



Concept note

PACIFIC RESILIENCE MEETING

6 – 8 July 2021

www.resilientpacific.org

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INTRODUCTION

The biennial Pacific Resilience Meeting (PRM) is a key component of the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) governance arrangements endorsed by the Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2017 to support the effective implementation of the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Climate Change and Disaster (FRDP) 2017 – 2030.

The PRM provides a platform that brings together all stakeholders within the resilience space to elevate and demonstrate relevant Pacific-led resilience actions that inspire genuine learning and connection through diverse and inclusive approaches from our home to the global stage.

Since the inaugural PRM in 2019, the world is still grappling with the impacts of COVID-19 with the Pacific not immune to these impacts further intensifying this region's vulnerabilities to climate change and natural hazards. Yet during such trying times, a consistent positive theme has emerged across the region that acknowledges resilience building is most effective through local actions based on local capacity.

THEME

Our people, Our journey: nurturing Pacific resilience from home

Our PRM 2021 theme emphasizes that building resilience starts with our people, our home and our communities. It recognizes the resilience of our Pacific people culturally and traditionally whilst at the same time embracing new and modern challenges and opportunities. It also emphasizes that we all have a responsibility and are accountable through the actions and approaches we take for a resilient Pacific and through information and knowledge sharing, learning and improving from our experiences, as a collective our journey towards a resilient future is achievable.

As a further narrative, our Pacific people have always embarked on remarkable voyages across thousands of miles of ocean with only their senses and traditional knowledge to guide them. Frigate birds across our region were, and still are known, to provide a warning to communities when bad weather is impending.

Today, one of the biggest journeys of the Pacific region is to lead the world towards reducing carbon emissions and turning the tide on the devastating impact of climate change and disasters. This fight begins at home from villages managing their own freshwater supplies in the face of increasing droughts to remote islands rebuilding homes after cyclones hit. This is made more difficult in the current climate as the global pandemic causes shutdowns and the slowing of humanitarian aid processes.

Home in the Pacific is a collective evolution from families, villages, communities, towns, provinces and cities to our great nations and our broader Blue Pacific region.

To honour the thousands of years of cultural approaches to resilience in the face of disaster whilst recognising the increasing risks posed by climate change and the need to transition towards a carbon neutral energy sector, this year's Pacific Resilience Meeting theme is **Our people, Our journey: nurturing Pacific resilience from home.**

Looking back to our traditional practices and past helps guide us combined with the advancements in science and technology that protect, restore and sustain our communities, nations and region in the face of climate change and disaster.

Through Pacific storytelling approaches, localised understanding of resilience building actions that provide learning and contribute to the fabric of resilience across our region, and the generation a Pacific-led and owned spaces to drive increased resilience standards that are relevant, effective and culturally sound.

This is our home and finding ways to make our Pacific region more resilient will provide for a future that is secure and enables the sustained well-being of our people and communities.

PURPOSE of 2021 PRM

The purpose of this meeting is to **elevate and demonstrate** relevant **Pacific-led resilience actions** that **inspire** genuine **learning** and **connection** through diverse and inclusive approaches.

The 2021 Pacific Resilience Meeting will achieve this through **engaging** resilience practitioners, new partners, younger generations, and communities that **nurture resilient solutions** from our home to the global stage.

OBJECTIVES 2021

1. **ENGAGE** the audience, Pacific Leaders, decision-makers and international partners/donors to hear local, home-grown resilience actions (making content engaging, inclusive, representative, culturally sound and inspiring).
2. **CONNECT** the Resilience Community to collaborate, partner, learn, act and be heard on the successes, work and future challenges facing the region in an inclusive and localised manner – leading to new partnerships / Technical Working groups.
3. **DEMONSTRATE** the progress of the FRDP, its goals and its principles based on best resilience-building practices and standards.
4. **INSPIRE** and connect the resilience community and broader stakeholders through the innovative, practical, and successful learnings across the Pacific in actions supporting a resilient Pacific from diverse, dynamic and inclusive spaces.
5. **ELEVATE** resilience outcomes, work and challenges to our Pacific Leaders, decision-makers, global institutions, and international/donor agencies towards Pacific-led resilience into the future such as COP26 2021, the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022, the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 and the 5th Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting in 2022.

OUTCOMES

The outcomes are intended to be forward-looking, building on ongoing initiatives whilst identifying potential opportunities and challenges that will strengthen our Pacific people Leadership towards driving national and regional actions, engagement and commitments

Furthermore, the Pacific Resilience Meeting will guide outcomes that will be used to:

1. Support global and regional engagement at the Pacific Disaster Ministerial 2022, COP26 2021, the United Nations Global Platform 2022 and the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2022.
2. Report to Pacific Leaders through the Forum processes (Forum Officials Committee and Leaders Meeting) to drive national and regional engagement and support a sustained commitment to resilience action.
3. Ensure inclusive, diverse, multi-stakeholder representatives have the space to engage, collaborate, network and support our collective actions towards a safer and more resilient Pacific.

