



Pacific Islands
Development Forum

2018 *A United, Distinctive & Sustainable Pacific Society*

ANNUAL REPORT



DEDICATION

On February 12, 2018, severe Tropical Cyclone (TC) Gita was the most intense tropical cyclone to impact the Kingdom of Tonga since reliable records began. One person died directly as a result of the devastating event, while another died indirectly. Thousands more were injured, displaced and left with nothing. Tonga is still recovering from TC Gita.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We offer our sincere thanks to all our Members and Partners who have worked with us on our journey to support an enabling environment for Green-Blue Pacific economies, and affect transformative change for sustainable and inclusive development in the Pacific.

DESIGN

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ABOUT US

The Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) is a space for catalysing, mobilising and mainstreaming action in support of sustainable development through Green/Blue Pacific economies. It is an action-oriented platform – bringing together the expertise of the private sector, normative leadership of the public sector, and successful delivery mechanisms of civil society – to identify innovative solutions, develop high-impact collaborations and engage state and non-state actors to ensure sustainable development and poverty reduction in the Pacific Islands.

OUR VISION

A United, Distinctive and Sustainable Pacific Society.

OUR MISSION

Enabling Green/Blue Pacific economies through inclusive strategies, multi-stakeholder governance, and genuine partnerships.

OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS 2018



TECHNICAL PARTNERS



PIDF MEMBERSHIP



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
COE	Aruba Centre of Excellence for the Sustainable Development of SIDS
COMSATS	Commission for Science and Technology for Sustainable Development of the South
COP24	24th Conference of the Parties
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific
EJN	Earth Journalism Network
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia
FAD	Fishing Aggregate Devices
FCEF	Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation
FRDP	Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
GGGI	Global Ghost Gear Initiative
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GLISPA	Global Island Partnership
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
INBAR	International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation
IPBC	International Partnership on Blue Carbon
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISA	International Solar Alliance
IRIC	Island Resilience Challenge
IRI	Island Resilience Initiative
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
MCST	Micronesian Centre for Sustainable Transportation
MEPC	Marine Environment Protection Committee
MRC	Members Representative Council
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NSDBs	National Sustainable Boards
OHCHR	Regional Office for the Pacific Region
PCFA	Pacific China Friendship Association
PDF	Pacific Disabilities Forum
PIDF	Pacific Islands Development Forum
PINA	Pacific Islands News Association
PRUN	Permanent Representative to the United Nations
PSIDS	Pacific Small Island Developing States
RDTF	Regional Development Trust Fund
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SHOS	Solar Head of State
SLOCAT	Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport
SOC	Senior Officials Committee
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNOSSC	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
WAPS	World Animal Protection Society
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

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FOREWORD:

A Message from the Chair

The Hon. Rick Houenipwela
Prime Minister of Solomon Islands
PIDF Chair



Five years after its inaugural meeting, the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) boldly continues to address the issues of sustainable development through a structured and inclusive approach in a world facing many challenges.

The PIDF continues to face these challenges head-on, to bring about the transformative changes needed to achieve Green/Blue Economic models to empower Pacific peoples and give value to their voice; to generate new jobs and skills; promote clean technologies; reduce environmental risks; and decrease poverty in member countries.

It has been a transformative year for PIDF with much of 2018 spent moving closer to formulating our proposed Strategic Plan 2019-2030 – The One Pasifika Programme, which sets out our priorities and focus for the next 12 years, informed by PIDF's experiences and lessons from the past five years.

In the next 12 years, we plan to be more targeted, addressing those areas where PIDF has a comparative advantage and special interest, and where we can make a difference by bringing a different perspective, innovations or new partners. With this new strategic direction in mind, PIDF carried out its work to continue evolving into a "United, Distinctive and Sustainable Pacific Society".

Our future objectives expand on our original goals - and throughout 2018, those objectives have helped form our focus, initiatives and partnerships as we work towards mainstreaming Green/Blue Economy; finding adaptive solutions for island resilience; taking climate action; and improving institutional arrangements.

A complete shift in the way we think about the future and how we do business is required to transform to a Green-Blue economy. Identifying and understanding their economic, social and environmental challenges is paramount for Pacific peoples. In 2018, we focused on initiatives which promoted tools, frameworks and innovations which encourage and incentivise Green-Blue Economy thinking, policy and practice; and worked with partners to strengthen information sharing at all levels and build multi-stakeholder dialogue aimed at reaching common goals.

The Capacity building on Green Economy and Renewable Energy project emerged from One Pasifika, and has underdone much planning during 2018 after a partnership was formed between PIDF, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

It was agreed KOICA will provide USD 1.5 million to support the three-year project to be implemented in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea (PNG), with the goal of strengthening inclusive, informed decision-making by resource owners and local government officials for integration of Green Economy and Renewable Energy into local-level planning, and to strengthen implementation of Renewable Energy for rural electrification.

“ The challenge of tackling climate change in the Pacific continues, with PIDF among those at the forefront of championing Pacific Island positions. ”

Bamboo has resurfaced as a fast growing natural resource-tool for community development. PIDF has developed a collaborative approach with INBAR, the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation, and in June, PIDF attended the first ever Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress in Beijing outlining bamboo's versatility and many uses in a Green Economy.

PIDF recognises the important role of “youths as critical agents of change,” for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Throughout 2018, PIDF held a series of Talanoa events, with one focused on Youth engagement for SDGs – A dialogue between PIDF, Youth Coalition and the Commonwealth Youth Chair-Pacific.

Our 2018 Talanoa Series has proved insightful and valuable, with various issues in-focus, while providing a platform for networking, knowledge sharing and initiating discussion on future ways of collaboration between PIDF and potential partners. Our work towards improving social and environmental well-being and building island resilience in an environment of change and uncertainty has begun.

Throughout 2018, PIDF has remained fully engaged in issues regarding the Blue Economy, working with numerous partners including the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) as a steering committee member on the Great Sea Reef of Vanua Levu; participating in the Korea-South Pacific Fisheries Forum and the Symposium on Ocean Science and Marine Management in Fiji.

Along with partners Precovery Labs and the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), PIDF undertook the Island Resilience Initiative Project Country Consultation in Palau, Fiji and Marshall Islands from January until March. A project pipeline development – Island Resilience Challenge - has been proposed to catalyse innovative investments in integrated infrastructure in islands which can be financed through sources such as the Green Climate Fund and be a catalyst for public private partnerships. PIDF plans to replicate this project in other PIDF member countries with additional funding secured for adding countries and completing the work in 2019.

The challenge of tackling climate change in the Pacific continues, with PIDF among those at the forefront of championing Pacific Island positions. Issues still requiring attention, including the need for a moratorium on new development and expansion of fossil fuel extraction sites; addressing climate-induced human mobility; and the need for a greater push to address emissions produced by the transport sector. PIDF will continue supporting further advocacy on these issues and back-up countries moving towards achieving the commitments and targets set in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

During 2018, PIDF began working towards key institutional arrangement objectives, including the coordination of PIDF's Governance structure as well as establishing, operating and capitalising the Regional Development Trust Fund (RDTF).

As Chair, I would like to thank all our members and partners for their coordinated efforts to guide and support PIDF's hard work in the region. These strong partnerships allow us all to collaborate together in realising a united, distinctive and sustainable Pacific society. The Solomon Islands Chairmanship ended officially in August 2018.

It has been a pleasure serving PIDF, and I complete my tenure full of optimism and hope for this wonderful region we are blessed to live in.

FOREWORD:

A Message from the Secretary General

François Martel
Secretary General
PIDF



The past year has been largely about what the future of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) will look like, while also consolidating the role PIDF currently plays in the Pacific region.

There have been many highlights throughout a busy 2018, including key global and regional events where PIDF played a significant part; the development of collaborations, and the implementation of initiatives as we move into the next phase of PIDF's journey to enable Green-Blue Pacific economies through inclusive strategies, multi-stakeholder governance, and genuine partnerships.

We have continued to engage new membership, improve member services and establish and support a network of partners from regional and international organisations active in the Pacific to promote coordination and cooperation in action relating to Green-Blue Economy.

Attending the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 73) in New York during September was a highlight for the team, which contributed to the meeting focused on Making the United Nations relevant to all people: Global leadership and shared responsibilities for peaceful, equitable and sustainable societies. Discussions on the margin of the meeting were held with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) to further PIDF's work in the area among its members through triangular modality.

A substantial outcome of the meeting was the positive response to the funding request for the Pacific Solar Head of States Initiative submitted in July to the India Permanent Representative to the United Nations (PRUN). Funding is approved in principle through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund a dedicated facility within the UNOSSC established in 2017.

