule

Travel from Washington to Apia	11-13.03.2016
UNDP debriefing	14.03.2016
Meetings with Government and other stakeholders	14-17.03.2016
Field visits to projects sites in Upolu (Laulii-Falevao, Lake Lanoto'o)	18.03.2016
Review literature	19.03.2016
Field visits to project sites in Savaii	20-21.03.2016
Meetings with NGOs	22.03.2016
Debriefing for UNDP and MNRE	23.03.2016
Travel from Apia to Washington	24-26.03.2016

Annex 3. Schedule of Interviews and Field Visits

Day/Time	Meeting Agenda	Venu/Contact
Monday 14th March 2016		
9:00-11:30	Debriefing with UNDP	UNDP Office, Matautu
12.00 – 1.00pm 1.30 – 2.30pm 3.00 – 4.00pm 4.30 – 5.00pm	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) - Mr. Suluimalo Amataga Penaia (CEO) - Ms. Anne Rasmussen (ACEO GEF) - Mr. Moafanua Tolusina Pouli (ACEO FD) Wrap up for day 1 and preparations for day 2	3rd Floor TATTE Building, Sogi
Tuesday 14th March 2016		
9.00 – 12.00am 1.00 – 2.30pm 3.00 – 4.00pm 4.30 – 5.00pm	MNRE - *ICCRIFS team* (Ms. Yvette Kerslake - ICCRIFS Project Coordinator, Ms. Ephna Faafetai - Executive Assistant, Mr. Paulo Amerika - Communication and Knowledge Management Officer) - *Forestry Division* (Elizabeth Kerstin – Principal Research, Maiava Veni – Principal Community Forestry) - *Water Resource Division* (Fata Eti – Principal Watershed) Wrap up for day 2 and preparations for day3	3rd Floor TATTE Building, Sogi Forestry Station, Vailima
Wednesday 16th March 2016		
10.00 – 11.00am	Ministry of Finance - Ms. Lita Lui (ACEO Aid Coordination)	4th Floor Central Bank Building
11.30 – 12.30pm	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) - ACEO Crops Division	Crops Division, Nuu
1.00 – 2.00pm	Ministry of Women Community and Social Development (MWCSD) - ACEO Internal Affairs Division	Sogi
2.30 – 3.00pm	Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC) - Tamasoalii Vaise	Malifa
3.30 – 4.00pm	Samoa Farmers Association (SFA) - Executive Director	Alafua
4.30 – 5.00pm	Wrap up day 3 and preparation for day 4	
Thursday 17 March 2016		
10.00 – 11.00am	Matuaileoo Environment Trust Inc. (METI) - Dr. Walter Vermeulen (Executive Director)	Lalovaea

11.30 – 12.30pm	Conservation International (CI) Ms. Leilani Duffy (Executive Director)	Vailima
1.30 – 2.30pm	South Pacific Region Environmental Program (SPREP) - Ms. Easther Galuvao	Vailima
2.30 – 3.00pm	Samoa Umbrella for Non-government Organizations (SUNGO) - CEO	Vaitele –tai
4.30 – 5.00pm	Wrap up day 4 and preparation for day 5	
Friday 18th March 2016		
9.00am – 5.00pm	Visit Upolu project sites (Laulii – Falevao, Lake Lanoto'o) and meet with Community members - Mr. Luaiufi Aiono/Ms. Annie Mauga	Upolu
Monday 21st March 2016		
9.00am – 5.00pm	Visit Savaii project sites (Mauga o Salafai) - Mr. Sooalo Tito Alatimu/Mr. Maiava Veni Gaugatao	Savaii
Tuesday 22nd March 2016		
9.00 – 5.00pm	Visit Training - MAF at Crops Division	Crops, Nuu
Wednesday 23rd March 2016		
10.00 – 11.00am	Final De-briefing with UNDP	

Annex 4: MTR schedule

Activity		Dates
Preparation phase	Review of documents and information; Skype meeting	25-29.11.13
	Adjusted methodology, survey forms and Work Plan	29.11.13
Mission phase	Travel from Bolivia to Samoa	30.11-01.12.13
	Inception meeting with UNDP, MNRE and PMU	02.12.13
	Workshop with PMU and important stakeholders	02.12.13
	Meetings with ministries and other important institutions and organizations in Apia	03-04.12.13
	Field trips	05-07.12.13
	Apia: Meetings and work with preliminary conclusions	12-13.12.13
	Apia: Debriefing meeting (presentation of debriefing note)	13.12.13
	International return travel	14-15.12.13
Draft report elaboration	Data analysis	16-17.1213
	Elaboration and sending of draft MTR report	17-20.12.13
	Workshop with presentation and discussion of draft report (through Skype)	23.12.13
Analysis and comments from client	Elaboration and presentation of comments from UNDP and PMU	23.12-03.01.14
Final report elaboration	Elaboration of final MTR report, considering comments	06-10.01.14
	Presentation of final MTR report	10.01.14

