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USAID CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECT PREPARATION
FACILITY FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC)

QUARTERLY REPORT

Tenth Quarter: January 1 to March 31, 2014

Submitted By

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CONTENTS

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY	1
1.1 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.2 SUMMARY OF RESULTS THROUGH MARCH 31, 2014	3
2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS.....	4
2.1 PROGRESS NARRATIVE.....	4
2.3 INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES	12
2.4 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES.....	13
3. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER.....	13
4. EXPENDITURES BY CONTRACT BUDGET CATEGORY.....	15

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

PROGRAM NAME:	USAID Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility for Asia and the Pacific (USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific)
ACTIVITY START DATE AND END DATE:	September 27, 2011 - September 26, 2016
NAME OF PRIME IMPLEMENTING PARTNER:	AECOM International Development
[CONTRACT/AGREEMENT] NUMBER:	486-C-11-00005
NAME OF SUBCONTRACTORS:	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Kaizen Company, Development & Training Services, INC.
MAJOR COUNTERPART ORGANIZATIONS	Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), Thailand
GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE (CITIES AND OR COUNTRIES)	Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Vietnam, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
REPORTING PERIOD:	January 1-March 31, 2014

1.1 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/INTRODUCTION

Under a technical support services contract from USAID's Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA), AECOM is currently implementing the *USAID Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility for Asia and the Pacific (USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific)*. The project supports the USAID/RDMA Regional Environment Office's (REO) Development Objective of *"Improved response to environmental challenges in Asia,"* The project initially covered 13 countries in Asia and was later expanded to cover 14 Pacific Small Island Developing Countries. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific addresses capacity and information needs of target countries in accessing climate change adaptation funds and accelerating investments in initiatives that increase resilience to the negative impacts of climate change.

Principal Objectives and Activities. The principal objective of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific is to establish a fully functional and self-sustaining adaptation project preparation facility that will support preparation of specific projects, and build the capacity of the region's governments to independently access climate adaptation funds. To establish a sustainable project preparation facility, the project will work closely with funding organizations and government agencies from countries across the region in focused activities in five key areas:

1. Sustainable regional knowledge sharing platform including a website;
2. Annual forum to bring adaptation funds and project proponents together;
3. Climate change adaptation project capacity building program;
4. Technical assistance in preparing funding proposals; and

5. Overarching program management and coordination for the afore-mentioned four technical tasks.

As cross-cutting themes, USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific will promote regional networking, gender mainstreaming and other social equity issues.

1.2 SUMMARY OF RESULTS THROUGH MARCH 31, 2014

STANDARD INDICATORS	FY 2014 ANNUAL TARGET	FREQUENCY OF REPORTING	Q1 FY14	Q2 FY14	Q3 FY14	Q4 FY14	ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED TO THE END OF REPORTING PERIOD (%)	ON TARGET Y/N
1.1 Person hours of training completed in climate change supported by USG assistance/Number of people receiving training in Global Climate Change as a result of USG assistance	5,000	Quarterly	1,988	0			40%	Y
1.2 Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change issues as a result of USG assistance*	8	Quarterly	0	0			0%	Y
2.1 Number of climate change adaptation projects with facilitated access to finance	6	Quarterly	0	2			33%	Y
2.2 Number of facilitated projects with a specific gender component	2	Quarterly	0	0			0	Y
2.3 Number of people benefiting from climate change adaptation project approved or in the pipeline as a result of USG assistance	100,000	Quarterly	0	57,000			57%	Y
2.4 Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars, from private and public sources, for climate change as a result of USG assistance	\$50 Million	Quarterly	0	\$65 Mil			130%	Y
2.5 Number of climate mitigation and/or adaptation tools, technologies, and methodologies, developed, tested, and/or adopted as a result of USG assistance	2	Quarterly	0	0			0	Y
2.6 Amount of funds in U.S. dollars from non-USAID sources mobilized and applied to support project preparation facility objectives	\$250,000	Quarterly	\$59,937	0			24%	Y
3.1 Number of regional environmental platforms created or strengthened	1	Quarterly	1	1			0	Y

*This was formerly reported under D.O.1 Number of stakeholders with adaptive capacity to cope with impacts of climate variability and change as a result of USG assistance

Note: The Results Performance Column depicts level of achievement expressed as a percentage of Actual versus Planned.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 PROGRESS NARRATIVE

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific continued with development and implementation of various program initiatives at both regional and national level during the second quarter (Q2) of fiscal year 2014 (FY14) project implementation. Key activity highlights and results are provided below by project task. Overall, the project progresses according to work plan.

