## **GIS In-Country Training in Tuvalu**

PACC project supported a 3 days in-country GIS (Geographical Information System) training that was held last week at the Ground Floor Conference Room of the Tuvalu Government Building. The training was a success and it was attended by the TUVALU GIS User Group and other interested officials from various government departments, cooperations and other projects in Tuvalu.



The training that took place on the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> of July 2010 was officially opened by the Director of Environment, Mr. Mataio Tekinene and he stressed the importance of such training in decision making especially in providing advises to decision makers when the need arises. He also stressed that this system is a very useful system in terms of mapping out our vulnerabilities with regard to impact of climate change.

Participants were clearly informed of the objectives of the training and were very happy

to be part of the training and they requested for another training of this nature. An advanced follow up training on the subject has been schedule to materialize in early August with Technical support sought from SOPAC. The main aim of the PACC Coordinator is to provide very basic knowledge training to GIS Users in Tuvalu to enable them to navigate freely into the GIS software and when the advance training materializes, they are not strangers to the system. During the course of the training, participants



were asked to create their own GIS project according to their field of interest and to share their experiences with the rest of the participant. By doing so, it helps build their confidence in developing their own GIS system within their various work places.

The training was facilitated by a local consultant Ms. Meelina Ailesi, who was contracted by the PACC project to conduct the training. Napa Project and PACC project jointly funded the training.