**5th PCREEE STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) MEETING**

18th NOVEMBER 2020

MODE: VIRTUAL

**AGENDA ITEM 3 – PCREEE PROGRESS REPORT 2020**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this paper is to update the PSC on the implementation of the PCREEE Work Plan for 2020.

**Background**

1. The 4th PSC meeting endorsed a budget of 692,000 Euro for 2020. In June 2020, UNIDO and SPC signed a funding agreement for 600,000 Euro to deliver on the 2020 Work Plan. The key planned activities in the work plan included support to local businesses and entrepreneurs, the conduct of an Energy Dialogues in the North, the conduct of energy investment forums and support to the national energy industry associations. The work plan included the development of the e-mobility programme and the PCREEE Business Plan. These were largely to be delivered through face to face meetings and cross border travels.
2. By March, countries were closing their borders because of the COVID pandemic. The delivery of the 2020 Work Plan was very much affected. Activities were then delivered virtually and was largely dependent on the ability of each PIC to coordinate the logistics for in-country activities.
3. A PCREEE Progress Report for January-June 2020 was submitted and accepted by UNIDO and is attached as **Annex 1**.

**Current Status**

1. Given the border closure, the host country has completed more activities in the work plan as compared to others. For instance, a safety workshop was conducted for the electrical contractors in April, several joint public awareness events were completed, a TA to finalize the Tonga Energy Efficiency Master Plan was completed, the development of the national qualification on sustainable energy is progressing well and a year-long technical assistance to the Tonga Electricity Commission will be completed at the end of November without the consultant setting foot in Tonga.
2. A series of webinars on Accelerating investments in Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency &
Smart Mobility in the Pacific Islands was completed jointly with partners such as NZMFAT, EU, GET.Invest and ElectriFi.
3. Two roundtables on Energy Access & Private Financing in Fiji were completed jointly with PFAN, the Fiji RE Fund, DoE and others.
4. A regional consultation on the e-mobility programme and the PCREEE Business Plan was conducted on 4th June and further follow-up national consultations were completed in Niue, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
5. Worked with the International Solar Alliance on designing workshops on solar for the Pacific Islands.
6. Developed a low carbon transport proposal for Vanuatu and established its Sustainable Energy Association.
7. Prepared public awareness and promotional materials to support relevant activities of the PICs.
8. Signed Agreement with Superfly Ltd for the use of the Pacific Sustainable Energy Entrepreneurship Facility to support sustainable energy investments in Solomon Islands

**Issues**

1. A lot of the activities planned for 2020 will be carried over to 2021.
2. Given the uncertainty with the pandemic, it would be safe to prepare for the mixed delivery of the 2021 PCREEE work plan to be done virtually and to be done nationally.
3. Given the savings in the 2020 budget, PCREEE is fabricating a conference room to be equipped with state of the art teleconference facilities to facilitate the virtual delivery. Expected completion by 1st Qtr 2021.
4. For the delivery of the national activities in 2021, engaging local consultants and stronger local coordination by the recipient authorities would be needed.

**Recommendations**

1. The meeting is invited to:
2. Note the progress with the implementation of the 2020 work plan and budget.
3. Note the need to upgrade teleconference facilities for the virtual deliveries.
4. Note the need to engage local consultants and for effective local coordination in the delivery of national activities.

[12th November 2020]