TASK ONE: KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

Summary of Key Accomplishments

Under Task One, activities were implemented in three main areas: (1) implementing overarching knowledge management strategies; (2) strengthening a regional knowledge-sharing platform; and (3) managing knowledge through an online Community of Practice (CoP). All components achieved the scheduled tasks in the second quarter.

Knowledge Management Strategies Development and Key Action Implementation

Task One activities for strengthening APAN as a regional knowledge sharing platform are implemented with guidance from the APAN Sustainability Strategy paper. The last revised version was submitted in February 2014 by IGES to the UNEP Regional Office for Asia-Pacific (ROAP) that serves as the secretariat for the APAN Steering Committee. The contents are being discussed by APAN Steering Committee members for their further consideration and elaboration.

In Q2 FY14, three major actions were carried out to improve sustainability – upgrading APAN web portal's functions, piloting and operationalizing USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's Community of Practice (CoP), and sharing a newly designed APAN promotional presentation file with APAN's eight sub-regional and thematic nodal organizations for strengthening APAN's branding and sending consistent messages.

Other key actions carried out in previous quarters continue to be implemented, including increasing communication with existing network operators for harmonization and capacity development in web-based knowledge management including:

- The APAN knowledge management team engaged in discussions with the Pacific Climate Change Portal to share experiences and explore possible collaboration of linking and sharing content across portals.
- The APAN team also participated in an interview survey with the Institute of Development Studies on using the Eldis web plugin to display their content on the APAN web portal. The Eldis program is a leading online international development information service provider – APAN is currently seeking to formalize collaboration to share relevant climate change adaptation content, including on climate financing, between the APAN web portal and the Eldis website.

Integrated Knowledge Management Platform for APAN-ADAPT Asia-Pacific

This task focuses on upgrading the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific website to promote the project's activities. This will include posting USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific knowledge products, sharing related climate finance information from the APAN web portal to the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's website, and improving the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's website overall interface to enhance user experience. The activities contribute to increasing sustainability of knowledge management for climate change adaptation in the region.

Based on the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Website Upgrade Plan that was prepared in Q1 FY14, the project website was upgraded in the following manner:

- Increased website usability and navigation
- Website appearance more up-to-date
- ADAPT Asia-Pacific program activities and their outputs highlighted.

Separately, a preliminary APAN Web Portal Upgrade Plan has been developed to improve and revamp the current portal that was launched a year ago in Q2 FY13. This will include improving the interface and listing of APAN news and events, developing website templates for APAN's flagship forum microsites, and strengthening the Adaptation Technologies and other databases to accommodate new data sets. The Community page will also be improved to reflect the current directions for Community of Practice activities that focus on time-bound events, such as live chat sessions and email-based discussions. The following table highlights quarterly visits to the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific website and APAN web portal. Fluctuations in page views, visits, and unique visitors are consistent with the dates of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Annual Forums and APAN forums where traffic is usually higher during and following the months the forums were held. Website traffic is seasonal and despite a downward trend in this quarter, increased website traffic is expected to be reported in Q3 FY14.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific (www.adaptasiapacific.org)			
Period	Visits	Unique Visitors	Page views
Q4FY12	2,725	1,804	6,989
Q1FY13	1,505	961	3,737
Q2FY13	1,892	1,296	4,941
Q3FY13	4,018	2,613	10,510
Q4FY13 (FY14 baseline)	3,272	2,226	8,262
Q1FY14	1,864	1,377	4,558
Q2FY14	2,177	1,643	5,161

