



Transforming  
Energy  
Access



Pacific  
Community  
Communauté  
du Pacifique

# Stakeholder Consultation

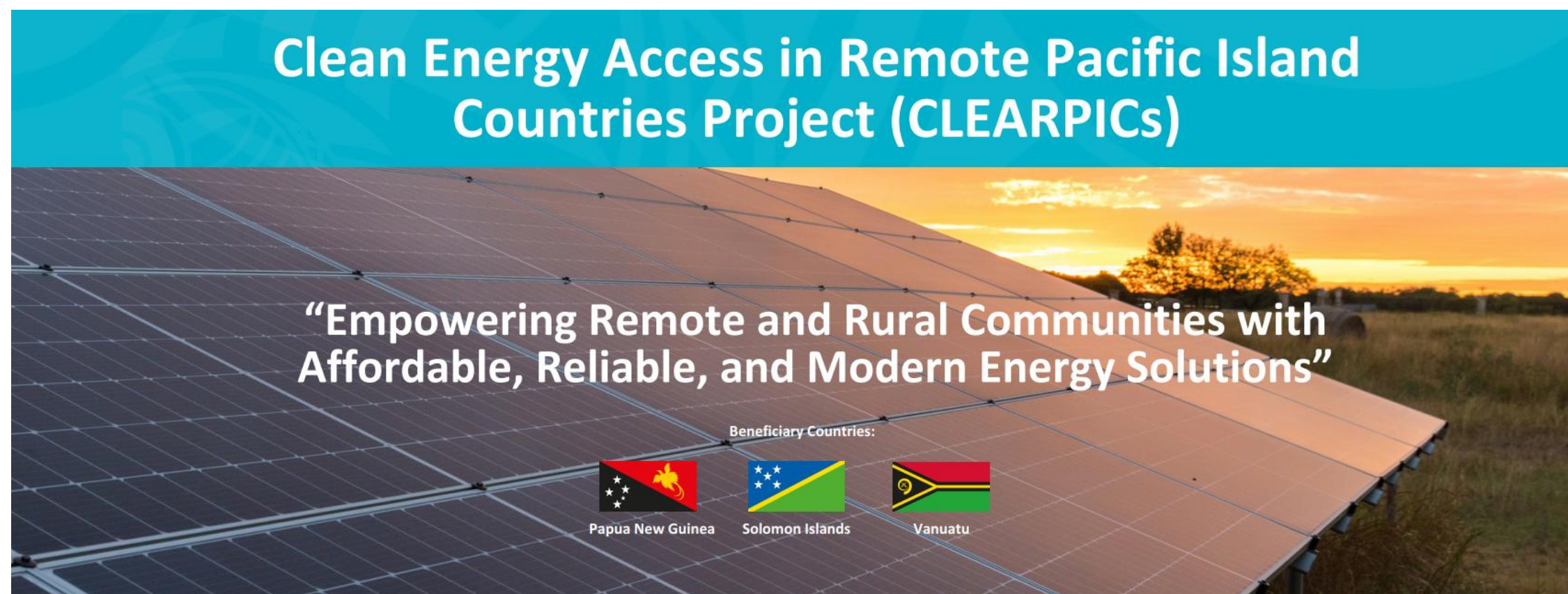
21<sup>st</sup> March 2025

**“Clean Energy Access for Remote  
Pacific Island Project”  
(CLEARPICS)**



# Brief on CLEARPICs Project:

- CLEARPICs is an UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) Funded Project;
- The funding was awarded to Carbon Trust(CT) under the Transforming Energy Access (TEA).
- The Offer of Grant was signed on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023;Funding is \$1M GBP
- The Project covers 3 Pacific Island Countries: Papua New Guinea (PNG), Solomon Islands & Vanuatu.
- Timeframe: Up to December 2026



# Electrification Rate in the Pacific:



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➤ **64% electricity access** Rate is increasing but more needs to be done

➤ **Lowest electricity access rates** in Solomon Island, Vanuatu and PNG

**Sustainable Development Goal 7: SDG7.1a – access to electricity (% of total population)**



## Objectives of CLEARPICS

- Access to electricity has been identified as one of the problems with some PICTs. Therefore, increase access to electricity is an enabler for development, through improving livelihoods, reducing health risks and increasing productivity.
- The purpose of CLEARPICS will assist Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to enhance the electrification in remote locations using off-grid or mini-grid solar technology.
- CLEARPICS will support the Priority C of the 2021-2030 Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (**FESRIP**) ‘ Sustainable Electric Power Development ‘ with priority initiative 12 : ‘Financial and management mechanisms for sustainability of outer island and remote rural electrification’.
- CLEARPICS also link and contribute to the 5th Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM) “EFATE” Outcomes Statement under the Energy Sector for Regional collaboration and partnership and the Innovative technologies to accelerate decarbonisation.
- CLEARPICS will contribute to SDG7 to support the increasing demand for access to energy with the inclusion of some of the most remote and rural communities across the Pacific and to shift away from fossil fuels in the Pacific to meet the countries Nationally Determined Contributions NDCs.

## Project Scope of works Summary:

- **The project is divided into 4 Work Packages:**

- 1. Regional Liaison** – To enhance coordination of partners to achieve sustainable energy access targets in the region and to support TEA and partners engagement in the Pacific region.
- 2. Market Intelligence for Disseminating Off-Grid Solar and Mini Grids to Remote Areas** – To produce necessary data to inform off-solar and mini grid market investment in the PICTs.
- 3. Pilot Projects** – Call for proposal to showcase pilot projects on productive use of energy, solar home system or mini grid.
- 4. Enabling Environment** – overall objective is to support PICTs with the development of policy and regulations to create an enabling environment for the integration of off grids technologies.