Discussions with the Fiji Permanent Representative to the United Nations H.E Satyendra Prasad continued, on PIDF's role in rendering regional support to the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) in light of Fiji assuming the Chairmanship of this group at the end of 2018.

As a follow-up, a team from PIDF attended the Global South-South Development Expo 2018 in November in New York; completed a draft of a South-South in Action Series publication on PIDF; and participated in panels and meetings on the Alliance for South-South Cooperation and the South-South Network, among others. These activities consolidated the role of PIDF as the Pacific Islands platform for South-South Cooperation.

Another key event for PIDF in 2018 was the 24th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 24) at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland in December. It was PIDF's aim to ensure the Pacific nations' concerns were being heard, and issues addressed. PIDF contribution to the activities at Koronivia Pavilion was noticed, and PIDF joined members of the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) as part of the plus organisations (these being PIDF and United Nations Development Programme, UNDP). The OneCROP+ team supported the Integrated Pacific approach to COP24 agreed at the Climate Action Pacific Partnership meeting (July 26-27).

“ As PIDF grows as an organisation, a strong governance structure; financial sustainability; engagement with its membership and partnerships engagement, and visibility is crucial as it strives towards achieving the highest standards to serve as a good model for other organisations. ”

This approach focused on the finalisation of the Paris Agreement Implementation Guidelines; urgency to meet 1.5 degrees target; the need for all parties to ratify the Doha Amendment; the increased recognition of Loss and Damage; supporting efforts regarding the commitment in mobilising US\$100 billion/year by 2020; and supporting the Friends of the Ocean process. The COP24 side-events provided an opportunity to gather up-to-date information on climate change issues which were relevant to PIDF and its work in the Pacific, and to its member countries and many partners.

PIDF, with partners Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), Aruba Centre of Excellence for the Sustainable Development of SIDS (COE) and Precovery Labs, held a side-event at COP 24 on December 4 showcasing the Island Resilience Initiative (IRI); and other side events PIDF was part of included Pacific 2050 Zero Emission Pathway Side-event run alongside ClimateWorks Australia. With partners Solar Head of State (SHOS), India –UN Partnership Fund, UNOSSC and International Solar Alliance (ISA) PIDF hosted a side-event showcasing the Solarisation of Pacific Head of State Initiative. Ways the Pacific could overcome technological limitations in cleaning its transport sector to ensure they contribute to the global effort to limit temperature rise to the 1.5°C mark were discussed at the Technological Transfer in the Transport Sector for Pacific Clean Transport Implementation UNFCCC Side-event. PIDF, along with the Micronesian Centre for Sustainable Transport (MCST), Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport (SLOCAT) and University College London hosted the event. PIDF also attended the 9th Annual Sustainable Innovation Forum, an Official Affiliate Event of COP24 organised by Climate Action.

As PIDF grows as an organisation, a strong governance structure; financial sustainability; engagement with its membership and partnerships engagement, and visibility is crucial as it strives towards achieving the highest standards to serve as a good model for other organisations. Despite our efforts to increase the PIDF membership in 2018, it remains at 14 members.

In 2018, PIDF staff visited and had activities in five member countries: Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Palau and RMI. During 2018, the Secretariat commissioned HR company Maximise to conduct a review of the PIDF's organisational Structure and the Development of a Performance Management System in order to review progress and staff evaluation yearly.

A total of four PIDF staff resigned from the organisation during 2018, the Team Leader for member and partnerships support, the Coordinator for Policy and Research, the Accounting Assistant and the Executive Assistant to the Secretary General. Tasks have been reassigned internally and staff positions were realigned based on capacity and expertise. From 20 staff in 2017, 15 staff remained at the end of the 2018 financial year, with an increase level of activity and delivery by the Secretariat.

In August 2018, the Solomon Islands Chairmanship ended officially. An official expression of interest has been received from the Government of Fiji to be the next Chair and to host the PIDF Governance meetings in Fiji, sometime, following the Fiji Election held during mid-November 2018. None of PIDF's achievements this year would have been possible without the support of our outgoing Chair – who I would like to express my gratitude to for his leadership and guidance of PIDF.

I also thank our members who continue to guide and inform our activities in support of a uniquely Pacific brand of sustainable development. I sincerely hope you enjoy this annual report and you share my appreciation of the PIDF Secretariat team who has tirelessly demonstrated passion, hard work and expertise to generate such fantastic results.





ONE PASIFIKA – OUR GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout 2018, Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) moved closer to formulating our proposed ***Strategic Plan 2019-2030 – The One Pasifika Programme***, which sets out our priorities and focus for the next 12 years.

It is informed by PIDF's experiences and lessons from the past five years and is better targeted, addressing those areas where PIDF has a comparative advantage and special interest, and where we can make a difference by bringing a different perspective, innovations or new partners.

Although it had yet to be approved, PIDF endeavoured to implement its work plan in line with the draft Strategic Plan 2019-2030.

During 2018, the goal of bringing about the transformative changes needed to achieve Green/Blue Economic models to generate new jobs and skills; promote clean technologies; reduce environmental risks; and reduce poverty in member countries was kept front of mind in all PIDF did.

PIDF aims to achieve this goal through its projects, which align with One Pasifika's objectives. Those objectives formed our 2018 focus areas:

- Cluster M - Mainstreaming Green/Blue Economy;
- Cluster R - Adaptive Solutions for Island Resilience;
- Cluster A - Climate Action; and
- Cluster I - Institutional arrangements.

Mainstreaming Green/ Blue Economy (Cluster M)



A complete shift in the way we think about the future and how we do business is required to transform to a Green-Blue economy. Identifying and understanding their economic, social and environmental challenges is paramount for Pacific peoples. People also need to be willing and empowered to disrupt the status quo and innovate and implement solutions that rebalance the three pillars of development, to collectively influence the direction of their own lives.

As a collective, we need to be willing to value nature as the capital in a long term investment; and to view the just and equitable distribution of wealth as the cornerstone to building Pacific island resilience. The objectives in Cluster M aim to mainstream the Green-Blue Economy through policy intervention, advocacy, education and support to the private sector.





2018, PIDF's projects were focused on promoting tools, frameworks and innovations that encourage and incentivise Green-Blue Economy thinking, policy and practice; while work with civil society partners alongside private sector and governments began, to strengthen information sharing at all levels and build multi-stakeholder dialogue aimed at reaching common goals.

Implementing Green Economy and Renewable Energy capacity building throughout Melanesia

In Melanesia, Fiji (89 percent), Vanuatu (29 percent), Solomon Islands (18 percent) and Papua New Guinea (PNG) at 10 percent, have the lowest level of electrification, yet also have the most renewable energy resources in the Pacific region, including hydro, wind, solar, geothermal and biomass. Vanuatu and Solomon Islands are classified as least developed countries. Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and PNG need to simultaneously boost economic growth, provide electricity access and meet national and international greenhouse gas emission targets under their climate change commitments, and green growth and renewable energy provide a means to achieve these aims. The Capacity building on Green Economy and Renewable Energy Project emerged from One Pasifika, and has undergone much planning during 2018 after a partnership was formed between PIDF, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). It was agreed KOICA will provide USD 1.5 million to support the three-year project to be implemented in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and PNG, with the goal of strengthening inclusive, informed decision-making by resource owners and local government officials for integration of Green Economy and Renewable Energy into local-level planning, and to strengthen implementation of Renewable Energy for rural electrification.

GGGI will manage the project and lead implementation in Fiji, Vanuatu and PNG, while PIDF is leading implementation in the Solomon Islands. Training sessions are being planned in rural areas of all four target countries for local government officials, traditional/community leaders, women and vulnerable groups, youth, and local technicians. Both GGGI and PIDF will cooperate closely with key Ministries at the national level and then connect into the sub-national local government and traditional leadership/ communities. Our aim is to reach target groups and establish the project working arrangements with local government and targeted provincial, district, island and community institutional structures. Project outcomes should include increased inclusivity in decision-making on the use of natural resources and implementation of Renewable Energy projects; an improved knowledge of Green Economy and Renewable Energy options for local level planning; and improved sustainability of rural Renewable Energy installations. Long-term, this project is intended to increase sustainable energy access while reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the four countries. Implementation was due to begin in February 2019, starting with consultations with government representatives in each country, followed by a needs assessment. Teams from GGGI and PIDF will specifically tailor the project to each country's needs.



The New Green Gold - bamboo resource development

In recent times, bamboo has been referred to as the “New Green Gold” of Fiji, and perhaps even the Pacific. The versatility of bamboo – both native and introduced species to the Pacific - could offer an important source of rural employment and income for local communities, while contributing to a green transformation in support of climate resilience and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There is a growing renewed interest in bamboo throughout Asia as a fast growing natural resource-tool for community development. In 2017, PIDF was invited by China to attend the Belt and Road Forum, which provided the catalyst for the organisation’s engagement in Bamboo resource development. It has since developed a collaborative approach with INBAR, the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation based in Beijing.