Annex 5: List of documents reviewed:

1. PIF – Project Identification Form;
2. ICCRIFS – Project Document;
3. Project inception report;
4. Quarterly progress reports;
5. PIRs- Project Implementation Reviews;
6. Midterm Review (MTR) report;
7. Midterm Review Management Responses
8. All AWPs (annual work plans);
9. All annual financial project reports (CDRs);
10. Consultancy products (report, technical studies, etc.);
11. Financial auditing;
12. Board Meeting minutes;
13. All communication products;
14. Community consultations minutes, if available;
15. UNDP Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF);
16. UNDP Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Samoa country matrix
17. GEF focal area strategic program objectives;
18. Any other project relevant documents.

Annex 6: Evaluation Criteria Matrix.

Evaluation Criteria	Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Relevance: How does the project relate to the main objectives of GEF focal area, and to the environment and development at the local, regional and national level?				
Is the project relevant to the objectives of the Government of Samoa in forest conservation and climate change risks and resilience? Is the project relevant to the objectives of GEF and UNDP? Is the project relevant to the socio-economic development of local communities?	How does the project fit in the strategy and policy of the Government of Samoa? How does the project fit in the general objectives of GEF and UNDP? Did the local communities benefit from the project activities and outputs?	The inclusion of climate change impact as related to forestry conservation in Government Policies and strategies Does the project fits GEF climate change Focal Area and Samoa Development Strategy The degree to which local communities benefited from the project	UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluation of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed projects; GEF website; Samoa Development Strategy; National Adaptation Plan of Actions (NAPA); National Environment and Development Sector Plan (2013-17).	Literature review, interviews with stakeholders and field visits
Effectiveness: To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved?				
Did the project achieve the objectives and outcomes?	Did the project integrate climate risk and resilience in lowland and upland forests? Did the project demonstrated climate resilient agro-forestry and forestry techniques in lowland and upland areas? Did the project captured, analyzed and disseminated its knowledge?	Compliance with the final targets of outcome 1, 2, and 3.	Project monitoring system; projects documents and related literature; interviews with project team, MNRE, UNDP, and other stakeholders local and regional.	Review the monitoring system data and verify through literature review and field visits
Efficiency: Was the project implemented efficiently, in-line with international and national norms?				

Did the project use its resources efficiently?	Were the funds of the project used to produce maximum results? Were the project's staff well qualified and were managed to execute the project activities effectively? Was the time of the project used efficiently to produce the intended outputs?	Percent of the targets achieved at the end of the project Number of staff and the level of education and skills they had Time spent compared to outputs achieved	UNDP financial reports and statements; interviews with MNRE, MWCSD, MoF, other local and national stakeholders.	Study financial documents up to the end of the project and verify through interviews with stakeholders and literature review
Sustainability: To what extent are there financial, institutional, social-economic, and/or environmental risks to sustaining long-term project results?				
How are the outputs of the project sustainable in the long term?	Would there be enough financial resources to maintain the long term outputs of the project? Are the present institutions capable of carrying out the activities the project executed? Will the local communities continue to enjoy social and economic benefits produced by the project?	Availability of funds Capacity of the government institutions to carry out project activities The level of support communities will receive	Project documents and other related documents, project monitoring system, Interviews with MNRE, MoF, MWCSD, NGOs, Other local and national stakeholders.	Review data from the in the monitoring system, meetings with MoF, MNRE, NGOs and other stakeholders and literature reviews and field visits
Impact: Are there indications that the project has contributed to, or enabled progress toward, reduced environmental stress and/or improved ecological status?				
Did the project contributed to reducing environmental stress and improving conservation?	Did the project contributed in the rehabilitation of affected lowland and upland forests? Did local communities in these affected areas reaped benefits from the project activities? Did the project generate models that can be used by future projects as well as present interested parties?		Project documents and other related documents, Project monitoring system, interviews with UNDP, MNRE, NGOs, Local and national stakeholders, local communities, field visits.	Review literature to assess the outcomes impact by the end of the project, interview stakeholders, NGOs, Government agencies

Annex 7: Questionnaire used and summary of results

The interviews covered a wide range of people from different affiliations. These questions were generic and are adapted to the person or the organization representative, and their interest and the role they play. Some questions were elaborated on some reduced or skipped altogether depending on the person interest and role played.

