

CDC Paper No.

Progress Report No. (1)
on:
Project: UNDP Urban Governance – Vaitele Sustainable
Management Plan

Submitted by
Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Meteorology
Planning and Urban Management Agency

for
Cabinet Development Committee

1. Project Title: UNDP Urban Governance – Vaitele Sustainable Management Plan

2. Purpose of Submission

This project progress report is of 11 August 2006.

Notes: - This is the first report requested to be submitted to the CDC.
 - This project is in early preparation phase.

3. Executing Agency

The UNDP Regional Pacific Governance Programme and the Ministry of Finance for the Government of Samoa.

4. Implementing Agency

Ministry of Natural Resource, Environment and Meteorology – Planning and Urban Management Agency.

5. Project Background

The project goal is *“To provide a model approach to urban governance that assists Pacific communities safeguard their social wellbeing, cultural identity, physical and environmental resources and stimulates opportunities for economic development.”*

The project objectives include:

- Develop an approach to urban and environmental planning that assists with the economic development, the protection of cultural systems and enhancement of local ecology.
- Develop an approach to urban and environmental planning which accords with the benefits of traditional village governance, but assists with particular challenges from massive population increase and vulnerabilities beyond usual resources of communities.
- Produce a model strategic land use / environmental planning policy (eg Sustainable Management Plan (SMP)) that targets urban development and environmental management outcomes and respects rights based principles of community empowerment, equity, participation and ownership.
- Provide a road-map for the development of institutional capacity to balance the protection of the environment with the pursuit of economic development to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of communities.

The specific objectives for the SMP are as follows:

- To assist in improving the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the Vaitele community.
- To work with all stakeholders to improve the economic, social and physical environment of Vaitele by facilitating and guiding development through a strategic framework for urban planning and management.

- Develop and commence implementation of a Sustainable Management Plan (SMP).
 - Through the SMP provide a consistent base for the efficient planning and management of infrastructure, utility and community services to effectively address urban growth challenges.
 - Through the SMP provide the base to ensure coordinated actions to maintain the quality of land, air, water in Vaitele and neighbouring catchments.

6. Funding Sources and Conditions

This project is externally funded by the UNDP Regional Pacific Governance Programme. The UNDP have committed USD\$400,000 for the implementation of the project. The indicative sum of USD\$1million will be used to approach other donors for the remaining balance. Potential partners who may have an interest include the UNCCD, EU and NZAid.

The Government of Samoa commits the following contribution – PUMA office space and use of facilities, assistance with the provision of reports and also data relevant to the project, counterpart assistance and access to the staff of PUMA to help aid in the completion of the project.

Project duration is from January 2007 to December 2010.

7. Current Implementation Status

Project services have yet to commence.

A study by way of project proposal (concept design) was submitted in February 2006 to the Planning and Urban Management Board. The Board accepted and approved the report at its meeting held on 16 March 2006. The project document is currently being prepared by UNDP and PUMA will clearly outline the ToR. The outputs under the project are programmed to be achieved within a 3-5 year timeframe.

The report provides the basis for implementation of the project proposal. UNDP and PUMA are currently working towards preparing the project document for expressions of interest for consultancy services. The comprehensive project is scheduled to commence in the 1st quarter of 2007 with the mobilizing of a consultant team working with PUMA and guided by a Special Planning Committee (Steering Committee).

Total project budget:	400,000 USD
Total estimated project budget:	1,000,000 USD

8. Project Implications for Samoa

The project will provide PUMA a tangible exercise that can be used to promote the objectives and wider understanding of the planning and urban management system including the legal and institutional framework.

The project outputs will provide the policy, procedural and legislative support. The activities scheduled will ensure institutional and management capacity building and drivers for the sustainability of the project. In addition, the procurement of appropriate resources and technology shall ensure that PUMA is equipped to carry forward the project goal and objectives. The project will also employ a total catchment management approach however specific focus will be on the Vaitele area. This initiative is strongly supported by the UNDP as it will draw out lessons for wider application in Samoa and the Pacific region.

9. Recommendations for Consideration

Recommendations for CDC's consideration

- That CDC support and endorse this Vaitele urban governance project.

10. Signature of Implementing Agency



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11. Date: 11 August 2006