UNDP

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Strogem Woaka lo Community fo Kaikai

The Enhancing Resilience of Communities in Solomon Islands to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change in Agriculture and Food Security or (locally known as) Strongem Waka lo Community fo Kakai (SWoCK) Programme is a five-year (2011-2015) programme aimed at strengthening the ability of communities in Solomon Islands to make informed decisions and manage likely climate change driven pressures on food production and management systems.

Targeting seven regions in five provinces – Malaita, Guadalcanal, Isabel, Choiseul, and Makira, including Honiara City - the Programme is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, together with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Giant swamp taro, locally known as kakake, a source of food security.

Programme Components

The SWoCK programme is divided into three main components:

Component 1   Implementation of community based adaptation initiatives
Component 2   Strengthening institutions to support climate resilient policy frameworks for the agriculture sector
Component 3   sharing and dissemination of climate change adaptation specific knowledge products.

The programme aims to achieve the following key results:

1. Pilot and promote community adaptation activities enhancing food security and livelihood resilience in at least three selected climatic and geographic cluster areas;
2. Strengthen institutions and adjust national and sub-national policies related to governing agriculture in the context of a range of climate change futures; and
3. Foster the generation and spread of relevant knowledge for assisting decision-making at the community and policy-formulation level.

Why climate change and food security?

Solomon Islands are highly vulnerable to the predicted negative impacts of climate change.

Past assessments have revealed that agricultural practices which rural populations rely on, including associated business activities, are being placed under increasing pressure from rising population and emerging climate change hazards and risks.

The implication of changes like long-spells of dry weather and rainfall patterns, coupled with changing frequency of weather incidents such as tropical cyclones are expected to have long-term effects on food production systems, thereby undermining development.

The Solomon Islands National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA) identified agriculture and food security as one of the most vulnerable sectors requiring urgent attention.

The first automatic weather station installed as part of the SWoCK project at Avuavu in Guadalcanal province.

An introduced taro farming system in Malaita province.

Key activities

- Development of vulnerability and adaptation assessment (V&A) approach and tools.
- V&A assessment in pilot communities.
- Assist communities and households to plan and implement adaptation activities aimed at improving and sustaining food and crop production that will be resilient to climate impacts.
- Demonstration of other proven farming techniques of soil erosion control, soil fertility enhancement.
- Support integrated agriculture and aquaculture production systems that are sensitized to emerging climate change risks
- Assist farmers to maintain and improve fruit and nut trees and market their fruit and nut products.

Implementing partners

- UNDP Solomon Islands Sub-Office
- Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Disaster Management
- Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
- School of Natural Resources
- Kastom Gaden Association
- Nut Grower Association of Solomon Islands

Soil testing is important to identify crops that can be grown in certain soil types.

Sea level rise mapping of coastal villages.

For more information, please contact:

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