AUDIENCE

- From within the Pacific: Multi-stakeholder audience with representatives from government to community, CSOs, private sector, regional organisation, development partners and academia.
- From outside the Pacific: the virtual format can allow to reach out to a broader audience and to link up with practitioners from around the world.

FORMAT

The Virtual event will be run over 4 hours each day during the 3-day event including:

- 3 strong plenaries (beginning of each day) and a closing session.
- 12 thematic sessions (four per day run parallel)
- 3 learning labs

Plenary Sessions

There will be three plenary sessions – to kick-off each of the three days – with a maximum duration of 45 minutes, and a closing session. The plenaries will have approaches/formats to bring in strong messages, along with some interactivity and participant engagement.

- **Day 1** Tuesday 6th July (10.00 am-11.00am): Opening and setting the stage for the PRM
- **Day 2** Wednesday 7th July (10.00 am-11.00am)
- **Day 3** Thursday 8th July (10.00 am-11.00am); Closing session (2.00 pm-3.00 pm)

Parallel Sessions

A total of **12 sessions** have been defined by the organising committee.

There are **2 timeslots per day** for the plenary sessions: 12pm-1.00pm, and 1.00pm-2.00 pm (Fiji time)

The diversity of content for the PRM has been organised in four pillars: **Integrate | Include | Inform | Sustain**. Details on the pillars can be read here below on page 6.

This approach enables: (1) structuring the content in a digestible and a relevant way for a wide audience, (2) ensuring the content is in line with the 2021 meeting objectives, (3) providing a variety of choices for attendees (parallel sessions to choose from).

Learning Labs

There will be four learning lab opportunities during the PRM. The learning labs are a space for innovative, practical and tested examples of resilient actions that have had significant benefits across the sector. This could be a scientific approach and how this translated to resilience at country level or could be an example of effective community resilience building initiative.

The selection of topics for each lab will be through an open call for expressions of interest amongst stakeholders. The selection of the successful learning lab topics and coordinators will be undertaken by the PRM Organising Committee.

- Monday 5th July (3.00 pm-4.00pm)
- Tuesday 6th July (2.00 pm-3.00pm)
- Wednesday 7th July (2.00 pm-3.00pm)
- Thursday 8th July (2.00 pm-3.00pm)

PRM FOCUS in 2021

The **Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP)** provides high level voluntary guidance to different stakeholder groups working to build resilience to climate change and disasters in the Pacific islands region.

Important progress has been made implementing the FRDP but systematic change is needed to build a resilient future that: (1) puts climate and disaster risk at the heart of development decision making and practice; (2) supports and empowers those most at risk; (3) values traditional knowledge, integrates Pacific worldviews and spirituality, whilst strengthening partnerships for sharing good practice and learning; and (4) draws upon low carbon and nature-based solutions, whilst addressing underlying vulnerabilities, and ensuring resilient development is sustainable.



The PRM draws on the essence of the underlying messages in the FRDP and the structure of the event reflects this under **4 standards of resilience** as follows:



1) INTEGRATE climate, disaster, environmental, health and social risks; and mainstream into development.



2) INCLUDE and prioritise the needs, rights, and capacities of the most vulnerable, including people living with disabilities; and protect human rights.



3) INFORM resilience building through open and ready access to traditional knowledge and contemporary disaggregated data; by incorporating cultural and traditional resilience, worldviews, and spiritual beliefs; and by strengthening partnerships for sharing lessons and best practice.



4) SUSTAIN resilience building by incorporating ecosystem-based management and guardianship; addressing the root causes of vulnerability including poverty and inequity; strengthening local capacity and ownership for timely and effective preparedness, response, recovery, and risk informed development; and by promoting low carbon development.



INTEGRATE

Session 1:
Putting integration into
action: a youth-led
conversation

Session 5:
People-centred
infrastructure to sustain
post COVID boom

Session 9:
Understand your risks:
Risk Financing Solutions
and Responses

INCLUDE

Session 2:
The Shift to locally-led
Resilience System
(formal/informal)

Session 6:
Bringing it Back Home.
Our Resilience and Our
Rights –Nothing More,
Nothing Less

Session 10:
Youth in the face of
COVID19

INFORM

Session 3:
Improving risk
communication for
better resilience

Session 7:
Traditional wisdom
and practices
essential for resilient
communities

Session 11:
Leveraging
technology for all

SUSTAIN

Session 4:
Covid 19 'syndemic':
multiple risks, Response
& Green Recovery

Session 8:
Status, challenges and
opportunities for Low
Carbon Development in
the Blue Pacific

Session 12:
Care for nature: Building
a resilient Pacific
through Nature-based
Solutions