Questions

1. What is your relationship? Role? In ICCRIFS?

2. How long have you or your organization been involved with the project and in what capacity?

3. What contribution if any have you or your organization made to the project?

4. How do you rate the project contribution in these areas:

- **a. Agro-forestry.**
- **b. Upland native forest conservation.**
- **c. Training and capacity building.**
- **d. Enhancing knowledge and awareness of the impact of climate change.**
- **e. Policy and legislation.**

5. How do you rate the overall success of the project?

6. What would have made the project better?

7. What are the shortcomings of the project if any?

8. Would you like to see a similar project in the future?

9. What bigger role would you or your organization are willing to play?

RESULTS

- **We learned the details of the relationship of the interviewed person or organization to the project which was very helpful**
- **The majority were very positive of the project and its contribution.**
- **Agro-forestry was rated highest among the project activities.**
- **All wanted a similar project in the future.**
- **Some wanted more involvement of the NGO in the nxt peoject.**
- **The call for more involvement of the young generation in the next project was expressed.**

Annex 8: Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form[4]

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System

Name of Consultant: Salah Hakim

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): UNDP

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct
for Evaluation.

Signed at *Washington* on *May 9, 2016*

Signature: SH

Annex: 9

Rating Scales of Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, I&E

Rating for Outcomes, Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, I&E Execution **6: Highly Satisfactory (HS):** The project had no shortcomings in achievement of its objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness, or efficiency **5: Satisfactory (S):** There were only minor shortcomings **4: Moderately Satisfactory (MS):** There were moderate shortcomings **3: Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU):** The project had significant shortcomings **2: Unsatisfactory (U):** There were major shortcomings in the achievement of project objectives in terms of relevance, effectiveness or efficiency **1: Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):** The project had severe shortcomings	**Sustainability rating:** **4:Likely (L):** Negligible risk for sustainability **3: Moderately Likely (ML):** Moderate risk **2: Moderately Unlikely (MU):** Significant risk **1: Unlikely (UL):** Severe risk	**Relevance rating:** **2: Relevant (R):** **1: Not relevant** **Impact Ratings:** **3: Significant (S)** **2: Minimal (M)** **1: Negligible (N)**
Additional rating where relevant: Not applicable (N/A) Unable to Assess (U/A)		

Annex: 10

EVALUATION REPORT CLEARANCE FORM

(to be completed by CO and UNDP GEF Technical Adviser based in the region and included in the final document)

Evaluation Report Reviewed and Cleared by
UNDP Country Office
Name: Sara Ferrandi

Signature:  Date: 1 Aug 2016

UNDP GEF RTA
Name: Reis Lopez Rello

Signature:  Date: Date: 1 Aug 2016

Annex 11: UNDP-GEF TE Report Audit Trail

To the comments received in April 2016 from the Terminal Evaluation of the project titled, *Integration of Climate Change Risks and Resilience into Forestry Management in Samoa (ICCRFIS)* (UNDP-GEF Project ID-*PIMS #4318)*

The following comments were provided in track changes to the draft Terminal Evaluation report; they are referenced by institution ("Author" column) and track change comment number ("#" column):

Name	#	Section	Comment	Response
Sirintharat	#1, April 21st 2016	Section 1.2, Pg. 10	Text missing methodology part	Corrected
Sirintharat	2	Section 2.3, Pg. 13	Need to elaborate more on baseline indicators established.	The usual indicators used are forest cover, fragmentation, composition, level of invasive species. However, after the inception phase, using SamFRIS the indicators were improved and baselines were determined. All the indicators used by the project now are SMART.
Sirintharat	3	**Section** *3.2.4 Finance (***Pg. 17)**	According to Atlas UN_GL_EXP_SUMMARY as of 21 April. Total expenditures against LDCF fund is $2,364,548.43 which leaves balance of $35,451.57. Delivery is 98.5% as of 21 April 2016.	Incorporated
Sirintharat	4	Annex 4, pg. 43	Is this meant to be here? If so, please put year after each date	Did that
Sirintharat	5	Annex 7, pg. 46	This annex is missing	Added
Stephanie Ullrich, UNDP-GEF Evaluation Consultant (SU)	#1, April 25th 2016	1.2 the Scope & Methodology	In the introduction, section 1.2 the Scope & Methodology should also be clearly described in detail. The methodology needs to be more thoroughly described e.g. a description of the rationale of the methodological approach taken, the rationale and basis for the selection of field visits and persons interviewed. The Report should include a description of the sampling method that was used and its limitations, if any, and should	I added a data collection rationale. Here they are mentioned to indicate which criteria were used. The evaluation criteria are discussed in details under Project Results. There is also a comprehensive evaluation criteria matrix in Annex 6 it includes definitions, questions, indicators, sources and methodology. It is all following UNDP-GEF TE Guidance.