# Transformational Change:

- The transformation change that the project is expecting and hoping to achieve:
  - Improve livelihoods;
  - Reduce health risks;
  - Increase productivity;
  - Employment opportunities;
  - Capacity Building.

# Project Status :



- Obtained endorsements from the 3 PICs to be part of the CLEARPICS Project;
- Kick-Off Meeting Event to launch the CLEARPICS Project in Sept 2024;
- LOAs have been drafted and cleared and proceeding for signing;
- Initial scoping mission to the 3 Countries and commence data collection for the PDF to enable to prepare required reports.



# Objectives of the Mission

- To meet with the country focal points for the CLEARPICS Project and establish contacts and working collaboration on the project.
- To initially meet with relevant stakeholders who needs to be informed and will be involved with implementation of the project.
- To understand some local processes and guidelines that the project team needs to be aware of and adhere to, to ensure smooth implementation of the project when conducting consultations or workshops.
- To identify any policy gaps and regulations that the project can assist to ensure that there is no hindrance with the implementation of the project.
- And to establish contacts for country data collection to produce necessary data to inform off-solar and mini-grid market investments in PICs.
- To collect any available data and source documents that will be relevant for the project.



# What is PCREEE? – Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- Established in 2017 (office based in Tonga)
- Going years 9 years now
- UNIDO, Austria, Norway & NZ funding support

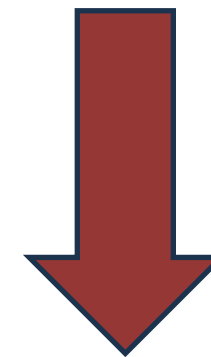






## Four (4) Strategic Areas

- **Programme 1. RE&EE Business Start-Up and Entrepreneurship Support**
- **Programme 2. RE&EE for Sustainable Mobility**
- **Programme 3. RE Mini-grids**
- **Programme 4. Energy Efficiency Investment**



### Support to PICs

1. Capacity Buildings Program
2. Energy Policy Development – (incl. guidelines /standards)
3. Small subsidy – starting a new businesses related to energy
4. Energy Forum, Awareness
5. Development/review of Concept Note and Project Proposal.

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# Highlight of Experiences

## Programme 1. RE&EE Business Start-Up and Entrepreneurship Support

### *a) Supported the Development AND Delivery of National Qualifications in Sustainable Energy*



- NSCE Level 1 & 2 successfully started on the 12 September 2022 with 20 students (71% female, 29% male) registered under Level 1 and 30 students for Level 2 (21% female, 79% male).

- Certificate Level 3 successfully registered in Tonga 2023.
- Next step is for TIST to seek accreditation from TNQAP to deliver these registered Level 3 courses
- Development of SE National Certificates Level 4 is underway.
- Hopes to extend the qualifications to Diploma level in the future.



*b. Support the Productive Use of Energy [20 – 30% subsidy]*

**At the Solomon Islands:**

- One rural community reached out to PCREEE for funding assistance to purchase solar freezer systems that could be used to store their catches /fish for sale at the markets in Honiara.
- PCREEE provided subsidy ~ 30% of the total cost.





## Highlight of Experiences (continue)

### Programme 3. RE Mini-Grids

- Supported with capacity programs and trainings on Productive Use of Energy & mini-grids maintenance and operation at rural communities /outer islands





# Collaboration with CLEARPICs Project



Work package	Leads	Update on the progress to date? From <b>PCREEE</b>
<p><b>1. Regional Liaison</b> – To enhance coordination of partners to achieve sustainable energy access targets in the region and to support TEA and partners engagement in the Pacific region</p>	SPC	
<p><b>2. Market Intelligence for Disseminating Off-Grid Solar and Mini Grids to Remote Areas</b> – To produce necessary data to inform off-solar and mini grid market investment in the PICTs. e.g: i) Market Potential mapping reports, ii) model for off-grid in the PICs, iii) Minigrid market trend report</p>	USP with SPC & <b>PCREEE</b>	Consultant will be recruited to conduct the market trend report (start date is yet to confirm)
<p><b>3. Pilot Projects</b> – Call for proposal to showcase pilot projects on productive use of energy, solar home system or mini grid.</p>	<b>PCREEE</b>	Not yet start.
<p><b>4. Enabling Environment</b> – overall objective is to support PICTs with the development of policy and regulations to create an enabling environment for the integration of off grids technologies.</p>	SPC	



# Data Requirements & Contacts

- *Geographic Distribution of Off-Grid Electricity Access*
- *Income Disparities: Remote Communities vs. Main town area*
- *Population Distribution: Remote Communities vs. Main Town*
- *Evolution of Off-Grid and Mini-Grid Solar PV systems in the Solomon Islands*
- *Geographical mapping of existing Off-Grid and Mini-Grid Solar PV Systems*
- *Regulatory Framework and Subsidies for Off-Grid and Mini-Grid Solar PV Systems*
- *What are the possible solutions for promoting off-grid and mini-grid solar PV systems?*
- *How can we identify cluster communities where mini-grid installations would be most feasible?*
- *Identified Policy Gaps and Challenges*

## Mission Outcomes:

- Strengthen working collaborations with the country focal points for the CLEARPICS Project.
- Relevant stakeholders are informed about the project.
- Have clear understanding of local processes and guidelines that the project team needs to be aware of and adhere to, to ensure smooth implementation.
- Identify policy gaps and regulations that the project can assist to ensure that there is no hindrance with the implementation of the project.
- Establish direct contacts for country data collection to produce necessary data to inform off-solar and mini-grid market investments in PICs.
- Collected any available data and source documents that will be relevant for the project.





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 **Thank you very much**