From June 25-27, PIDF Secretary-General François Martel attended the a first ever Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress held at Beijing’s National Convention Center, outlining bamboo’s versatility and many uses in a Green Economy. The Congress was an opportunity to nurture the developing relationship between PIDF and INBAR: Bamboo and Rattan for inclusive and green development – a possible foundation to build genuine partnerships and drive transformative change towards green growth and increased resilience. PIDF also connected with private sectors and researchers on bamboo, and its key role in sustainable landscape management, green growth and low carbon material. On August 22, a Talanoa, Bamboo development for green transformation, was held in Suva, Fiji, where a concept proposal for submission to the Government of China of establishing a Pacific Bamboo Development Centre was discussed.

PIDF has proposed a Fiji Bamboo Centre, to serve as a focal point for bamboo-related activities and revive the bamboo industry in the Pacific. The Indonesian and Chinese Embassies, championed by the Ministry of Forestry, took part in the Talanoa, following which a full report was published. The concept proposal endorsed by bamboo stakeholders, mainly in Fiji, was to be submitted to the Chinese South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund. Steps were proposed for PIDF to begin working towards this, including using its Pacific Green Business Portal to publish web-pages on bamboo development; establishing a Fiji Bamboo Association to bring together different private stakeholders involved in bamboo development in Fiji; and to pursue funding for the establishment of the Bamboo Centre.

PIDF is continuing consultations with stakeholders to determine priorities in the development of the bamboo industry and build a partnership network on the subject; PIDF and Pacific Agribusiness Research for Development Initiative 2 (PARDI2) will jointly produce a compendium on Bamboo for the Pacific region; and another Talanoa will be organised once funding for the Bamboo Centre is confirmed.

Youth vital to successful implementation of SDGs

The world's population is young: 42 percent of people are under the age of 25. Youth engagement is fundamental for the successful implementation of the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs, and making the transformation to a Green/Blue Economy. PIDF recognises the important role of “youths as critical agents of change,” for the implementation of SDGs - today’s youthful population has ambitions and abilities which can make a substantial contribution to the realisation of the prosperous, peaceful and sustainable future we want for all people in our region. If the Pacific region is to succeed in achieving the SDGs, PIDF must continue to maintain active and substantive engagement of youths from diverse backgrounds in decision-making, national-level planning, implementation, and monitoring.

On April 28, PIDF partnered with youth-run organisation AIESEC to host Fiji’s Youth Speak Forum (2018) at the University of the South Pacific, Suva. With the theme, Empowering youth: From decisions to actions focusing on SDG 13 (climate change) and SDG 14 (ocean), it brought together rural and urban youths and senior leaders to form a diverse cross-sector and multigenerational space for inspiring conversations and actions around pressing issues in Fiji. Its intention was to motivate and engage the approximately 80 Pacific youths who attended the Forum in meaningful discussions and support them to take concrete actions in fighting climate change and sustaining aquatic life. Chief guest, Hon. Rosy Akbar, Minister for Health and Medical Services acknowledged the need for youth to get more involved in assisting governments to achieve the SDGs at the event sponsored by Vodafone Fiji, International Labour Organisation, South Pacific Waste Recyclers, and Bank of the South Pacific, the University of the South Pacific, the University of Fiji and the COP23 Secretariat.

Youth Speak Forum is an event powered and organised by AIESEC that takes place in multiple locations globally, bringing top young leaders together with business leaders, thought leaders and experts for a conversation around youth contribution to the global agenda. The April event in Fiji, was the first of three held in the Central division, with two more planned for the Northern and Western divisions. On August 31, PIDF hosted a Talanoa on Youth engagement for SDGs – a dialogue between PIDF, Youth Coalition and the Commonwealth Youth Chair-Pacific, in Suva, Fiji. The Talanoa provided a platform for networking, knowledge sharing and initiating discussion on future ways of collaboration between PIDF and close to 22 youth leaders of youth groups with diverse mandates such as education and arts; economic opportunities; gender and human rights; peace and security; health; and climate change and environment. All share the common theme of working collaboratively towards the realisation of the SDGs.

The Talanoa was also an opportunity for PIDF to meet with the newly appointed Chair of the Commonwealth Youth for the Pacific; and share ways to collaborate with Youths of the Pacific and Youths of Commonwealth. These discussions have prompted PIDF to consider social, economic and environmental dimensions of development, and stress the need to create conditions for youth to be engaged, active and integral parts of the solutions.





Adaptive Solutions for Island Resilience (Cluster R)

From a Green–Blue Economy perspective, when we speak of resilience, we do not simply imply resilience to climate change although this is an important factor, particularly in the Pacific. When we speak of resilience, we speak of island or community resilience because a community, when resilient, can better absorb or deal, with a disaster or crisis of any sort. The objectives in Cluster R aim to develop “proof of concept” for the Green-Blue Economy in improving social and environmental well-being and building island resilience in an environment of change and uncertainty. Model green cities/towns/villages/islands will be created to demonstrate how Green-Blue Economy approaches can help with finding adaptive solutions for island resilience; to show what is possible; and what can be achieved and influence the transition at larger, national scales. PIDF’s area of concern is sustainable management of ocean, forests, soil and freshwater ecosystems; food security; and human health, including exploring creative ways to incentivise policy and behavioural change. It has continued working towards its objectives of mobilising the leadership, resources and technical knowledge needed to promote a sustainable Blue Economy; and establishing model Green Cities, Green Towns, Green Villages and Green Islands that reflect the principles of Green/Blue Economy while at the same time, improve their resilience to natural disasters and climate change events. It aims to promote and support sustainable land management particularly to protect soil and water resources and establish a sustainable financing mechanism through the use of green taxation and other income generation models, to finance the restoration of forests and other critical habitats in PIDF member countries. PIDF is also striving to encourage policy incentives for healthy and happy lifestyles to address the primary causes of non-communicable diseases (NCDs); address vector-borne diseases and mental health; and support traditional healing methods and the use of ICT for health services. PIDF is working closely with partners with experience in the health sector, who will lead the process.





The Blue Economy, and protecting our most valuable resource

The Ocean - ka moana – is central to the sustainable development and the poverty eradication in Pacific nations. Oceans should remain healthy, safe and sustainably managed. Yet issues and challenges from collapsing fisheries to plastic pollution, including climate change impacts like ocean warming and ocean acidification, threaten the integrity of marine ecosystems and the subsistence of Pacific people. The Blue Economy can be transformational at local and national levels – and following the recommendations of the Pacific Blue Economy Conference and SDG14 Symposium organised by PIDF in 2017, work continued in 2018 to further evolve partnerships, with a concept proposal also developed to mainstream a Blue Economy roadmap in PIDF member countries. To mark World Ocean Day on June 8, PIDF advocated for the phase-out of plastic straws through its #MyOceanMatter campaign, seeking to add momentum to Pacific efforts, to put an end to the plastics era.

PIDF has continued to work with its members, partners and the public to refuse straws; and for shops to not give out plastic straws; PIDF has worked towards educating individuals to refuse plastic straws and spread the “strawless” message and encouraged them to take a pledge to stop using straws. Throughout the year, PIDF remained fully engaged in issues regarding the Blue Economy, working with numerous partners including the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) as a steering committee member on the Great Sea Reef of Vanua Levu; participating in the Korea-South Pacific Fisheries Forum and the Symposium on Ocean Science and Marine Management in Fiji.

PIDF was represented at the 2nd Clean Pacific Roundtable, organised by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), from August 20-25, in Suva. During the Roundtable, PIDF Team Leader Programme Management Mark Borg chaired a session on implementation and innovative actions for combating marine debris, plastics and microplastics. While the surging momentum in global efforts to address plastic pollution was recognised, PIDF highlighted the actions policy makers can take to improve waste management, promote ecofriendly alternatives, educate consumers, enable voluntary reduction strategies and successfully implement bans or levies on the use and sale of single-use plastics. Another concern highlighted by PIDF was the ghost fishing gear phenomena - abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear which accounts for 10 percent of all the plastic currently in the ocean. Some 640,000 tons of ghost gear enter the world’s oceans every year and can mutilate and kill marine animals for many years afterward. A pioneering pilot project in Vanuatu is tracking and marking Fishing Aggregate Devices (FAD) as lost FADs are one of the major cause of ghost gear. The World Animal Protection Society (WAPS) leads the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) and is working with Vanuatu Fisheries Department to trial methods of tracking FADs to assist with loss prevention and recovery in the future.