			discuss how evidence/ information was triangulated. Additionally, the evaluation criteria used in the TE (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, impact) should be discussed and defined. The evaluator can find the criteria defined in the UNDP-GEF TE Guidance.	
SU	2	Section 2, project description and development context	The project background (in section 2, project description and development context) could be expanded to include more development context, e.g. Socio-economic statuses in project areas in Samoa, country priorities, the gender dynamics and situation before the project was implemented, etc.	I included a background for the period prior to the project. The emphasis was on climate change impact as that is the focus of the project, as well as the Government commitment to combat climate change impact.
SU	3	Section 2.4, Project stakeholders	In section 2.4, Project stakeholders, the main stakeholders are listed, but their roles and contributions to the project (including in-kind contributions, technical assistance, participation, staff time, training, leadership and advocacy) are not clearly described.	I listed the main stakeholders and their primary roles. The in-kind contributions are shown in Table 3. The project did not assess the staff time for these stakeholders.
SU	4	Section 2.5, Expected Results	In section 2.5, Expected Results, the evaluator should outline the specific project outcomes and outputs expected (basic detail is fine, not the whole logical framework).	This is a brief introduction to expected results. All project outcomes are analyzed and discussed in details under Effectiveness.
SU	5	Section 3.1.1 Analysis of results framework	The evaluator is a bit vague in section 3.1.1 Analysis of results framework. Are all the indicators SMART? If not, which ones aren't? The report should expand a little on this topic.	The reference was to indicators before the inception phase. However after that and the indicators used now are all SMART. I added a sentence to that effect to avoid confusion.
SU	6	Section 3.1.3	Section 3.1.3 doesn't adequately describe what the key lessons learned were that the project took into account during project design.	In section 2. Project Description, I added a background for the period prior to the project and the devastation climate change produced, I guess there were the most lessons learned at that time. Also previous projects realized the need for tool such as SamFRIS and CLEWS, and developed them; the project used those tools after adjustment, that is an important lesson learned during implementation.
SU	7	Section 3.2.1 (p. 16), adaptive management	The section on adaptive management, section 3.2.1 (p. 16), doesn't describe how the project did or didn't adapt based on finding from annual monitoring (e.g. PIR/APR) and	In this section it was mentioned that the project adapted during the inception phase by revising the project document after reviewing all the reports the project produced and made adjustment. One of these was revising the result framework to produce more robust indicators, to adopt the construction of P3D model, and to hire a legal consultant to

			the from the midterm review. These aspects should be addressed in the TE report. The evaluator should describe how the project responded to the recommendations made in the MTR. In this way, the TE report should list the MTR recommendations and mention how the project responded and adapted to these.	follow on Forestry Management Act. There are 26 recommendations from MTR. I chose the most important 4 and addressed them.
SU	8	Section 3.2.5 Monitoring and Evaluation	Section 3.2.5 Monitoring and Evaluation doesn't adequately describe all aspects of the project's monitoring and evaluation.	I added other aspects of the project M&E.
SU	9	Table 4, Project results compared to baseline and targets	In Table 4, Project results compared to baseline and targets, it is unclear if the targets are mid-term targets or end-of-project targets. This should be clarified. It is also unclear what the indicators correspond to; are these outcome-level indicators? If so, what about the output-level indicators? I assume these are listed in the following tables, Tables 5, 6, etc. but this should be clearly labeled in the report.	The targets are always for the end of the project. At midterm you expect 50% of the target to be achieved. The table indicates results at MTR and corresponding % compliance and the results at TE time and the corresponding %compliance. This table is for the whole project. Each outcome will have all its activities and results evaluated in the following tables.
SU	10	Ratings/ executive summary	The ratings provided in the executive summary don't clearly connect to the evidence provided throughout the report; I suggest the evaluator provides the ratings after each section where evidence and analysis for the rating is given.	Throughout the report we discuss each outcome and all the activities in that outcome and we rate these activities based on results and targets. However, in the criteria rating we are rating the whole project performance under each criterion. So we are dealing at two different levels. After looking at each criterion, that will be clear.
SU	11	Section 3.3.5, mainstreaming	In the mainstreaming section, section 3.3.5, the report doesn't address improved governance. Also, it's discussion on poverty alleviation and gender is quite surface-level. In regards to the UNDAP (UN Development Assistance Framework), does the evaluator view that the project increased gender equality? Why or why not? Did it change any gender relations (intended or otherwise) such as decision making power in the	The gender and poverty alleviation are long term targets. Each project or similar initiative will contribute some incremental degree. I think the fact that the project provided training to women groups, as well as knowledge sharing and training in climate change resilience practices is a step in the right direction. The report also mentioned that women were committee members at the community and district levels. I do not think the project assessed decision making power in households. As for "providing vegetable seeds, fruit saplings and training" I think it is a contribution to poverty alleviation. I talked to farmers in the field and they were very happy with that opportunity the project provided.