APAN (www.asiapacificadapt.net)			
Period	Visits	Unique Visitors	Page views
Q2FY13	7,185	4,585	26,542
Q3FY13	9,224	6,772	24,670
Q4FY13 (FY14 baseline)	9,838	7,156	25,325
Q1FY14	7,798	5,854	21,177
Q2FY14	7,138	5,718	17,243

Knowledge Products on the ADAPT Asia-Pacific Website

The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Gender Sourcebook is currently being finalized under the project's Task Three. Task One is supporting development of an online version of the Sourcebook to present it in a user-friendly web format. Initial brainstorming sessions have been conducted in Q2 FY14 with the Task Three Team Leader, sourcebook author and web developers to develop work plans and initial templates. Quotations are currently being sought from different web developers. Development of the online format for the Sourcebook will commence when the vendor is selected and the Sourcebook is finalized.

The Adaptation Funds Compendium (<http://adaptasiapacific.org/funds-compendium>) was updated in Q2 FY14 with the latest available figures for all the funds listed, including the Adaptation Fund and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF).

Community of Practice for USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific

This task focuses on piloting and strengthening the communities of practice of USAID Asia-Pacific and APAN stakeholders. The 3rd Exchange Series (e-discussion) was conducted from March 10 to April 2, 2014 on the conceptual difference between 'adaptation' and 'resilience.'

To fully operationalize the CoP, the pilot "Exchange Series on Climate Financing", which was conducted in the last two quarters, was revamped to the "Exchange Series on Climate Change Adaptation" to reach out to APAN community members beyond USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific stakeholders, ensuring greater sustainability. The revamped e-discussion was launched and moderated in collaboration with Task Four Team Leader in March 2014. Under the topic, "Is 'resilience' an operational alternative to 'adaptation'?" the email drew contributions from 15 participants from around the Asia-Pacific region, including government officials from Nepal, Vietnam and Palau, and staff members from the World Resources Institute and the Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC). A compilation of replies will be distributed to members and uploaded on the APAN and USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific websites.

TASK TWO: USAID ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC ANNUAL FORUM

Summary of Key Accomplishments

A draft concept note was developed and agreed upon with UNDP, which will be the main partner of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific Third Annual Forum under the mutually agreed theme: "Strengthening Country Systems to Access and Manage Climate Change Adaptation Finance in Asia and the Pacific." The Forum will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on July 17-18, 2014. A draft participants' list and a detailed timeline for logistical preparations are also being developed. Task 2 and other team members are currently meeting to develop the overall forum format and agenda and identify session topics, speakers, and resource persons. The draft forum format and agenda will be shared with UNDP in the coming weeks for their inputs and comments.

TASK THREE: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

Summary of Key Accomplishments

Progress on ongoing capacity building initiatives largely proceeded as scheduled during the reporting period. The M&E exercise to assess the longer-term impact of training courses on USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific-supported participants and their institutions was initiated.

Efforts to finalize partnership arrangements between the Royal Thai Government (RTG) and the US Forest Service (USFS) accelerated with a visit to Thailand from USFS staff.

Development of five courses under the Pacific Cost-Benefit Analysis initiative, to be delivered by the University of the South Pacific, neared completion. The East-West Center provided a draft two-week course on urban climate change adaptation. The draft final version of the Sourcebook on Gender Considerations in Climate Change Adaptation Projects was produced. National surveys and in-country training were done under the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation program, though a planned regional training event was postponed in part because of unsettled conditions in Bangkok.

Program for Capacity Building Support through Training Courses

As part of the M&E program for capacity building, a training impact assessment was initiated to track the perceived effectiveness of training received by 56 government officials six months after the conclusion of their respective programs. A one-page questionnaire was emailed to the participants, asking what impact the training has had on them as individuals and on the institutions they work for, as well as suggestions for strengthening USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's training support. Assessments were made for an additional 100 annual forum participants.