PIDF encourages its member countries to become part of this initiative to address this growing ocean plastic concern. The fifth Our Oceans Conference in Bali, Indonesia from October 29-30, focused on generating commitments and taking actions to maintain the sustainability of our oceans. It was the second consecutive year PIDF has attended the conference, which since 2014, has successfully generated commitments totalling around US\$18 billion and 12.4 million square kilometres of marine protected areas.

The 2018 Conference demonstrated significant progress on past commitments and inspired new commitments made for the continuation of a more concerted and integrated actions for protecting the oceans. Areas of action align with PIDF's objectives, including sustainable Blue Economy; marine pollution; climate related impact on the ocean; marine protected areas; sustainable fisheries; maritime security; and ocean disaster risk management. The Conference is an opportunity for PIDF to keep track of the progress in the attainment of the SDG 14, the gaps and current challenges encountered so the Secretariat can work with its network of partners to support member countries progress in the local, national and regional level.

Palau, a PIDF member will be hosting the Our Ocean Conference in 2020. From November 13-14, PIDF was invited to participate in the *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Blue Economy Conference* in Ningbo, China, with the aim of deepening exchanges and cooperation among APEC members in the Blue Economy. Over 200 guests from around the world attended the forum, including representatives from 14 APEC economies and three non-APEC economies (Fiji, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh) as well as officials from the United Nations and International Organisations who engaged in discussions about the development model of the regional Blue Economy, the theme of the forum, through topics including policies, practices, resource management and private sector involvement. A Ningbo initiative for the APEC Blue Economy development was published at the forum, a response to the proposal of protecting oceans and making sustainable use of marine resources put forward in the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

PIDF staged various meetings to further the work of the Secretariat and support interregional collaborations. Among these were the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center; the China-ASEAN Joint Research and Development Center for Marine Science and Technology; and the Fourth Institute of Oceanography. The Fourth Institute of Oceanography visited PIDF office in September 2018 during the International Partnership for Blue Carbon meeting and expressed an interest in formalising a memorandum of cooperation agreement between the two parties. Other highlights in 2018 included PIDF partnering with Northern Pictures in premiering the film *BLUE* - in Fiji during May, as part of PIDF's ongoing commitment to promote sustainable Blue Economy. Filmed across Australia, Hawaii, Indonesia, and the Philippines, *BLUE* communicates the importance of creating marine protected areas, supporting sustainable fishing, protection of marine life, tackling climate change and managing plastic pollution.





Island Resilience Initiative focus on “precovery”

With a goal to build capacity for nationally-led public-private civic partnerships to drive implementation of the SDGs and other global agreements locally, the Island Resilience Initiative (IRI) Project is a holistic, multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach to a broad spectrum of island challenges and opportunities, focused on a “precovery” mindset. The Project is an initiative supported by the UNDP-Small Grant Programme for island resilience action and reporting on SDGs implementation. Along with partners Precovery Labs and the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), PIDF undertook the Island Resilience Initiative Project Country Consultation in Palau, Fiji and Marshall Islands from January until March.

Key objectives of the consultation included identifying, supporting and strengthening local collaborative public-private partnerships which could serve as a backbone organisation focused on system-level change; and to initiate the framework to implement SDGs locally. A project pipeline development – Island Resilience Challenge (IRIC) - has been proposed to catalyse innovative investments in integrated infrastructure in islands which can be financed through sources such as the Green Climate Fund and be a catalyst for public private partnerships. The peer-learning network coordinated by the GLISPA and Hawai’i Green Growth to support island backbone organizations, high-level goal development and commitments as well as public-private partnership In-Country Consultations were completed in March in Majuro. PIDF plans to replicate this project in other member countries with additional funding secured for adding countries and completing the work in 2019.

Partners in the project developed the draft SDG dashboard and a company (SOCRATA) has been retained to implement it as a digital platform in each pilot country. On December 4, PIDF, GLISPA, Aruba Center of Excellence for Sustainable Development of SIDS (COE) and Precovery Labs, held a side event at COP 24, showcasing the Island Resilience Initiative. Participants of the side event were informed PIDF, with its partners, are now looking at building on the outcomes of the pilot projects in Palau, Fiji and Marshall Islands and expanding the initiative to other islands in the Pacific and, with PIDF partners, the Caribbean. This initiative is viewed as an opportunity to strengthen partnerships and implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, SDGs, Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework and the emerging New Urban Agenda as well as the regionally developed Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) and reinforce ambitious but appropriate and “right-sized” projects and solutions on islands that can be scaled and financed globally with an initial focus on the six IRI pillars - community resilience, energy, environment, equity, food and water.

Climate Action (Cluster C)



The challenge of tackling climate change in the Pacific continues, with PIDF among those at the forefront of championing Pacific Island positions as articulated in the 2015 Suva Declaration on Climate Change, produced on the PIDF platform, prior to the Paris Agreement. Through Pacific leadership, many of the clauses of the Suva Declaration made their way into the Paris Agreement, including the need to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C; reviewing nationally determined contributions (NDCs) every five years; and a clause on Loss and Damage. Other issues still require attention, including the need for a moratorium on new development and expansion of fossil fuel extraction sites; addressing climate-induced human mobility; and the need for a greater push to address emissions produced by the transport sector. PIDF is continuing its work to support further advocacy on these issues and support the countries towards achieving the commitments and targets set in their NDCs. Throughout 2018 PIDF has been - and will continue - advocating and keeping pressure at the global level to work towards the target of 1.5°C temperature increase limit compared to pre-industrial levels; support countries with the development of national and regional renewable energy frameworks, the implementation of NDCs and decarbonisation plans by addressing policy, regulatory and financial obstacles; and to promote sustainable land, sea and air transport. It aims to provide innovative approaches to natural and climate induced disaster response to bridge the gap between development and humanitarian response and establish regional and national policy safeguarding the rights of persons displaced by climate change.





PIDF presence at UNFCCC COP24

Staged in Katowice, Poland, the 2018 COP24 from December 2-15 was a culmination of an important year of planning, and collaboration. Following PIDF's application to become an inter-governmental organisation, in August 2017, PIDF's observer status to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was considered and was adopted in the first plenary of the Convention of the Parties (COP). As the depository of the Suva Declaration on Climate Change, PIDF plays an important role as part of the Pacific voice to amplify both urgency of action and high ambition, particularly following the outcomes and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) special report on 1.5°C.

Three PIDF representatives travelled to Katowice to ensure Pacific nations' concerns were being heard and supported at COP24. The representatives took part in the many side events being organised at COP24 including one UNFCCC event being led by PIDF. The Pacific also had Koronivia Pavilion, funded by New Zealand's Government and the Fiji COP23 Secretariat, with PIDF contributing to its activities through the secondment of its Strategic Communication Team Leader as part of the "One CROP+ Team" under the coordination of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). PIDF joined members of the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) as part of the plus organisations (these being PIDF and UNDP).

The OneCROP+ team supported the Integrated Pacific approach to COP24 agreed at the Climate Action Pacific Partnership meeting (July 26-27). This approach focused on the finalisation of the Paris Agreement Implementation Guidelines; urgency to meet 1.5 degrees target; the need for all parties to ratify the Doha Amendment; the increased recognition of Loss and Damage; supporting efforts regarding the commitment in mobilising US\$100 billion/year by 2020; and supporting the Friends of the Ocean process. The COP24 side-events provided an opportunity to gather up-to-date information on climate change issues which were relevant to PIDF and its work in the Pacific, and to its member countries and many partners. It was also an opportunity for PIDF to express the Pacific's position on these many issues and promote the high ambition clauses captured in the Suva Declaration.

PIDF and its partners GLISPA, COE and Precovery Labs, held a side-event at COP 24 on December 4 showcasing the IRI. Together with ClimateWorks Australia, PIDF held the Pacific 2050 Zero Emission Pathway Side-event, on December 6 at Pacific Pavilion, which shared experiences from the Pacific in developing long term, low emissions strategies. With partners Solar Head of State (SHOS), India –UN Partnership Fund, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and International Solar Alliance (ISA) PIDF hosted a side-event showcasing the Solarisation of Pacific Head of State Initiative, on December 6.



PIDF's participation and outcomes at COP24-Katowice was to be compiled in collaboration with the "OneCROP+ team" and the Pacific Koronivia Pavilion team. The Indian Government is supporting the initiative for PIDF member countries - and through funding support from the IndiaUN Development Partnership Fund operated by the UNOSSC, PIDF and SHOS have started to roll out the initiative. Ways the Pacific could overcome technological limitations in cleaning its transport sector to ensure they contribute to the global effort to limit temperature rise to the 1.5°C mark were discussed at the Technological Transfer in the Transport Sector for Pacific Clean Transport implementation UNFCCC Side-event. PIDF, along with the Micronesian Centre for Sustainable Transport (MCST), Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport (SLOCAT) and University College London hosted the December 13 side-event. PIDF also attended the 9th Annual Sustainable Innovation Forum, an Official Affiliate Event of COP24 organised by Climate Action. The Secretary General attended plenaries on the Circular Economy, and on Financing Sustainable Growth; and parallel panel sessions on Decarbonising the Mobility Sector, the role of business in driving energy, and several game-changers on electric vehicles and block chain innovation in energy transition.

