

CLIMATE CHANGE & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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MEDIA RELEASE

Open discussions vital on Climate Change issues and funding mechanisms available under the Green Climate Fund highlighted in MOMASE

Morobe Provincial Government's Deputy Administrator Mr. Masayan Moat called on participants of the second round of the regional consultation on Green Climate Fund (GCF) in Lae this morning at the Lae International Hotel to make discussions at this level of the workshop more interactive by asking questions to the organisers.

He said understanding issues more will create an informed audience adding that this is the challenge the provincial government has in getting the right information down to its 33 Local Level Governments (LLGs) and 575 wards within the province.

He said provincial government representatives in attendance had a challenge – like himself to represent their peoples' voices and contribute meaningfully to the discussions/objectives of this workshop. More than 50 participants are attending the workshop from the four provincial administrations of Morobe, Madang, East and West Sepik Province respectively, the private sector, NGOs, CBOs and individuals. Climate Change and Development Authority's (CCDA) Managing Director Mr. Ruel Yamuna in re-iterating on the Deputy PA's call on more interactive discussions - gave an example of what was raised at the Highlands Regional workshop "that local communities could see and feel what was happening but did not know what the issue was – not understanding what Climate Change is.

"There is a need for interaction, that's why we are here to listen to you, understand where your priorities are in your respective provinces, regions. We are supported by our Development and Delivery partners from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the USAID Climate Ready", Mr. Yamuna said.

He also highlighted on the disconnections that exists between the national and sub-national level on policy and implementation adding that this can only improve if there is continuous collaboration at all levels of government.

Mr. Yamuna said that his officers from the CCDA would present to them the funding mechanism that was established to help developing countries impacted by Climate Change by the international community – the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a financing mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and is specifically established to provide financial support to countries like PNG who are a most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. Adapting to and

mitigating the impacts of climate change remains a high priority and this guided and supported by PNG's overall country policies and strategies such as the Vision 2050, the National strategy for Responsible Sustainable Development for PNG (StaRs), Climate Change (Management) Act, and the National Climate Compatible Development Management Policy.

The GCF can also provide financial support to PNG by channelling funds to green projects and programmes identified in the PNG Country Programme, which is yet to be developed through the first GCF funded Climate Readiness Proposal. Such projects can be designed and submitted to the GCF through both domestic and International Accredited Entities – if such projects are in line with PNG's national policies and strategies.

The main communication linkage between GCF and the country is the National Designated Authority (NDA), which is the Climate Change Development Authority (CCDA). However, the stakeholders were presented with information on the roles, functions and procedures of the CCDA as the Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and how Provincial Climate Change Committees working in close coordination with CCDA can take steps that will enable them to participate in the GCF project development process.

Recognizing the serious impacts of climate change to agriculture, forestry, health and infrastructure in the region, provincial leaders strongly expressed their eagerness to act upon the opportunities to finance climate resilient projects through the GCF. Participants also looked to CCDA for support to create an enabling policy environment that allows for climate finance to reach stakeholders in the provinces.

The workshop started today in Lae, Morobe Province and continues until Thursday this week. The Thursday's session will be on the review of the Climate Change (Management) Act, 2015.end....

Approved for release by:

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