Assistance to ONEP

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided ongoing support to ONEP for inputs from three junior consultants. Among various activities during the reporting period, the consultants assisted ONEP staff in project implementation monitoring and report assessments for ONEP's "Community-based Adaptation Project" and "Ecosystem-based Impact Assessment Project". They assisted in workshop preparation, coordination, and other activities associated with ONEP's "Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Climate Change Adaptation". They also facilitated official RTG participation in the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) meeting held in Bonn in March by coordinating with the Budget Bureau to adjust the budget for participation of ONEP staff.

Twinning Arrangements between the Royal Thai Government and the US Government

Preparations continued for concluding a partnership agreement between the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and the US Forest Service (USFS). A USFS representative visited Thailand during the reporting period and held discussions with NRCT, RDMA and USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific. A visit was made to the proposed site for activities under the partnership agreement, followed by a seminar to reflect on matter related to the partnership, including available baseline data, required technical expertise, and existing experience from both sides. The seminar was attended by about 25 people, including the Thai technical working group. Agreement was reached for a Thai team to visit USFS sites in the USA in April. Arrangements were also made to meet with representatives of California's action team on climate change and with staff from the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) while in the USA.

Economics of Climate Change Adaptation Program

A program for the 2014 calendar year was developed and agreed between UNDP and USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific. Discussions were held with the United Nations University (Tokyo), who have confirmed strong interest in working with USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific to develop and deliver a long-term university-level training program based on ECCA program outputs. A budget for the activity has also been developed, which is currently being further discussed.

Coordination continued with the Global Water Partnership – the newest partner in the ECCA program, which will be providing support to the ECCA capacity building program in the water sector, including through co-financing. All other major activities during the reporting period were country-based. Some country teams were undertaking field surveys for the agriculture sector, while others were in the survey preparation stage. In-country economic analysis

training was conducted. New mentors to assist country teams were identified and contracted, where needed.

Pacific-Cost Benefit Analysis (P-CBA) Initiative

A regional P-CBA Planning Meeting was held during January 29-31, 2014 in Suva, Fiji. This initiative is influenced by the joint USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and UNDP initiated Economics of Climate Change Adaptation program ongoing in Asia and is ultimately aimed at assisting governments to better prioritize, design and implement development policies and projects that incorporate climate and disaster risks.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific joined the University of the South Pacific, GIZ, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, and UNDP in sponsoring the meeting, attended by 7 Pacific island countries.

The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific technical team also prepared, in consultation with a technical working group (comprised of the aforementioned institutions), an Options Report as a foundation for discussions. The workshop met its objectives by producing broad agreement among the countries on course content, delivery mechanisms, and a long-term sustainability strategy as well as defining preliminary country work plans. As of the end of the Q2, drafts of all five courses, prepared through USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific support, were either completed or near completion.

Urban Climate Change Adaptation Course Development

The East-West Center (EWC) provided USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific with a draft course on urban climate change adaptation. The course materials, in the form of a series of PowerPoint presentations, are very comprehensive and extensive. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has begun its review of the materials, and initial indications are that some significant revisions will be required from EWC, including a more interactive learning approach.

Sourcebook on Gender Considerations in Climate Change Adaptation Projects

During this Quarter USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific staff incorporated comments received from the international technical advisory group on the initial draft. A draft final document was produced, which included extensive format/presentational revisions and a few key technical revisions/new sections. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific is currently revising the bibliography and related citations in the main text as the penultimate step before finalizing the printed version. UNDP and the US State Department have expressed particular interest in the document as a potentially important contribution to both US and international work in climate change.

Technical Assistance to Indonesia Climate Change Trust Fund

The current phase of technical assistance to ICCTF came to an end during the quarter, with the submission of the monitoring and evaluation framework, five project concepts developed, and a set of guidelines for the small grants window. Future work with ICCTF will depend on its ability to raise additional funds, including the assistance provided by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific to line up potential funding from the USAID mission in Jakarta.

Capacity Building Activities in the Philippines

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific continues to support the Philippines Department of Finance (DoF) to respond to comments received from the Adaptation Fund Panel (AFP) regarding its application for AF accreditation as a National Implementing Entity (NIE). DoF received word in early March from the AFP that it had completed its review of the latest round of responses to queries received from DoF. DoF anticipates receiving a positive response from the Adaptation Fund Board, whose next meeting is scheduled for March 20-21. Longer-term, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific plans to support DoF and its Executing Entities (EEs) with preparation of climate adaptation projects for AF financing once NIE accreditation is achieved.