DAY 1

Day 2

Day 3

ANNEX 1: Organising Committee Members

MEMBERS

1. Chair: Rhonda Robinson, SPC
2. Anais Rouveyrol, SPC
3. Lisa Kingsberry, SPC
4. Shivanal Kumar, Climate Change Division, Ministry of Economy, Fiji
5. Daniel Lund, Climate Change division, Ministry of Economy, Fiji
6. Jim Armistead, Cook Islands
7. Andy McElroy, UNDRR office for the Pacific
8. Raijeli Nicole, OXFAM Pacific
9. Susan Grey, FemLink Pacific
10. Katie Greenwood, Head office IFRC Pacific
11. Meiapo Faasau, IFRC Pacific
12. Sevuloni ROKOMATU, IFRC Pacific – Youth rep
13. Cedric Hoebreck – Worldvision Australia, HAD
14. Viliamu Iese, USP
15. Emeline Siale Ilolahia, PIANGO
16. Stephen Lion, PIPSO
17. Nilesh Narayan, NDC hub, GIZ
18. Teea Tira, PIFS
19. Mosese Sikivou, PIFS
20. Sione Fulivai, SPREP
21. Vanda Faasoa-Chan Ting, SPREP

Support

1. Sharon Tohaimae, PIFS
2. Viliame Cativakalakeba, PIFS
3. Exsley Taloiburi, PIFS
4. Karlos Lee Moresi, PIFS
5. Ritesh Verma, PIFS
6. Yo Kunieda, UNDRR office for the Pacific
7. David Baker, UNDRR office for the Pacific

FIJI TIME	5 th July		Day (1) 6 th July	Day (2) 7 th July	Day (3) 8 th July			
11.00 11.45		Plenary	Self-Reliance in an interconnected world	Transforming ideas into reality through behavioural change to drive resilience at all levels	Partnering for Resilience: a collective impact			
12.00 12.50	PRE-PRM YOUTH FORUM <i>See program</i>	Technical sessions <i>Main organiser noted below</i>	Session 1 Putting integration into action: a youth led conversation Worldvision, Pacific MET Council, UNDRR, SPC	Session 2/include The Shift to locally-led Resilience System (formal/informal) – What is at Stake? TWG localization (Siale/ PIANGO)	Session 5 People-centred infrastructure to sustain post COVID boom OXFAM/IFRC	Session 6/include Bringing it Back Home. Our Resilience and Our Rights –Nothing More, Nothing Less - Gender and Disability FemLINK	Session 9 Understand your risks: Risk Financing Solutions and Responses PRP Technical Working Group	Session 10/include Youth in the face of COVID19 IFRC and Pacific Youth Council
13.00 13.50	<i>See program</i>		Session 3/inform Improving risk communication for better resilience UNDRR/SPC/ USP	Session 4/sustain Covid 19 ‘syndemic’: multiple risks, Response & Green Recovery USP/NDC hub /SPC/IFRC	Session 7/inform Traditional wisdom and practices essential for resilient communities LMMA network	Session 8/sustain Status, challenges and opportunities for Low Carbon Development in the Blue Pacific NDC hub/SPC/ GGGI/SPREP	Session 11 /inform Leveraging technology for all SPC / SPREP	Session 12/sustain Care for nature: Building a resilient Pacific through Nature-based Solutions SPREP/SPC
14.00 15.00	<i>See program</i>	Learning Labs	Learning from each other: integration in theory and practice across levels in the Pacific (consortium)	Climate Justice Human Rights in the Pacific (PICAN)	Driving Inclusive Multistakeholder Partnerships: Redesigning the Table (Shifting the power coalition)			
15.00 16.00	Youth led discussion on enhancing disaster data collection (UNDRR)				CLOSING SESSION			



ANNEX 3: List of sessions

Plenary 1: Self-reliance in an interconnected world

Plenary 2: Transforming ideas into reality through behavioural change to drive resilience at all levels

Plenary 3: Partnering for Resilience: a collective impact

Session 1/ integrate: Putting integration into action: a youth led conversation

Session 2/include: The Shift to locally-led Resilience System (formal/informal) – What is at Stake?

Session 3/inform: Improving risk communication for better resilience

Session 4/sustain: Covid 19 ‘syndemic’: multiple risks, Response & Green Recovery

Session 5/ integrate: People-centred infrastructure to sustain post COVID boom

Session 6/include: Bringing it Back Home. Our Resilience and Our Rights –Nothing More, Nothing Less - Gender and Disability

Session 7/inform: Traditional wisdom and practices essential for resilient communities

Session 8/sustain: Status, challenges and opportunities for Low Carbon Development in the Blue Pacific

Session 9 / integrate: Understand your risks: Risk Financing Solutions and Responses

Session 10/include: Youth in the face of COVID19

Session 11 /inform: Leveraging technology for all

Session 12/sustain: Care for nature: Building a resilient Pacific through Nature-based Solutions

Learning lab (1): Youth-led discussion on enhancing disaster data collection

Learning lab (2): Learning from each other: integration in theory and practice across levels in the Pacific

Learning lab (3): Climate Justice Human Rights in the Pacific

Learning lab (4): Driving Inclusive Multistakeholder Partnerships: *Redesigning the Table*