

# CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

May 7, 2015

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**APPROVAL BY MAIL: PACIFIC REGIONAL: PACIFIC RESILIENCE PROGRAM (IBRD)**

Comments Received by the Sub-Committee Member from Germany

Dear Mafalda, dear CIF Team,

pls. see below.

Looking forward to meeting you Sunday,

Romeo Bertolini

GER Comments

### **Summary**

We have no major objections to the implementation of the project.

See below (see bold highlights) comments which we would ask you to consider during project implementation. Moreover, we recommend considering our earlier comments on the SPCR for the Pacific Region, submitted on 7th May 2012.

### **Individual Comments**

While appreciating the key role envisaged for the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (PIFS), the proposal focuses particularly on disaster risk practitioners within the SPC and does not sufficiently consider climate change experts. Thus, we recommend that both practitioners with expertise in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation should be engaged to ensure that slow-onset hazards are also taken into account.

Germany further commends the emphasis on the use of existing national structures for implementation. In order to harness this potential to the highest possible extent, we suggest encouraging countries to reflect on these existing structures and identify ways to strengthen them as part of the Pacific Resilience Program. In addition, the proposal makes reference to creating a pool of experts at the regional level, yet it does not elaborate their relation vis-à-vis the PPCR Regional Technical Support Mechanism, a network of experts hosted within the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. We strongly recommend exploring possible synergies between the envisaged new pool of experts and the PPCR Regional Technical Support Mechanism to avoid duplication of work, particularly related to the support of meteorological services.

## **Comments on Cross-Cutting Issues**

### **Gender**

Gender-responsive approaches are mentioned under social safeguards. However, given the nature of the programme – a large component of which relates to risk assessment – there is also a significant opportunity for the PREP to contribute to enhancing knowledge on the differentiated risks faced by men and women. We thus suggest systematically exploring how the proposed project could improve the evidence base on climate risks in a gender-disaggregated manner, including the existing database on damages related to natural disasters. In addition, only few of the results indicators are disaggregated by gender, although some of them (e.g. indicator on training of staff members within component 1) would clearly benefit from a differentiated perspective on the participation of men and women. Therefore, we suggest revising the results framework and formulating the indicators in a gender-disaggregated way, wherever possible, to ensure that the project adequately includes both men and women.

### **Learning**

Germany welcomes that the PREP foresees a focus on knowledge management and documentation of lessons learned in its first phase. In particular, we appreciate that the project seeks assisting countries and partners to utilise the tools developed by the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative. However, to date the use of these tools has largely been confined to disaster risk financing. Against this backdrop, we recommend extending the application of the tools developed by the Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative, based on learnings from past applications and a needs assessment with regional climate change practitioners.

### **Participation**

The proposal only marginally touches upon the role of civil society organisations in utilising the products and risk assessments developed by the PREP. Yet, as they are often actively involved in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities, we suggest engaging with these groups at an early stage of the project to ensure that the developed knowledge products and assessment tools fit to the needs of civil society organisations as potential end users.

### **Synergies with German Climate Change Related Engagement in the Region**

Among other activities, the Coping With Climate Change in the Pacific Island

Region project, supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, actively strengthens the capacities of several regional organisations. Thus, we recommend closely coordinating with the Coping With Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region project and making of the experience in supporting particularly the Secretariat for the Pacific Community.