Capacity Building Activities in Samoa (MNRE)

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific successfully supported the Government of Samoa's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) and the World Bank (WB) with preparation of the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) project, where the project applied climate change vulnerability and adaptation (V&A) assessment tools for the detailed design of project activities.

As a follow-on activity, (MNRE formally requested USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific support for the technical capacity building of MNRE planning staff. The capacity building is intended to facilitate the development of climate change adaptation sub-projects – to be implemented as part of the UNDP Adaptation Fund (AF) project – by applying the appropriate climate change V&A tools to identify, evaluate and select potential sub-projects. The V&A assessments include the review of 25 District Coastal Infrastructure Management (CIM) Plans, with a total of 146 villages spread between Samoa's two principal islands, Upolu and Savaii. The training program provided by an USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific consultant will last four weeks from March 4, until April 3, 2014. There are a total of six participants in the program.

International Workshop on Climate-induced Relocation of People

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's Capacity Building Team Leader was invited to contribute to an international expert workshop on "Planned Relocations, Natural Disasters and Climate Change: Consolidating Good Practices and Preparing for the Future" by the Brookings Institute, which was a co-organizer along with UNHCR and Georgetown University. The workshop on March 12-14, 2014 brought together a multi-disciplinary group of people from around the world to consolidate good practices and identify needs, gaps and potential strategies to prepare for climate-induced displacement of people. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's presentation and interventions during workshop discussions emphasized, among other issues, the need and potential ways to quickly identify financing sources and strategies related to climate-induced displacement of people. Georgetown University is currently drafting a report which will be sent to USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific for review before finalization.

Developing a Demonstration Site in Nepal on Community Forestry, Gender and Climate Change Adaptation

Discussions were initiated with RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests, an international organization based in Bangkok, on developing a demonstration site in Nepal to show how to bring benefits from community forestry-climate change adaptation (CF-CCA) activities to rural women. The primary objective of this partnership between USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and RECOFTC is to develop a long-term demonstration site that will identify through participatory approaches how to design (and undertake) CF-CCA activities in a women-only community forestry user group (CFUG) and, through visits by representatives from national/sub-national Nepal government officials, civil society organizations, CFUGs from other regions of Nepal, and interested parties from the Asia region, promote learning and replication. Among the activities will be preparation of community-based CF-CCA project finance proposals that will be submitted to government and donors.

TASK FOUR: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PROJECT PREPARATION

Summary of Key Accomplishments

Project preparation activities have led to a significant number (10-11) of pipeline projects now either in an advanced state of preparedness (Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Indonesia), endorsed by funding agencies for further design work (India-NABARD), or under preparation (India-ICLEI). Work with the Indonesia Climate Change Trust Fund (ICCTF) on guidelines for its small grants window and the monitoring and evaluation framework for its adaptation and resilience funding window, the guidelines for community ponds adaptation in Cambodia, the financial system assessment for the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), and the application for National Implementing Entity status for the Department

of Finance, Philippines, are all part of this ongoing effort to better understand and strengthen country systems to access and manage climate adaptation financing.

Project Preparation Support to Samoa

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific is supporting the Government of Samoa in the preparation of the UNDP-GEF Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) project “Economy-wide integration of Climate Change (CC) Adaptation and DRM/DRR to reduce climate vulnerability of communities in Samoa”. The project’s two experts (i.e. climate resilient infrastructure specialist and an international gender specialist) are nearing completion of their inputs to preparation of the GEF/LDCF project document. The Government of Samoa recently requested the integration to the project document of watershed management plans for four catchments and the need to design flood protection measures of a river draining the largest catchment connecting the capital city. This specific request is currently being completed by the project’s infrastructure specialist. A project validation meeting was held by UNDP with the Government of Samoa on March 25, 2014 where support for the program components was agreed along with confirmation of an end-April submission date of the GEF/LDCF project document. The two project specialists have now completed and submitted their final contributions to the project document for UNDP review.

