



**MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS**

# Minutes for NIE Working Group Meeting

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**Date:** Monday 14 July 2014, 2pm

**Attendees:** Edward Parker (EP), Ana Tiraa (AT), Petero Okotai (PO), Vanessa Jenner (VJ), Nanise Okotai (NO)

**Apologies:** Edward Herman (EH), Boyd Ellison (BE), Daphne Ringi (DR)

**Absent:** Josh Mitchell(JM)

## 1. Status Report

- MFEM 2013 Audit signed off (great news!)
- Audit catch up plan drafted – currently being reviewed (RN)
- OPM/PSC/MFEM working on business planning templates to improve and clarify the process (PO)
- Policy Focus Group looking at Govt Policy and Planning coordination (PO)
- PSC finalising code of conduct (Kevin Carr has reviewed for alignment to AF requirements)

## 2. Procurement

- Further training support will now be held in September/October to accompany new budget cycle (EP)
- RN to sign off on updated templates and policy (EP)
- Complaints process – Waiting on response (EP)
- CI contracts are now standardised
- Website Improvements with OPM (EP)

## 3. AMC

- Expert panel finalising input into proposal which will go out for wider engagement soon (Akairo)
- Request that Akairo follow up with Steve Barrett and Garth Henderson to understand why previous attempts at this failed to utilise learnings (Akairo)

## 4. Climate Change context

- Cook Islands is considering application to Green Climate Fund (GCF) with potential additional funding from GCCA funds.
- Green Climate Fund skype meeting with Jillian Dyszynski planned for August – please send any questions to Ana
- Readiness Program review – while on the surface the readiness program does not look relevant for the Cook Islands, a further update from Lavinia is required on possible avenues. No interest in readiness work (completed), and Frankfurt have advised against south-south cooperation with current NIE's due to lack of similarities with the Cook Islands. But could the readiness program support capability building initiatives? (LT)
- Samoa NIE experience shared from AT – due to changes in leadership there was confusion

- regarding the urgency/priority of the NIE application and it didn't get any traction
- GIZ funding will include 2 concept notes – one taken straight from NIIP to support Northern community watertanks and another to support the Renewable plan – good examples of utilising national systems and accessing funds quickly. Management support from SRIC program.
  - Further regional funding available to revise and monitor JNAP (Joint National Action Plan)
  - A Stocktake is soon to be completed under the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Communication funds which will have a workplan come out of it

## 5. Follow up action items

- SPREP case study circulated (AT) – attached to minutes e-mail
- Reminder to Frankfurt to send through EIA/Social safeguard information urgently (VJ)
- GCF queries to AT

## 6. Next Meeting

Monday 28 July, 2pm at DCD offices.

Agenda (tbc):

- Adaptation Fund ACC support update
- Green Climate Fund discussion including readiness support program
- Activity Management Cycle – draft for circulation

## 6. Issues Register

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>Status</i>
Audit of all Govt Ministries	Audit is being fasttracked for MFEM, but we do not yet have clarity on need for audited accounts across government for NIE <i>and</i> PEFA	Frankfurt to give advise on NIE requirements Edward to update on overall plan	Report circulated C/Acts – Provide status check (LT)
Dates of Board meetings unknown	The board meeting timeline is not published for 2014 so there is no way to confirm the board meeting to ensure we meet the 3 month deadline	Frankfurt to follow up with accreditation panel	
Caretaker Government	Budget delays and PEFA delays	Delay submission to Q3	Decision taken to delay submission until end November. Revisit once elections have occurred
Dual process for AFB and GCF	Resource to manage application process for both funds	Seek further funding for Frankfurt support	