			household and in the community, ownership of land, etc? How did the project contribute to poverty alleviation besides "providing vegetable seeds, fruit saplings and training"?	
SU	12	Section 3.3.6 Sustainability	In section 3.3.6 Sustainability, the evaluator doesn't clearly address the five aspects of sustainability as required by the ToR: financial resources, socio-economic, institutional framework and governance, environmental, and overall likelihood of sustainability.	Addressed under those headings.
SU	13	Recommendations	The report doesn't clearly lay out recommendations for the project. Because the project's operational closure is not for a few more months (19 July 2016, as stated in the TE), then the recommendations are key. They should address strategic actions that the project can take in the remaining few months to maximize the project benefits and strengthen the sustainability prospects of the project. Recommendations should be prioritized, specific, relevant, and targeted, with suggested implementers of the recommendations. These recommendations should also be summarized in the executive summary.	The TE signals the end of the project. By the time the final TE report is out, it would be mid May. I do not think the project can get involved in new activities after that. It will continue in the activities at hand and prepare for project closure which also takes time. Recommendations are in the executive summary.
SU	14	Annexes	In addition to the annexes already included, I suggest that the evaluator also include the TE Report Clearance Form and the TE audit trail (Annexed in a separate file).	Both are included
SU	15	Annex 8.	This annex needs to be signed.	Did
Lita Lui	#1, April, 25th, 2016	Executive Summary	Through adaptation and mitigation measures…	Included
LL	4	Executive Summary	It would be good if the a brief outline or rationale for what the next project would be looking at to build upon from this ICCRIFS be mentioned (briefly) here?	Added

LL	5	Executive Summary	A key would be helpful for the ratings provided ie MS, S, ML, L, H???	Rating Scale in Annex 9
LL	6	Sec 1	Is this Section outlining the…..	I used the past tense as it was all done
LL	11	1	??	Fixed
LL	14	1	Are informal interviews relevant and will be part of the report otherwise how is this relevant in the content of the Report? If these are considered they should be part of the interviews.	These informal interviews are considered as part of the field visits. They are included as such.
LL	15	1	??	Fixed
LL	18	1	Has this been done already?	Yes
LL	23	2.3	??	Added
	27	2.4	Perhaps the role of WMCSD could be expanded to include their role in training with communities and other initiatives that may have been done with MNRE in the communities.	Added the training aspect.
LL	28	2.4	Is SUNGO not part of the project SC?	Those were the government partners. I added NGO partners as well.
LL	31	3.1.1	It is also worth mentioning the Samoa National Plan which is which is the key document determining government priorities in which this project was supported under	Added
LL	32	3.1.2	Working in coordination and collaboration with MNRE and other government agencies in delivering through community consultation should be highlighted in minimizing this risk.. as a result communities and farmers are receptive to working together with the project team.. not to mention coordination with MAF as well as mentioned in duplication of effort and resources…	Added
LL	33	3.1.2	Isn't this Crops Division of MAF?	Corrected
LL	37	3.1.2	Again it will be worth mentioning that government has taken this issue of CC seriously by integrating CC in Samoa's SDS which is the overall plan for the country which we are now integrating in our respective sector plans across the board..	Added

LL	38	3.1.2	There are extension officers or the existing program under Forestry for all farmers?? Which can address this sustainability issue in collaboration with other ministries e.g. MAF	Good suggestion
LL	39	3.1.2	It would be good if an example of a model could be provided in proposed arrangements that can be sustained under limited resources of the Gov without involving subsidized financing (which is not an option for Gov) for way forward for the Ministry	Small grants is reasonable option for both Gov and NGOs
LL	40	3.1.2	A question please for clarification.. Would sustainable agro-forestry practices adopted by the communities also minimize this risk as having CLEWS is beneficial for climatic information and warnings but if communities are not adopting the good practices of replanting of the forest and intercropping at the same time, would CLEWS be useless as there will still be severe damage sustained due to soil erosion etc..	Correct. Without the commitment of the communities there is no pass to success.
LL	42	3.1.3	And pat of the agro-forestry component of ICCRIFS…	Added
LL	43		Would be good if these three could be mentioned for information	Added
LL	46	3.1.5	If the schools names could be listed and the specific communities where P3D model was shared/done	I understand that it was used in all 26 villages. I do not have the names of the schools.
LL	47	3.1.5	It would be good if there is a bit more emphasis on the experience in the region where ICCRIFS team was invited regionally and shared their knowledge and P3D model?	It was mentioned that Tonga adopted the model and is using it. I have no details on the regional travel of the team.
LL	48	3.1.6	Could you list these please for information	Listed
LL	50	3.1.7	And practices of agro-forestry planting and methods used by farmers to intercrop between forest trees??	Added
LL	51	3.1.7	Would be good to state the objectives of each project for clarification purposes	Done