Project Preparation Support to Timor Leste

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific continued supporting the Government of Timor Leste and UNDP with preparation of an ecosystems-based climate change adaptation project. All consultations, field work, literature review and preparation of final reports that contribute to the project document have now been completed and submitted by the two USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific experts for UNDP review. The final project consultation with Government of Timor-Leste and UNDP was scheduled for late March 2014. The final project document is planned for submission by mid- to end-April 2014.

Project Preparation Support to Cambodia

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific support to the Royal Government of Cambodia, Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), and Asian Development Bank under the Second Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project 2 (RWSSP2) on addressing the negative impacts of climate change on rural community ponds is nearing completion. In addition to the findings and results of the project-supported study, including the conceptual design and costing of climate adaptation options, the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team also produced a report to address gender specific activities related to pond design and management along with the development for government planners and community stakeholders of design guidelines to affectively “climate proof” community water supply ponds in rural Cambodia. The final report is being completed for submission and review by MRD and ADB.

Project Preparation Support to Vanuatu

The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team support to the Government of Vanuatu and UNDP is nearing completion on preparation of a UNDP/GEF project, “Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu”. Project design focused on the coastal zones at 7 selected project sites and provided technical and socio-gender advice to the development of the project document. The final report by the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team is being completed for review by UNDP. The final project consultation with the Government of Vanuatu and UNDP was scheduled for the end of March 2014. The final project document is planned for submission to GEF at the end of April 2014.

EbA Work with UNEP and UN-HABITAT

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific provided initial support to UNEP on its flagship program on urban ecosystem-based adaptation. A program document for six project sites in five countries prepared by UNEP consultants was completed and accepted. One of those project sites was Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal, where a USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific consultant

supported development of an ecosystem-based approach to adaptation along the city's Bagmati River, for which he compared the economic costs/benefits with traditional hard infrastructure approaches like flood walls. UNEP and UN-HABITAT are now considering submission of a Project Identification Form (PIF) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for preparation of a full-sized project. A specific request from the Government of Nepal to proceed with this work is, however, delaying implementation. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has offered technical assistance to UNEP to assist in drafting the PIF, once this request is received from the Government and GEF gives its pipeline approval.

Supporting National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), India

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific contracted climate change and project development and evaluation specialists for this activity during the reporting period. NABARD immediately requested USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's support to remotely respond to queries received from the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) on three adaptation project concept notes and two project proposals submitted previously to AF for financing under NABARD's US\$10 million cap. The five adaptation initiatives total US\$6.5 million. With USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific input, NABARD submitted its response to the AFB in early February, which it expects will be reviewed at the next AFB meeting on March 20-21. Both USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific specialists plan to travel to NABARD in Mumbai in April to commence their assignments on ground.

Climate Change Adaptation Work in Partnership with ICLEI - South Asia, India

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific, along with a four-person ICLEI team, visited Bhubaneswar and Shimla, India, between March 9 and 13, 2014 to introduce to senior municipal and state officials the combined Adapt/ICLEI/CDIA initiative to take Rockefeller Foundation-financed, ICLEI-prepared urban resilience strategies for the two cities to bankable projects with financing. As part of the city visits, the Adapt/ICLEI team commenced the first phase of the CDIA project preparation methodology, which entails the prioritization of infrastructure investment projects employing the City Infrastructure Investment Programming and Prioritization tool. The meetings in both cities were generally positive, with city and state officials expressing interest in supporting the present activity. Because of the recently imposed Code of Conduct in Government offices in Bhubaneswar due to the upcoming national elections, formal meetings with municipal officials involving data collection and project prioritization cannot move forward until mid-May. The Code of Conduct issue was not raised in Shimla, so data collection and project prioritization will proceed immediately.

