COP 25 Side Event



4th December 2019

Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion IFEMA exhibition Centre, Madrid, Spain



Impact of Climate Change on Pacific Blue Economies

The blue economy has an increasingly important role to play in the climate change mitigation and adaptation. The mangroves, tidal marshes and sea grass beds are natural carbon sinks and the coral reefs, mangroves and coastal marshes provide significant protection from episodic events such as cyclones and hurricanes.

Small Island Developing States' (SIDS) high dependence on the wealth of resources within the coastal areas and oceans to support its national growth as well as the global economy puts the marine resources under a lot of pressure.

In consideration of current threats to the blue economy and in anticipation of the exacerbation of these threats in light of global climate change impacts, the Pacific has already begin to take steps towards safeguarding the blue economy as a means of climate adaptation. One of the key initiatives of PIDF is to work with its partners to coordinate Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) for its member countries. This initiative is very cross-sectoral in nature, and applies MSP approaches to map, zone and allocate permissible human uses that promote a balanced mix of conservation and utilisation.

The actions and decisions should be framed within the context of global climate change since the climate change has added to the pressures on the ocean. These approaches help to identify and minimise the cumulative impacts of multiple human uses within a given space.

It will also allow us to examine the trade-offs of conservation, development and informed management and the consequent impacts to key habitats and the delivery of ecosystem benefits. This strategy can support and bolster economic development but allows for the long term viability of ecosystem function and the delivery of ecosystem services.

This side event will bring together the members of the PIDF to generate interest and discuss a way forward for the development of MSP in the member countries.

Date: 4th December, 2019 Venue: Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion IFEMA exhibition Centre Time: 10am—11am

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