LL	54	3.1.7	CLEWS was further developed under ICCRAHS and should also me mentioned as one of the contributors to this ICCRIFS project	Added
LL	55	3.1.8	And relevant divisions of MNRE	Added
LL	60	3.2.1	It would be good if the sites were specified here	Done
LL	61	3.2.2	SUNGO is not an implementer should not be under this partnership arrangement	It is listed as a partner not implementer
LL	66	3.2.6	This role is played by MoF while UND administers the overall GEF funds disbursed through UNDP as the executing agency together with MoF	Roles explained
LL	67	3.3.1	What was the target	Added
LL	68	3.3.1	What were the reasons of non-achievement of this target? As it could be the dependency on funds instead of commitment by the communities? Note we are talking about practices and not necessarily capital and financial incentives which is never sustainable in any given environment of sustainable farming practices by communities	The farmers Associations must meet their responsibility in this matter
LL	69	3.3.1	I agree that this is very good achievement but if the knowledge and practice is not put into action then it is no use….is there evidence that all 2300 are using this knowledge through active farming/farms etc..? if so it would be good to provide figures to support this I agree that this is very good achievement but if the knowledge and practice is not put into action then it is no use….is there evidence that all 2300 are using this knowledge through active farming/farms etc..? if so it would be good to provide figures to support this	It is mentioned elsewhere in the report that 500 farmers are implementing resilient practices. The first step is knowledge, but knowledge has to be put into practice.
LL	71	3.3.1	Is this 1/	Corrected

LL	73	3.32	Perhaps causing soil erosion as well esp with deforested areas	Yes
LL	74	3.3.3.1	?	Corrected
LL	75	3.3.3.1	Was SamFRIS developed by METI or JICA	It was updated, funded by JICA
LL	77	3.3.3.1	For clarification please. It either met or exceeded.. we cannot say met or exceeded	I explained: some almost met, some exceeded
LL	78	3.3.2	This practice is not new and has always been used by most projects of the Government as we see no value in hiring long term TAs that are only required for a short or specified area/work in the short term	It is good practice.
LL	80	3.3.5	Perhaps National Plans should be emphasized here as well as ownership and mainstreaming of these into relevant national plans is important as project is for Government and its people and not for UNDP?	National plans were mentioned under Country Ownership, but I inserted here too.
LL	84		I disagree as procurement process is not owned by MoF rather the whole of Government….the lack of MNRE's understanding on procurement processes and planning was a result of this delay….we suggest to either remove this or reflect our comment in this particular issue as it is unfair on MoF's perspective	Resolved
LL	85		Wouldn't say small in Government perspective as most PMUs consist of a maximum of 3 people	I agree it is not small for Samoa
Susau	#2, April 27, 2016	Executive Summary	Sentence repeated	Corrected
S	44	3.1.3	ICRRIFS	Corrected
S	45	3.1.4	FESA? With fire emergency	Fire and Emergency Services Authority
S	52	3.1.7	???	Changed
S	53		ICCRIFS	Changed
S	57	3.2.1	Forestry Policy no 1 regulation developed under ICCRIFS	Addressed

S	59	3.2.1	SamFRIS	Added
S	76	3.3.3	Check again Meteorology Division (MET) not METI	Both are involved
S	83	4.1	The Act was already final at at the time FM Act2011.. delayed revision of the policy and regulations	Addressed
TP Private Use	19	1.2	Project site 2:Lake Lanotoo.. the villages should be Lotofaga to Fusi Safata instead	Adjusted
TP	34	3.1.2	Forestry Division is under MNRE and not MAF	Addressed
TP	35	3.1.2	MAF has the Crop division	Corrected
TP	36	3.1.2	The new legislation is the Forestry management Act 2011..unless it refers here to the development of the Forestry Management Regulations	Took into account
TP	49	3.1.7	SATFP has been merged with ICCRIFS after the MTR	Adjusted
TP	58	3.2.1	Forestry regulations Consultant was funded by FPAM project	OK
TP	64	3.2.4	Is UNDP a co-financier for this project as well	Yes according to co-finance table
Sara Ferrandi FS UNDP	#3, April 24,2016	1 2.5	Missing In section 2.5, Expected Results the evaluator should outline the specific project outcomes and outputs expected (basic details, not the whole framework). The section highlighted in green have been the only addition from the consultant in response to the comment.	Fixed Outcomes were listed and intended results were added.
SF	4	1 3	Missing Said as it's said here it doesn't specify if in Samoa there is any NGO playing an important role on that or not.	Fixed Rephrased to be very clear what is meant.
SF	8	2.2	Outcomes missing	Added
SF	11 11	3.1 1.2	Does the colon means something is missing? This section is the place where the methodology needs to be further explained given the title of the section.	Removed There is a heading reading : "Data Collection and Analysis Rationale" at the end of the section, it has been expanded.
SF	12	3.1.2	More than one NGO, specify the names	Addressed, added names to this sentence on the NGOs involved in the project.