RMI Climate Change Finance

Following on the successful joint Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)/USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific May/June 2013 "Pacific Climate Change Resource Event Week" in Nadi, Fiji, PIFS and USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific are partnering on an assessment of the practical application of options for improved access to, and management of, climate change resources for the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), and build institutional capacity in the Ministry of Finance and other government agencies to implement improvements in climate change financing. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific is supporting the partnership by providing a climate change finance specialist, whose principal tasks will be to carry out an assessment of climate funding sources available to RMI, an analysis of RMI's public financial management and expenditure system, and an assessment of options to improve access to and management of climate finance for RMI. Further, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's climate finance specialist will provide the technical lead for the overall assessment. The PIFS/USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team made an initial visit to RMI between February 19-28 for consultations with government officials, development partners, and non-governmental/civil society, and for collection of relevant data and documentation. The PIFS/USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team will visit RMI again between April 2-9 to conduct a half-day workshop to present detailed preliminary findings and to hold follow-up consultations

and fill data gaps. Draft and final reports are scheduled for completion during May in time for this year's Pacific Leaders' Meeting in early July.

TASK FIVE: OVERARCHING PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

Project Management and Monitoring

During this quarter, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific revised its FY 2014 PMP document based on the comments/edits received from the REO Strategic Information Specialist during the Data Quality Assessment conducted by USAID during the reporting quarter. The revised PMP was submitted to COR for approval.

The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific team continued to collect and review data from project activities to track the progress in achieving project performance indicators. Data collected is stored in the One Source online PMP tracking system for further updating and reporting.

Communication and Outreach

The 6th issue of the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific e-newsletter was published in January 2014 and distributed to 3,006 recipients. It included articles on: (i) outcomes of the 2nd Exchange (e-discussion) Series on Climate Financing focusing on COP19, GCF and Business Involvement; (ii) progress of the ADAPT Asia-Pacific, ADB and Cambodia's Ministry of Rural Development community pond project; and (iii) regional perspectives from a USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific ECCA program participant – Dr. Anupit Supnithadnaporn, Plan and Policy Analyst, Thailand's Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB).

2.3 INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

Government Capacity Building: To help ensure that USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's capacity building activities have impact well beyond the life of the project, all capacity building activities are: (i) done in partnership with existing national and regional institutions; and (ii) demand driven. An example of the latter is the competitive program of support to government officials to attend existing climate change adaptation- related courses. Responding to USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's six-month impact assessment questionnaire Climate Change Coordinator and Policy Specialist at Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, stated that the training program she attended with USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific support has had highly positive impacts on both her professional growth and on her institution more broadly. She used the skills obtained during the training to successfully prepare a project proposal related to implementation of Vietnam's climate change strategy; her project has been approved by the Government and UNDP, and will start implementation before mid-year. More broadly, since the training, she has developed a working network and formulated a number of other climate change project proposals that have affected "quite significantly...the quality and reputation of my office."

As for an example of how USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific seeks to develop partnerships in achieving capacity development results, the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) has been assisted by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific to approach the US Forest Service (USFS) and the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in preparing twinning arrangements. The NRCT-USFS arrangement, which is being joined by a large number of RTG line agencies, hopes to develop an example of how Thailand and its regional neighbors can effectively incorporate consideration of climate change impacts into their landscape management planning nationwide and use this example to develop a long-term, regional demonstration and learning program at the Sirindhorn International Environmental Park in central Thailand. The ongoing NRCT-NCAR discussions aim to develop a regional partnership in which NRCT will act as a national focal point for cooperative climate change research between Thailand and NCAR, a premier research station located in Colorado.

Systemic support to the new Indonesia Climate Change Trust Fund will help ensure that Indonesians can make efficient and effective use of their limited climate change finance over the long term. In the Philippines, it is anticipated that USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific's support to the Department of Finance to undertake a readiness assessment and apply for National Implementing Entity status with the Adaptation Fund will promote the Department's capacity to serve as a permanent and effective conduit for international climate finance to develop climate adaptation projects.

Gender: USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has paid particular attention to how it can further include gender considerations in climate change adaptation. In particular, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific considers how it can advance benefits to women when it provides support to adaptation projects. Preparation of *An On-line Sourcebook: Integrating Gender into Climate Change Adaptation Proposals* is in its final stages. USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests are near final agreement on partnering in a national demonstration project in Nepal concerning bringing direct benefits to women-dominated community forestry user groups through community forestry-climate change adaptation initiatives.