Finding alternatives

PIDF began working towards its objective of supporting countries with the development of national and regional renewable energy frameworks, implementing NCDs and decarbonisation plans by partnering with SHOS, a non-profit organisation formed by a team of solar energy social entrepreneurs working with governments to demonstrate leadership on the implementation of the sustainable energy agenda. Among other things, SHOS creates public savings through the installation of solar photovoltaic power systems, on key government buildings.

By having a solar system installed on public buildings, including the executive administrative residence of a country, the country's leadership is given first-hand experience with the proven benefits of renewable technologies. A total of five PIDF member countries have shown interest in the Solar Heads of State Project namely Kiribati, Palau, Nauru, Tonga and Tuvalu. Palau and Tonga formalised the projects through signing of the memorandum of understanding (**MoU**) with SHOS and PIDF in a side event in Bonn in the margins of COP 23 and these projects have progressed to the design stage.



PIDF continues to reach out to its members to solicit interest for the project. A concept proposal for the financing of the full solarisation of Heads-of-States residence in all PIDF member countries and the PIDF Secretariat HQ has been submitted to the Kuwait Fund and the State of Qatar. Meanwhile, a final submission was made to the Government of India via the Permanent Representative of India to New York to submit to the newly established India – UN Partnership Fund with UNOSSC. A total of US\$1 million in funding was approved by the Board for this project to be implemented by PIDF and SHOS.

Collaboration with the International Solar Alliance (ISA), an intergovernmental organisation based in New Delhi and supported by the Indian and French Governments, with more than 100 members globally has been established. PIDF's collaboration with ISA is focused on solar energy capacity development in Pacific countries, and the University of Fiji Centre for Renewable Energy and its partners in Fiji, including PIDF, have been working on a curriculum for solar engineers in the Pacific to enhance capacity building programmes related to solar energy in the region. A meeting between the two Secretary Generals took place at COP24, reiterating the collaboration between the two organisations and the need for a closer partnership with the University of Fiji Centre for Renewable Energy.

Work on the STAR C programme continues, in close collaboration with ISA and University of Fiji. On July 25, in Suva, the Global Employers Climate Action Forum was hosted by the Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation (FCEF) attracting over 160 participants representing the private sector, governments, and other organisations from across the Pacific region. Their focus was the effects climate change were having on the private sector; supporting resilient and low-carbon businesses; and the private sector's role in addressing climate change and meeting national goals for emissions reductions.

The theme - Resilient businesses and communities - built on the signing of the Fiji Declaration at COP23, in which businesses agreed to partner with governments and other actors in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and promote the emergence of a new low-carbon economy that combats climate change while creating new jobs and advancing shared economic prosperity. PIDF played a key role in planning the event and the Secretary General spoke on the panel on driving Green-Blue economies, and a break-out workshop was organised. Forum outcomes were presented at the July 26 CAPP meeting. PIDF will continue working with FCEF and other partners on further engaging the private sector in climate action in the Pacific through work of the Pacific Green Business Centre.



Reducing Maritime Shipping Emissions

The need for a greater push to address emissions produced by the transport sector was a priority throughout 2018 for PIDF and its partners. Technical Officers from the Maritime bodies of Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu met in Suva, Fiji on February 7-9 at a workshop organised by PIDF, USP and the Micronesian Centre for Sustainable Transportation (MCST) with the support of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport and the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji. Discussions centred on the negotiations at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) on reduction of shipping emissions.

Financially supported by the French Government, the objective of the workshop was to consolidate a common Pacific Position and prepare the Pacific for the IMO meeting scheduled for April 9-13, where an initial IMO Strategy at Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC72) would hopefully be adopted. A deal was reached at MEPC72, in London, with countries agreeing to at least a 50 percent reduction of international shipping emissions by 2050, compared to 2008 levels.

Although it does not quite meet what the climate needs, it is an important first step. Pacific countries with other climate ambitious nations had wanted a 70 – 100 percent reduction by 2050 – however, revisiting the target as informed by science for it to align with the Paris Agreement is an option. PIDF convened a Post-MEPC72 Talanoa on June 7, in Suva, to strategise the way forward following the IMO's initial strategy, while exploring the next steps for advocacy and work at future MEPC meetings.

Further negotiations are expected at MEPC73 as some feel the Initial Strategy needs strengthening in terms of having a peak as soon as possible to impact emissions in the next 10 years, and to get to zero by 2050. During the Talanoa, the PIDF Secretary General emphasised how it would be imperative the Pacific unite to address this important climate change related issue; and continue to be relentless in pushing for high levels of ambition. PIDF also convened a webinar on the Pacific Action Plan to reach the 1.5°C target. A Talanoa report on the Post-MEPC72 was officially published by PIDF in 2018.

Institutional arrangements (Cluster I)



As PIDF grows as an organisation, a strong governance structure; financial sustainability; and engagement with its membership and partnerships engagement is important as it strives towards achieving the highest standards to serve as a good model for other organisations. Collaboration is necessary to accomplishing many of its key objectives in the region, and PIDF works hard to nurture its partnerships with organisations, that have an interest in helping to improve – and sustain - the Pacific and its resources. During 2018, PIDF moved towards key institutional arrangement objectives, including the coordination of PIDF's Governance structure as well as establishing, operating and capitalising the Regional Development Trust Fund (RDTF). PIDF continues to engage new membership and improve member services and establish and support a network of partners from regional and international organisations active in the Pacific to promote coordination and cooperation in action relating to Green-Blue Economy. Other priority areas include strengthening partnership with national, regional and international entities and benchmarking PIDF's operations to international standards (ISO); to create better visibility for PIDF, its programmes and activities; and to transform the PIDF HQ into a model Green office; as well as develop a 10-year strategic plan for the period 2030 – 2040.





Effective governance at PIDF

As articulated in the PIDF Charter, the Chair of the Conference is rotated among its members, with the member chairing the Conference also chairing the Summit and Council. The Solomon Islands Chairmanship ended officially in August 2018. Earlier in the year, the Secretariat convened a successful meeting of the Senior Officials Committee (SOC) in Suva during April, which considered a number of papers to be tabled at PIDF governance meetings in Honiara. The SOC met in the absence of the Members Representative Council which were to convene for the first time in Honiara in July, although this meeting was deferred at the request of the Chair of the PIDF Conference. One of the main reasons expressed by the Chair for the deferment of the PIDF Governance meetings was the lack of expression of interest by end of May 2018, two-months prior the planned Conference. After accepting the deferment, the Secretariat set-up a sub-committee to make specific recommendations in regards to the selection process for the Chair of the PIDF Conference. The sub-committee concluded its review and recommendations and received officially an expression of interest from the Government of Fiji to be the next Chair and to host the PIDF Governance meetings in Fiji, sometime, following the Fiji Election held during mid-November 2018.

Recommendations of the sub-committee on the process for the selection of the future Chair will be submitted to the next PIDF Governance meetings for approval. The Secretary General reports to the Chair of the Conference and, in 2018, met face to face with the new Prime Minister and Chair in January and May 2018 in Honiara, Solomon Islands, to review progress and provide reports. The dates and theme of the Governance meetings were not confirmed, and needed to be agreed on between the outgoing and upcoming Chair, Solomon Islands and Fiji respectively. The Governance meetings will be the first time for the MRC and the Conference to come together. Dates currently being considered are between April and June 2019. The SOC considered a report on the PIDF Regional Development Trust Fund (RDTF) and requested that further consultations be undertaken before the governance meetings in Honiara. The 2016 Leaders' Summit in Honiara had called on the Secretariat to utilise the expertise of PIDF members with trust funds in establishing the RDTF. The PIDF established a working group of PIDF members with trust fund, to prepare proposals on the setting up of the RDTF for consideration of the next PIDF Summit. Several meetings of the working group were held with the assistance of White & Case, to review in particular the issue of location and type of trust fund. Further consultations were undertaken, including meetings and discussions with the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

A final recommendation for the establishment of the regional Trust Fund in 2019, will be made to the PIDF leaders at the next PIDF Governance meetings. The SOC also considered a report on the establishment of National Sustainable Boards (NSDBs) in PIDF member countries. PIDF's Deputy Secretary General and Team Leader Projects travelled extensively in all PIDF member countries except Palau conducting workshops in each country to assist members establish their NSDB's.

