



Project Greenhouse Gas Tokelau: If we can, you can?



Venue: Pacific and Koronivia Pavilion, Katowice, Poland.

Date: Friday, 7 December 2018, 13:15-14:15

This side event offers the opportunity for Parties and other stakeholders to hear and learn from Tokelau-New Zealand's experience in working together to create a 'win-win' collaborative and innovative means of fulfilling obligations to Parties UNFCCC and Paris Agreement.

Project Greenhouse Gas Tokelau (*Project GHG-Tokelau*): The project is a joint initiative by New Zealand and Tokelau, a non-self-governing and most northern territorial boundary of New Zealand. Its purpose is to investigate how New Zealand could incorporate reporting for Tokelau GHG emissions and removal by sinks, into its GHG National Inventory report.

New Zealand ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 16 September 1993. It ratified the Paris Agreement on 4 October 2016. In either instrument of ratification, New Zealand did not include the territorial application of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement to Tokelau. Extensive consultations between the two governments led to extending the ratifications of the UNFCCC and of the Paris Agreement to Tokelau in 2016. The official announcement was made at COP22 in Morocco. The extension was formally granted on 14 November 2017 after the declaration by New Zealand to the United Nations. The extension of New Zealand's ratification of the UNFCCC and of the Paris Agreement to Tokelau requires New Zealand to include Tokelau in the obligatory climate change reporting managed by the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment (MfE). This effort requires developing and establishing relationships and systems and ongoing operational activity. Extending New Zealand ratification of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement to Tokelau means New Zealand needs to report on Tokelau's GHG emissions and removals as well, if indeed Tokelau's contribution exceeds the 0.05 percent threshold of significant contributions.

The ultimate objective of Project GHG-Tokelau is to develop a valid methodology for producing estimates of GHG emissions and removals from Tokelau into the New Zealand GHG inventory. Project GHG-Tokelau benefits include:

- The completion of the extension of New Zealand's ratification of the UNFCCC and of the Paris Agreement to Tokelau.
- Tokelau GHG emissions and removals are accurately and thoroughly represented in New Zealand's climate change reporting.
- Tokelau leadership within Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) in quantifying her GHG emissions and removals. This will also help Tokelau prepare a robust and science-based Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Tokelau's experience could be transplanted and adapted to other PICTs as they prepare their NDCs.
- New Zealand's greenhouse gas inventory will be in compliance with the UNFCCC rules in regard to geographical coverage.
- New Zealand and Tokelau maintain their credibility and reputation internationally as leaders on climate change issues, including through reporting to the UNFCCC.

Preliminary Agenda

Session Moderator: Ms Paula Faiva, Climate Change Manager, Ministry of Climate, Oceans and Resilience (MiCORE), Government of Tokelau.

13:15-13:25 Opening

- Hon. Kelihiano Kalolo, Minister for Climate, Oceans and Resilience (MiCORE).
- New Zealand Government Representative.

13:25-13: 13:40: Project GHG Tokelau

- Ms Paula Faiva, Climate Change Manager, MiCORE
- Mr Penehuro Lefale, Climate Adviser, MiCORE

13:40 – 14:00: Questions & Answers

14:00-1410: Closing – Ms Paula Faiva.