2.4 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

During this quarter, USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific finalized recruitment of the new Capacity Building Team Leader to substitute for the current Team Leader who has moved to a Senior Advisor position. The new Capacity Building Team Leader, who brings several years of experiences from the World Bank in climate change, capacity building and M&E, started his assignment during the latter part of the quarter.

3. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER

In the third quarter of performance in FY14, USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific will focus on activity implementation under all tasks per the third year work plan. Key performance objectives for the quarter are as follows:

Task One

- Continue upgrading APAN and USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific websites to improve knowledge products sharing.
- Continue conducting E-CoP activities and publishing E-newsletters and knowledge products, including gender resource book, to engage with the stakeholders and contribute to the capacity development.
- Implement actions to strengthen sustainability of APAN as a regional knowledge sharing network.

Task Two

- Focus on the preparation for the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific 3rd Annual Forum to be held in Bangkok on 17-18 of July in partnership with UNDP. Based on the developed concept note, the detailed agenda, participant lists, and other Forum documents will be prepared.

Task Three

- Consultant support to ONEP will continue along the lines described above. Additionally, discussions will continue with ONEP on the possibility of USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific

support to undertake a readiness study related to future application by a RTG agency for “implementing entity” status under the Green Climate Fund.

- A visit to USFS sites will be made in April by a team of senior RTG officials, accompanied by USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific. It is anticipated that the visit will result in a partnership agreement between RTG and the USFS. During the same trip, a visit to NCAR in Colorado is expected to result in an additional partnership agreement between NRCT and NCAR.
- Under the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation Program in Asia, national surveys and related work will continue by the respective national teams; country-based CBA and survey analysis training will be undertaken by country team mentors; preparations will begin for a regional workshop on economic analysis for the water sector, and discussions will continue with the United Nations University in Tokyo for development of a long-term university-level curriculum derived from the ECCA program that will be offered to interested professionals and students. A toolkit on the economic analysis of climate change adaptation will be finalized and published together with UNDP.
- The design of five courses will be finalized under the Pacific Cost-Benefit Analysis initiative, and agreement will be reached on USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific’s continued support for rolling out the courses through the University of the South Pacific.
- USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific will provide EWC its review of the draft course materials on urban climate change adaptation, agreement will be reached on how EWC will revise the materials, a revised course will be completed, and agreement will be reached on the mode of course delivery keeping in mind the earlier discussions among RDMA, USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific and EWC.
- The sourcebook on gender considerations in CCA projects will be completed in its printed form, and work will continue on converting the printed version to a web-based tool. The latter is scheduled for completion at the end of June, preceded by an awareness and publicity program.

Task Four

- Continue to work with the DoF of the Philippines in responding to queries from the Adaptation Fund on its application for implementing entity accreditation.
- Finish on-the-job training course and complete preparation of guide for use by Samoa MNRE in the identification and preparation of sub-projects for coastal zone climate adaptation infrastructure.
- Obtain required RDMA approval, contract RECOFTC for the proposed CF-CCA for women partnership and commence activity, including site visits, participatory vulnerability assessments, final agreement on the specific nature of CF-CCA programs to be demonstrated, and a week-long capacity-building event. Finalize CCA project activities in Cambodia, Timor Leste and Samoa.
- Finalize support to RMI Climate Change Finance Assessment and complete required documentation.
- Support ICLEI in carrying out identification and prioritization of urban climate resilience projects in Indian cities of Bhubaneswar, Shimla and Mysore.
- Support to NABARD, India, in the development of a vulnerability assessment tool and the preparation of climate adaptation projects. .
- Finalize arrangements for supporting Timor Leste and the ADB with development and trialing of a climate adaptation screening tool to be used consistently across all ADB projects.
- Finalize arrangements for working in collaboration with CDIA in Valenzuela City, Metro Manila on preparing a flood risk management project.