Nauru, RMI, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Tonga have established their NSDBs, with FSM; Kiribati; Tokelau; Vanuatu; Fiji; Timor Leste; and Palau still to do so. PIDF members were reminded of out their obligations under the Charter in setting up their NSDBs to ensure the objectives of the organisation as mandated by the leaders of the PIDF are delivered. No additional NSDB were established by the remaining member countries in 2018, and this remains a critical issue for future implementation of the PIDF strategic plan in each country. The Secretariat has put together a strategy for finalising the establishment of the NSDBs; and to finalise the Board's Operation Manual and build the capacity of newly formed NSDB to operate as the national platform for liaison and implementation at local level. A concept proposal for NSDB operationalisation has been submitted to the Government of India for financial support and all NSDBs are planned to be made operational in all member countries in 2019.

Establishing and nurturing partnerships

The 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 73) opened on September 18, in New York. The PIDF Secretary General and Team Leader Strategic Communications Nitish Narayan participated and contributed to the meeting. They also held several strategic meetings to further the work of the Secretariat and engage with key development partners. Discussions on the margin of the meeting were held with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) to further PIDF's work in the area among its members through triangular modality. A substantial outcome of the meeting was the positive response to the funding request for the Pacific Solar Head of States Initiative submitted in July to the India Permanent Representative to the United Nations (PRUN). Funding is approved in principle through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund a dedicated facility within the UNOSSC established in 2017. Discussions with the Fiji Permanent Representative to the United Nations H.E Satyendra Prasad continued, on PIDF's role in rendering regional support to the *Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS)* in light of Fiji assuming the Chairmanship of this group at the end of 2018.

The team also attended a strategic meeting on Island Resilience Partnership with its partners. The work dovetails with the Island Resilience Initiative consultation work (phase 1) of which PIDF is an integral partner and was concluded in early 2018. Other substantive follow-up meetings were also held with Dual Citizens LLC on the development of green economy index for PSIDs; CIVICUS on climate induced displacement and continuing the work for the inclusion of this key issue into the Global Compact; and International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) on the Pacific Bamboo Centre proposal. It was a busy year for the Secretary General, who met with the Director of the Strategy and Programme Management Division Adnan Aliani, and with officers of the Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization Unit Maria Misomicova and Srinivas Tata at the Economic and Social Commission (ESCAP) for Asia building in Bangkok to discuss on-going work with ESCAP-Pacific.

PIDF's work in the implementation of the SDGs, synergies with ESCAP on green growth and the Blue Economy in Asia-Pacific were also deliberated. This meeting included discussion on PIDF's participation in upcoming ESCAP regional meetings on the Pacific SDGs framework, in a joint Pacific workshop on South-South Cooperation and also on developing a MoU of collaboration between PIDF and UN-ESCAP. In this context, the PIDF participated in the SAMOA Pathway Pacific consultations on the mid-term review meetings in Tonga and subsequently to the preparation meeting and Pacific report held in Samoa.





The Secretary General attended the Asia-Pacific South-South Cooperation consultations for BAPA+40 in March, and the first Asia-Pacific Director General's Forum held in Bangkok. As a follow-up, a team from PIDF attended the Global South-South Development Expo 2018 in November in New York, completed a draft of a South-South in Action Series publication on PIDF and participated in panels and meetings on the Alliance for South-South Cooperation and the South-South Network, among others. These activities further consolidate the role of PIDF as the Pacific Islands platform for South-South Cooperation.

During 2018, a series of new partnerships were developed with several international and regional organisations and strategic agreements were entered into with organisations including Commission for Science and Technology for Sustainable Development of the South (COMSATS) on partnership for Centres of Excellence in Science and Technology to be supported in Pacific Islands; AIESEC (Global Youth Organisation) on implementing Youth Speak Forum on Climate change and Oceans in Fiji; Aruba Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development in SIDS (COE) to share lessons learned and best practices in SIDS.

PIDF collaborated with Green Cross France and Territories to look at issues involving climate and oceans, while promoting declaration for humanity; the Pacific Islands Universities and Research Network to promote green growth and Blue Economy in research programmes in the Pacific.

It partnered with Pacific-UNOHCHR to promote human rights in the implementation of SDGs, with a focus on mental health, climate-induced migration and albinism; and also the Pacific China Friendship Association (PCFA) to engage with the in-country members of PCFA in implementation of PIDF's Strategic Plan and joint actions in promoting China's technology and people-to-people interactions for SDGs in the Pacific.

The Secretariat also continued to collaborate with various international and regional organisations on various aspects of the Strategic Plan, including INBAR, ISA, while becoming member of GLISPA, the International Partnership on Blue Carbon (IPBC) and IRENA Lighthouse Initiative for SIDS.

Increasing PIDF's reach

Despite efforts to increase PIDF membership in 2018, it remains at 14 members. During 2018, the Secretariat held meetings with Wallis & Futuna President of the Territorial Assembly and a resolution for membership was endorsed by the Territorial Assembly giving the authority to the President to accede to the PIDF Charter.

The Secretary General participated in the eighth Micronesia Non-For-Profit Congress in Guam in April 2018, and was allowed to hold meetings with high-level officials of CNMI and Guam about PIDF membership.

Representation was made to PNG Prime Minister Hon. Peter O'Neil and to Prime Minister of Samoa Hon. Tuilaepa Sailele Lufesina Malieleaogi during their official visits hosted by the Government of Fiji. During COP24 in Poland, discussions on membership were held with the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, Hon. Henry Puna and his Chief of Staff, while discussions were held with high-level officials of the office of the Prime Minister of Niue.

A meeting with French Polynesia President Hon Edouard Fritch and senior officials of government, private sector and civil society were held in Papeete when PIDF attended the third PIURN Conference. Throughout the year, PIDF staff visited and had activities in five member countries: Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Palau and RMI. A request to accede to the PIDF Charter as a new member was made officially by the Pacific Disabilities Forum (PDF), as a new Civil Society member.

A Working Paper for approval by the Conference will be submitted to the 2019 MRC and Leaders' Summit for approval to become the 15th member of PIDF. To lead by example, an internal assessment report and recommendations were made for setting up a Green PIDF Office Strategy. The proposed strategy will be submitted to the Leaders' Summit for endorsement. This will include initiatives for reducing and reaching zero-carbon emissions by the Secretariat.

Effective communication is key to creating more visibility for PIDF. The work of the Strategic Communication Unit for the year focused on the production of high quality communication material and publications including PIDF's E-Bulletin; monthly member updates; maintaining strong and regular social media presence; preparing and designing flyers, posters and invitations to meetings, symposium, exhibitions, conferences and Talanoa events, organised by partners and PIDF.

The Communication Unit led the design and production of a new PIDF output, the Talanoa series of reports from meetings and technical programmes promoted by the organisation. It also drafted a South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Action publication on PIDF, published jointly with UNOSSC.

Finally, the Communication Team Leader has continued to maintain strategic collaboration with mainstream national media and regionally with the Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) and the newly formed and Tonga-based Pacific Earth Journalism Network (PEJN).





FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

The 2018 financial year has been positive in that the organisation has received its largest voluntary funding since its inception in 2015. At the 2016 PIDF Leaders' Summit in Honiara, the Leaders called for "assessed contributions" in order to encourage members to contribute to the budget, conscious of the Secretariat's reliance on voluntary contributions.

A sub-committee on members' contributions was convened and in 2017 issued a set of guidelines on assessment of member contribution. Members are urged to consider supporting the Secretariat along the lines of these guidelines, which have been circulated to members and also to other eligible members Wallis and Futuna and French Polynesia, who specifically requested this information.

For 2018 financial contributions received from PIDF member countries to date were from five different member countries – Fiji, Tuvalu, Nauru, Timor-Leste, and Solomon Islands for a total of FJD\$ 1,913,000. This is the largest voluntary funding received by PIDF in its relatively short history.

The need for member contributions is crucial for PIDF operations and programmes of activities to continue in 2019, while the set-up and capitalisation of the Trust Fund is on-going and being finalised.

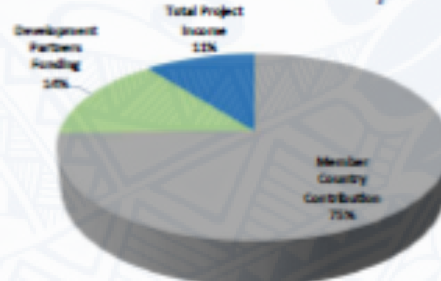
In addition to the members' contribution, the Secretariat received the total amount of FJD\$ 648,000 in development partner grants over the 2018 financial year, each being specifically allocated to a concept proposal for an activity, project, for travel or an event.