		3.21	The information added do not address the comment. It is not clearly explained what the other projects produced , not what ICCRIFS added to it. This is an information that should have been gathered during consultation s in country.	The comment is about lessons learned during project design period and that was the impact of climate change as indicated. It did not ask for previous projects outputs. However, it was mentioned that previous projects produced SamFRIS and CLEWS which ICCRIFS benefited from.
SF	14	3.1.5	The construction of every model also meant a learning process for the Government core team, and will be valuable information for other projects in Samoa and in the Pacific region once digitalized. Reference to comment SU 10: P. 34 repeats the same table that is already reported in the executive summary. The meaning of this comment is not to report the same table at the end of Section 3. The "Project Rating Table" is a summary of the rating (that's why it is good practice to include it in the executive summary). Each section should have its own rating at the bottom, and all ratings summarized in the table in the executive summary. That's why the comment of clearly reporting on the different types of sustainability, so that info presented in the executive summary are easily tracked along the report.	Added In the evaluation and the rating the consultant followed closely the UNDP/GEF Guidelines, both in evaluation and rating. Actually the criteria and the rating processes are spelled out in the Guidelines. The rating table is provided by the UNDP/GEF Guidelines, and the consultant had to use it as such. In the Findings the different criteria rating is discussed in details, the table is actually meant to be just a summary of that. The rating table in the executive summary is also a requirement of the Guidelines.
SF	15	3.1.6	5 and not all funded by GEF.	Corrected.
		Recommendations	Reference to comment SU 13 A list of few MTR recommendations and how the project addressed them is in the adaptive management section, in response to comment num.7. The TE should outline a set of own recommendations either for the remaining months or as part of a sustainability	Actually the TE recommendations have been there under 4.2. in page 36. I just expanded on them.

			strategy. Since the recommendation set is a key highlight of evaluation reports, it would be appropriate to have a list of recommendations for future initiatives, as the project is about to close.	
SF	16	3.1.7	Doesn't currently exist anymore, since it has been merged to ICCRIFS	Addressed
SF	19	3.1.8	PM and PC are the same role in this project. In addition, the ACEO of the Forestry Division of MNRE is the Assistant project Director	Added
SF	23	3.2.6	Is not a co-financing partner	OK
SF	26	3.3.3.1	?	Fixed
SF	32	3.3.3.2	It is not small for Samoa's standards of UNDP GEF projects	Fixed
SF	33	3.3.4	There's no mention in the report on the core technical team that through the ICCRIFS P3D models has developed the skills to support other P3D exercises for other projects in other divisions of MNRE, Ministries, PICs, contributing to South-South capacity building achievements and inter-ministerial cooperation.	Inserted in 3.1.5
Yvette Kerslake	#1, April 28, 2016		Could provide further information on the second tool	Added more info
YK	5	1	Fusi – Lotofaga for project site 2	Corrected
YK	6	1	Suggest this section be an attachment to the report as it is part of the requirements of the ToR.	The evaluation matrix and evaluation table are attached
	7	2.1	Australia Government is referred to as DFAT	addressed
YK	10	2.4	The project also worked with WIBDI and METI through capacity building workshops throughout the project e.g.	Added

			agro-forestry Train the Trainers, climate change etc	
YK	13	3.1.3	CLEWS integrated into SAMFRIS is a product of ICCRIFS. SAMFRIS updated arial photos from the last national forest inventory is a product of the JICA project should also include the name of the project to provide clear reference.	Addressed
	15	3.1.6	UNDP has more than 3 projects in Samoa	Corrected
	17	3.1.7	Doesn't currently exist anymore, since it has been merged to ICCRIFS	Changed
YK	18	3.1.7	ICCRAH developed CLEWS and ICCRIFS developed Forestry related CEWS integrated into SAMFRIS	Included
YK	25	3.3.1	Confirming the results are documented in quarterly progress reports	Well noted.
YK	28	3.3.3.1	Should list the forestry tailored CLEWS tools that were produced by the project will provide the list of tools.	Added as Annex.
YK	29, Page 29	3.3.3.1	Note Paulo provided this list will circulate the email	Added as Annex.
YK	31, page 29		List the workshops and relevance	Added as Annex.
Reis Lopez Rellow RLR	24, April 25, 2016	3.3.1	This is a very important section. Yvette as former project coordinator of this project, should review that all tables with results per indicator under this section are accurate. This kind of information will be used in publications, donor meetings, therefore its relevance	Confirmed.
RLR	27	3.3.3.1	Under this section, all the policies developed are extremely relevant and important but national context is missing somehow, and because of that seems like a mere list of policies developed. Need to detail on their importance and why are important in Samoa context.	Covered as requested

RLR	30	3.3.3.1 Page 25	List technical reports in the annex	Added
RLR	34	3.3.7	This section need to be expanded to really analyze the impact of the project. As it's stands is a mere list of project achievements without making an analysis of why was important and any shortcomings. How the activities implemented interlinked with each other to generate co-benefits (social, economic, environmental).	Analysis added

