



Cook Islands: Supporting Safe Recovery of Travel and Tourism

Project Name	Supporting Safe Recovery of Travel and Tourism		
Project Number	55069-001		
Country	Cook Islands		
Project Status	Approved		
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Grant		
Source of Funding / Amount	<div>Grant 9225-COO: Supporting Safe Recovery of Travel and Tourism</div> <div>Japan Fund for Poverty ReductionUS\$ 2.00 million</div>		
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration		
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development		
Sector / Subsector	Public sector management - Economic affairs management		
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements		
Description	The goal of the proposal is to increase Cook Islands economic resilience through a safe recovery of travel and tourism in Cook Islands and the key objective is to strengthen the capacity and readiness of Cook Islands to safely open its borders to support a safe travel zone with New Zealand.		
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	In preparation for the safe opening of the Cook Islands borders, government requested ADB grant funding to support targeted activities for a safe travel zone between Cook Islands and New Zealand. The Cook Islands, a tourism dependent economy has been severely affected due to a halt in visitors' arrivals, as a result of closing of borders due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The closing of borders on March 21, 2020, resulted in contractions to GDP growth estimated at -5.9% for FY2020. Further delays in the travel bubble will result in a contraction 26% of GDP in FY2021, ending June 2021. The government and stakeholders have been able to progress certain preparatory work, but gaps remain on airport readiness, health facility readiness, testing capacity and contact tracing. Stakeholders agree that these are areas that would be useful for ADB through the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) to coordinate with government and support.		
Impact	Cook Islands as a dynamic, resilient, prosperous, environmentally sustainable and inclusive economy sustaining quality of life for its citizens.		
Project Outcome			
Description of Outcome		Cook Islands readiness for safe recovery of travel and tourism improved.	
Progress Toward Outcome			
Implementation Progress			
Description of Project Outputs		Airport and border readiness improved. Health readiness improved.	
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)			
Geographical Location		Nation-wide	
Safeguard Categories			
Environment		B	
Involuntary Resettlement		C	
Indigenous Peoples		C	
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects			
Environmental Aspects			
Involuntary Resettlement			
Indigenous Peoples			
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation			
During Project Design			
During Project Implementation			

Business Opportunities	
Procurement	Procurement of goods and works under the project will be undertaken in accordance with the ADB's Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time), Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time) and associated Staff Instructions. A strategic procurement planning exercise has been undertaken to choose the optimal procurement arrangements. The project will achieve the value for money by (i) using e-procurement technology to lower the transaction cost and enhance process efficiency and transparency; and (ii) attracting qualified contractors and suppliers for two works and one goods package following open competitive bidding.

Responsible ADB Officer	Homasi, Lily Anne F.
Responsible ADB Department	Pacific Department
Responsible ADB Division	Pacific Subregional Office in Suva, Fiji
Executing Agencies	Ministry of Finance & Economic Management PO box 120 Cook Islands

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	11 Mar 2021 to 11 Mar 2021
MRM	-
Approval	29 Oct 2021
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	29 Oct 2021

Grant 9225-COO

Financing Plan		Grant Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)	Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	2.50	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	%
Counterpart	0.50	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	2.00	-	0.00	0.00	%

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/55069-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=55069-001
Date Generated	03 November 2021

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