PIDF Financial Contributions & Expenses Year 2018

	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Total
Income (Financial Contribution)	\$ 522,253	\$ 658,781	\$ 600,040	\$ 779,890	\$ 2,560,964

Detail	FID Year 2018	%
Member Country Contribution	\$ 1,912,966	75%
Development Partners Funding	\$ 374,929	15%
Total Project Income	\$ 2,73,068	11%
Total Income 2018	\$ 2,560,964	100%

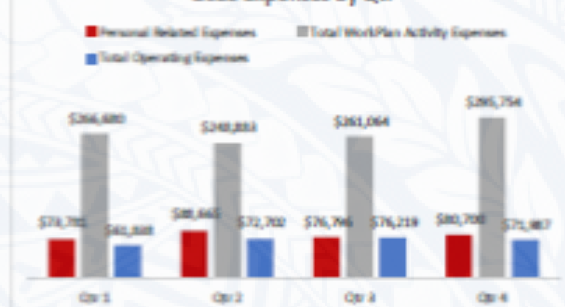
2018 Financial Contribution by %



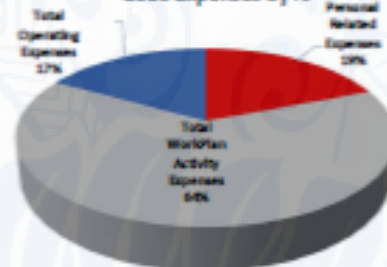
PIDF Expenses Year 2018	FID Year 2018	%
Personal Related Expenses	\$ 319,941	19%
Total WorldPlan Activity Expenses	\$ 1,072,381	64%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 282,746	17%
Total Expenses 2018	\$ 1,675,068	100%

	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Total	%
Personal Related Expenses	\$ 73,781	\$ 88,685	\$ 76,796	\$ 80,700	\$ 319,941	19%
Total WorldPlan Activity Expenses	\$ 266,680	\$ 248,883	\$ 261,064	\$ 295,754	\$ 1,072,381	64%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 61,838	\$ 72,702	\$ 76,219	\$ 71,987	\$ 282,746	17%
Total Expenses by Qtr	\$ 402,299	\$ 410,250	\$ 414,078	\$ 448,441	\$ 1,675,068	100%

2018 Expenses by Qtr



2018 Expenses by %



	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
Income (Financial Contribution)	\$ 522,253	\$ 658,781	\$ 600,040	\$ 779,890
Expenses	\$ 402,299	\$ 410,250	\$ 414,078	\$ 448,441

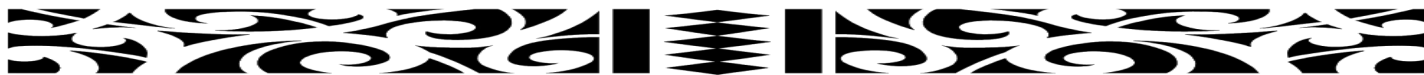
Income Vs Expenses 2018





A United, Distinctive & Sustainable Pacific Society

Pacific Islands Development Forum



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Email: secretariat@pidf.int Website: www.pacificidf.org

In accordance with a resolution by the Secretariat of Pacific Islands Development Forum (the Forum), we state that:

- i) the accompanying statement of comprehensive income of the Forum is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the Forum for the year ended 31 December 2018;
- ii) the accompanying statement of financial position of the Forum is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Forum as at 31 December 2018;
- iii) the accompanying statement of cash flows of the Forum is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows of the Forum for the year ended 31 December 2018;
- iv) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities;

For and on behalf of the Secretariat and in accordance with a resolution by the Secretariat.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2019.

Secretary General



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Pacific Islands Development Forum

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Pacific Islands Development Forum (the forum), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018, statement income, and statement of cash flows for the period then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Pacific Islands Development Forum at 31 December 2018, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the period then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Forum in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountant's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Fiji and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Secretariat for the Financial Statement

The Secretariat of the forum is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with IFRS for SMEs and for such internal controls as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the secretariat is responsible for assessing the forum's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the secretariat either intends to liquidate the forum or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Secretariat is responsible for overseeing the forum's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud and error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken basis on the financial statements.

www.hlbmannjuddfiji.com

HLB Mann Judd (Fiji)

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Suva Office: Level 2, Mid City, Waimanu Road, Suva | Ph: (679) 331 1061

Labasa Office: 1st Floor, Bahadur Ali Building, Nasekula Road, Labasa | Ph: (679) 881 1561

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)

Other Matter

The financial statements of Pacific Islands Development Forum for the year ended 31 December 2017 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

Restriction on Distribution or Use

This report is made solely to the members of Pacific Islands Development Forum. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Pacific Islands Development Forum those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Pacific Islands Development Forum and the members of the forum as a body, for our audit work, for this report, and for the opinion we have formed.

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STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
Income		
Voluntary contributions	2,288,885	1,797,562
Project income	295,807	15,443
Sponsorship in-kind	54,450	45,483
Amortization of deferred capital grant	13 12,257	12,257
Total income	<u>2,651,399</u>	<u>1,870,745</u>
Expenditures		
Work plan and institutional meeting costs	467,595	947,914
Personnel related expenses	1,025,765	1,129,387
Other operating expenses	302,840	288,299
Depreciation and amortization	52,449	45,049
Total expenditures	<u>1,848,649</u>	<u>2,410,649</u>
Net Surplus/ (Deficit)	<u>802,750</u>	<u>(539,904)</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
ASSETS CURRENT ASSET		
Cash and cash equivalents	868,468	91,371
Receivables	11 81,746	56,121
Total current assets	<u>950,214</u>	<u>147,492</u>
NON CURRENT ASSET		
Intangible assets	12 14,629	26,067
Property, plant and equipment	13 55,357	77,743
Total non current assets	<u>69,986</u>	<u>103,810</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,020,200</u>	<u>251,302</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Payables and accruals	57,002	75,667
Employee entitlement provisions	24,534	27,464
Total current liabilities	<u>81,536</u>	<u>103,131</u>
Non Current Liabilities Deferred income	14 6,128	18,385
Total non current liabilities	<u>6,128</u>	<u>18,385</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>87,664</u>	<u>121,516</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>932,536</u>	<u>129,786</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Balance at beginning of year	129,786	669,690
Net surplus / (deficit)	802,750	(539,904)
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	<u>932,536</u>	<u>129,786</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash receipts in the course of voluntary and other contribution	2,613,517	1,813,005
Cash payments to suppliers, employees and project reimbursement costs	(1,817,795)	(2,300,859)
Net cash flows provided / (used) from operating activities	<u>795,722</u>	<u>(487,854)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payment for intangible asset -	(28,054)	
Payment for plant and equipment	(18,625)	(11,410)
Net cash flows used from investing activities	<u>(18,625)</u>	<u>(39,464)</u>
Net increase /(decrease) in cash held	777,097	(527,318)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning	91,371	618,689
Cash and cash equivalents at year-end	<u>868,468</u>	<u>91,371</u>



EVENTS

[illegible]

Universal Declaration of Human Rights Celebration

[illegible]

**Film "BLUE" screening
and Blue Economy
Panel**

[illegible]

**Island Resilience
Initiative Consultation
Palau**

[illegible]

**Island Resilience
Initiative Consultation
Fiji**







SAVE THE DATE

8-16 November, 2018
PACIFIC ISLANDS Campus, Suva, Fiji

PACIFIC ISLANDS TRANSPORT FORUM & EXPO

Turning the Tide: decarbonizing Pacific transport

Transport is the very lifeline of the Pacific Islands region. Across the region, the need for timely, affordable, accessible and safe and secure and transport is essential for all of those communities development and well-being. A better sense of a connected region is the region's largest need today. The largest local, regional and global need is to ensure that the region's transport infrastructure is the region's largest need today. The largest local, regional and global need is to ensure that the region's transport infrastructure is the region's largest need today. The largest local, regional and global need is to ensure that the region's transport infrastructure is the region's largest need today.

Hosted by the Secretariats of FICP at the Market Islands and the University of the South Pacific, the Multilateral Transport Forum & Expo will bring together a wide range of stakeholders from the Pacific Islands region and beyond to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the Pacific Islands transport sector. The forum will focus on the following key areas:

- Improving transport infrastructure as a way to drive economic growth and wellbeing.
- Reducing the carbon emissions and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Improving transport infrastructure as a way to drive economic growth and wellbeing.
- Reducing the carbon emissions and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Improving transport infrastructure as a way to drive economic growth and wellbeing.
- Reducing the carbon emissions and greenhouse gas emissions.



We invite all those with an interest in this critical area to register your interest in attending and being part of the solution. A full programme and other related products will be made available.