Annex 12

ICCRIFS Project – Reports Series

TECHNICAL REPORTS

1	Site Management Planning for Climate Resilience of Samoa's Forests *20 - 24 August 2012*
2	Review of Existing Ecological Information for ICCRIFS Project Sites on Upolu and Savai'i Islands, *June 2013*
3	Samoan Translation of - Review of Existing Ecological Information for ICCRIFS Project Sites on Upolu and Savai'i Islands, *June 2013*
4	Current Status of Communication Outputs for the ICCRIFS Project. *June 2011 - June 2013*
5	Preliminary Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment by Communities of the ICCRIFS Project Sites on Upolu and Savai'i Islands *January 2012 and March 2013*
6	Communication and Outreach Strategy, - *September 2013*
7	Climate Automated Weather Stations Installation and Operation for the ICCRIFS Project Sites on Upolu and Savai'i Islands, - *October 2013*
8	Review of current Agro-forestry techniques and systems practiced in the three ICCRIFS project sites on Upolu and Savaii Islands and the Status of project activities *December 2013*
9	Synthesis Report – Baseline Ecological Survey *July 2014*
10	Baseline Ecological Survey Report *2015*

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

1	INCEPTION PHASE REPORT - *June 2011 - December 2011*
2	Mid -Term Review, - *December 2 - 15, 2013*

FIELD REPORTS

1	Preliminary site visit to Lake Lanoto'o National Park , *20 November 2012*
2	Scoping Study & Post-Training – Participatory 3-Dimensional Modeling for ICCRIFS sites and communities in Samoa , *18th – 25th February 2013*
3	Design and Construction of Community Nurseries in the villages of Lauli'i, Leusoali'i, Solosolo, Eva and Saoluafata – Upolu Island

Annex 13
CLEWS Products
CLEWS expanded and specified for forestry sub-sector users:
The CLEWS tailored to the forestry sector have been fully developed by NIWA and operated by the Meteorology Division, MNRE for implementation by the Foretsry Division. ICCRIFS project also has access to NIWA website for CC raw data required for forestry operations. A meeting with MET Division and NIWA was conducted on 26th of February 2015 to follow up on use of the CLEWS tailored for forestry sub-sector and further informed of the CLEWS Dashboard, where the main weather parameters such as rainfall, temperature, humidity, wind and wind direction is available for viewing. The Dashboard is looped, and includes information on the Fire Weather index and Drought for the following weather stations of Nafanua, Nuu, Afiamalu, Alafua, Salailua, Viaata and Saoluafata. The Dashboard URL is: http://doc.niwa.co.nz/eco/samoa/waether/weather_nuu.html. Some of the products with the MET Division that may be useful, aside from CLEWS Dashboard are the following:

1. Seasonal Rainfall Outlook-next three months (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/seasonal-climate-outlook#MAM)

2. Seasonal Rainfall Outlook-next 6 months (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/seasonal-climate-outlook#JJA)

3. Climate Summary (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/monthly-climate-summary)

4. Forest Fire Index (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/clews-products/ffwi)

5. Map of Forest Fire Index (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/clews-products/ffwi/ffwi-m)

6. Mobile App-Forest Fire Index (http://docs.niwa.co.nz/eco/samoa/m/)

7. Soil moisture (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/clews-products/soil-moisture-analysis)

8. Drought Warning (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/clews-products/drought-warning)

9. Tropical Cyclone Outlook (http://www.samet.gov.ws/index.php/clews-products/tropical-cyclone-outlook)

Annex: 14

List of ICCRIFS Regional and International Events

21st – 26th May 2012
Participatory Mapping and Community Empowerment for Climate Change Adaptation, Planning and Advocacy at Honiara, Solomon Island
Reps: Paulo Amerika and Joe Reti

12th – 19th November 2014
6th World Park Congress, Sydney Australia
Rep: Paulo Amerika

19th -20th January 2015
Open Data Workshop, Netherlands
Rep: Yvette Kerslake

10th – 19th September 2015
Tonga P3DM Scoping Exercise
Reps: Paulo Amerika

16th – 20th November 2015
Tonga P3DM Workshop
Reps: Yvette Kerslake, Paulo Amerika and Luaiufi Aiono

21st – 25th November 2015
Pacific GIS and NRS users' conference – Suva Fiji
Rep : Joe Reti.

14th – 17th February 2016
Nauru P3DM Scoping Exercise
Rep: Luaiufi Aiono,

11th – 15th April 2016
Nauru P3DM Workshop
Rep: Paulo and Fata Eti.

5th – 9th April 2016
Cook Islands P3DM Scoping Exercise
Rep: Yvette Kerslake