For further information contact:

Ms. Shweta Nandan | shweta.nandan@unipacific.org

Ms. Vaniresha Dissanayake | vaniresha.dissanayake@unipacific.org

Ms. Koushik Chandra | koushik.chandra@unipacific.org

Ms. Nisha de Lencastre | nisha.delencastre@unipacific.org

Ms. Anindita Das | anindita.das@unipacific.org

Support for:





Co-located with the Pacific Islands Transport Forum & Expo










Pacific Islands Transport & Expo

[illegible]

Green Growth Panel


[illegible]

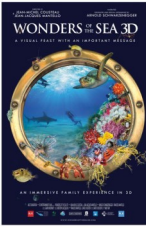
**Island Resilience
Initiative Consultation
RMI**


invite you to the premiere of

WONDERS OF THE SEA 3D





Thursday July 26th, 8.30 pm
Damodar Cinemas
Grantham Rd
Suva, Fiji



In the presence of
Jean-Michel Cousteau

This is a personal invitation for 2 people
 Confirmation and information : grana.prata@post.net.fj or [contact+6773333333](tel:+6773333333)

Wonders of the Sea
3D Screening

[illegible]

Private Sector Roundtable

[illegible]

Empowering Youth Northern

[illegible]

Decarbonize Pacific Shipping Webinar

[illegible]

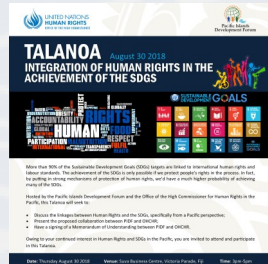
SDG14 Pacific Commitments

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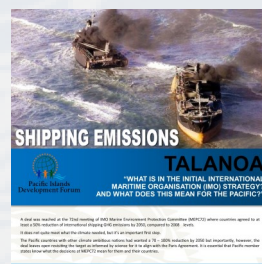
Empowering Youth Western



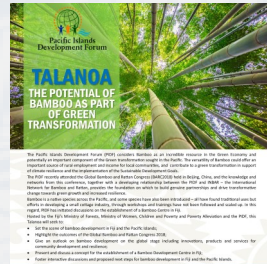
Talanoa-Youth Engagement for SDGs



Talanoa-Human Rights & SDGs

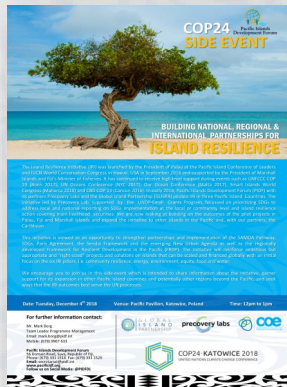


Talanoa-Shipping Emissions

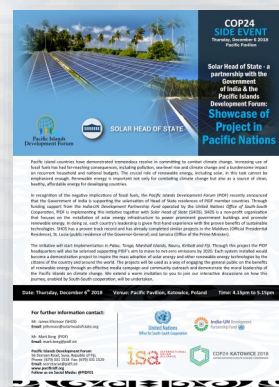


Talanoa-Bamboo

COP24 EVENTS



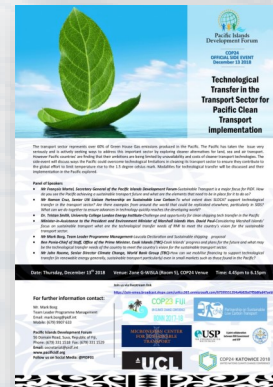
COP24 Side Event-Island Resilience



COP24 Side Event-Showcase of Sola



COP24 Side Event-Pacific 2050 Emissions Pathway



COP24 Side Event-Pacific Clean Transport



COP24 Side Event-Role of National Human Rights Institutions in the Pacific



COP24 Side Event-Potential of Bamboo

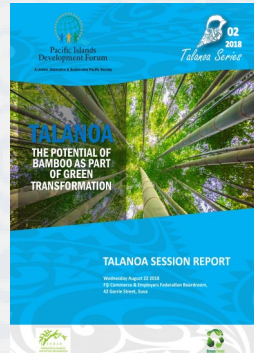


COP24 Side Event-Climate induced Displacement

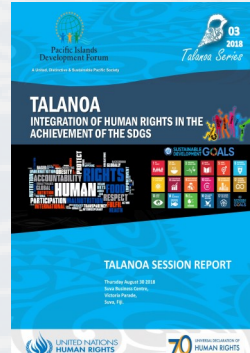
PUBLICATIONS



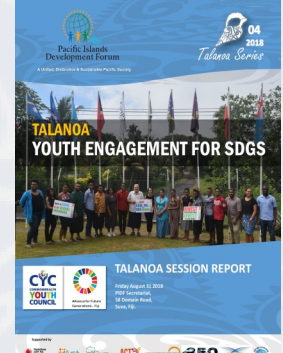
**Talanoa Series 1:
Shipping Emissions**



**Talanoa Series 2:
Bamboo**



**Talanoa Series 3:
Human Rights & SDGs**



**Talanoa Series 4: Youth
Engagement for SDGs**



Annual Report 2017



COP24 Report



**SDG14 Symposium
Report**



**Pacific Technical Officers'
Workshop on Shipping
Emissions Reduction
Report**



STAFF LISTING **MANAGEMENT**



Secretary General
François Martel



Deputy Secretary General
Penijamini Lomaloma



Team Leader
Programme Management
Mark Borg



Team Leader
Member Capacity
Arpana Pratap



Team Leader
Research Policy & Evaluation
Viliame Kasanawaqa



Team Leader
Corporate Services
Vinita Prasad



Team Leader
Strategic Communications
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Programme Management**
Nikhil Lal



**Executive Assistant
Secretary General**
Joyce Qaqalilai



**Executive Assistant
Deputy Secretary General**
Litia Sevakasiga



Admin Assistant
Raginald Khan



*** Admin Assistant**
Orisi Samoce



Driver
John Swamy

* Completed contract in September 2018.



PURPOSES

The PIDF shall drive, through national, regional and international frameworks, transformative changes by focusing on the sustainable and inclusive development of Pacific Islands by:

- Advocating the very real and pressing significance of climate change for the lives and livelihoods of Pacific Islands and Pacific Islanders;
- Implementing policies for sustainable development and especially poverty eradication that respond to the challenges posed by climate change and globalisation;
- Accelerating the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development namely environment, social, and economic, to harmonise the pursuit of economic growth with the needs of societies and the sustainability of the environment;
- Facilitating the use of tools, approaches and innovations, such as Green-Blue Pacific economy, leadership and genuine partnerships to stimulate robust debate while fostering an inclusive change agenda.

FUNCTIONS

The PIDF shall:

- Serve as a dynamic regional partnership platform that recognizes, celebrates, promotes and preserves the diversity of Pacific cultures, their history and the challenges they face from climate change, globalisation and development;
- Provide an inclusive regional multi-stakeholder forum to enable collaboration between leaders and representatives of Pacific governments, civil society and private sector to take ownership of their decisions and actions to address their special development needs;
- Serve as the Pacific regional counterpart for south-south groupings and other regional and international arrangements that focus on sustainable development and especially poverty eradication in Pacific Islands to ensure policy coherence at all levels;
- Advocate for a robust, effective, inclusive and transparent follow-up and review process to connect activity at national, regional and international levels;
- Secure the support of development partners through formal agreements for technical assistance and financial resources to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication outcomes;
- Promote innovation through the adoption of robust policy designs, good governance practices, and scalable and adaptable technology choices to deliver transformational changes;
- Support the development of national infrastructure of development to connect with regional and international institutions;
- Develop an information hub for the dissemination of information on Green-Blue growth, sustainable development and especially poverty eradication.

Our Values



PASIFIKA

The essence of being from the Pacific Islands. We share a common attachment to Pacific ways of life recognising history, culture, traditions and the impacts of climate change on our islands. The Pacific should be governed by and for Pacific Islanders.



DEDICATION

The feeling of strong support and loyalty, being dedicated to island resilience. We value a shared and enduring commitment to Green/Blue Pacific economies, sustainable development and especially poverty eradication in Pacific Islands.



SOLIDARITY

Unity and agreement in action, in the face of Pacific Islands common interest and challenges. We ensure mutual support within our Pacific societies for the most vulnerable island communities in the spirit of cooperation, cohesion and *esprit de corps*.



UNIVERSAL

Inclusivity and covering a whole collectively with representation, participation and engagement available equitably to all members of our Pacific societies. We operate under multi-stakeholder governance at all levels including public sector, civil society and private sector.



FORTITUDE

The Spiritual and emotional strength in facing difficulty and adversity caused by climate change impacts and globalisation. We affirm Pacific spirituality as a foundation of nurturing and building resilience in Pacific communities.



SYNERGY

The power of the interaction and cooperation among partner organisations, to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects. We promote durable and genuine partnerships with development partners driven by Pacific interests.



Pacific Islands Development Forum

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www.pacificidf.org

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