

PIANGO July e-Update

1. Secretariat News

PIANGO strengthen relationship with AUSAID

PIANGO Executive Director, Bakanebo Tamaroa, Technical Advisor, Emele Dudituraga and Information Sharing Programme Manager, Katabwena Tawaka met with Yeshe Smith and Evelyn Lol of AUSAID to discuss working relationship. According to Yeshe, PIANGO contributes to the concept of Leadership hence AUSAID positively looking for a close working relationship. For more information email bakanebo@piango.net

4th PIMER Consultation

PIANGO convened its 4th PIMER (Planning, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting) Consultation from the 20 - 23 April at the Pacific Theological College. 16 National Liaison Unit (NLU) Executive Directors met to deliberate on the strategic direction for the PIANGO Secretariat. For more information email bakanebo@piango.net

Outcome Statement- 4th PIMER Consultation

For the first time, the PIANGO Secretariat produced an outcome statement for participants and other other NLUs that did not make it to the meeting. The outcome served as a working document that summarised the resolutions of the three meeting. Read [more>](#) For more information email katabwena@piango.net

Pacific Media Assistance Scheme

AUSAID Building for better Governance programme manager, Evelyn Lol met with Information Sharing Programme manager Katabwena Tawaka to discuss further on the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme. Evelyn was pleased with the draft workplan and has given the green light to proceed with the project. For more information email katabwena@piango.net

NLU Executive participate in media training

NLU Directors had the opportunity to participate in a media training conducted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's Regional Media Centre. The training was conducted by Larry Thomas and Ruci Mafi through a joint partnership between PIANGO and SPC. For more information email katabwena@piango.net

Positive development of Resource Centre

The PIANGO Resource centre has been through some positive developments. Currently, Reshma, PIANGO Resource Centre Assistant has been busy setting up the books at the new location within the Secretariat. For more information email reshma@piango.net

Conference Room available for use

The Conference Room located at the PIANGO Secretariat in Nasese, Suva, is available for use by NGOs. The Conference Room will hold up to 15 people, is air conditioned with a whiteboard and has kitchen and bathroom facilities attached. For bookings, contact the PIANGO Secretariat on (+679) 330 2963 or email piango@connect.com.fj

2. Pacific NGO News

Kiribati - KANGO

Kango approves \$177,000 for 35 outer island projects

At least \$177,000.00 worth of building materials and equipment has been approved by KANGO's EDF9 Working Group Committee to support and fund 35 health-related projects this year for different NGOs and CBOs on the islands of Abemama, Kuria, Aranuka, and North Tarawa.

EDF9 Project Manager Taiaki Irata told *Kango News* 80 percent of the money has been paid to a procurement agency in Tarawa to purchase materials and equipment needed for the successful implementation of the project from overseas suppliers. [More>](#)

Kango spearheads efforts to curb inflation

The association of Non-Governmental Organizations in Kiribati, KANGO, is spearheading moves to tackle the current crisis of rising fuel and food costs as well as finding alternative sources of energy, using solar, wind power, and coconut oil. It is also concerned about other social issues emanating from sea-level rise and climate change as well as the increase in youth population and unemployment, executive director of KANGO Roko Timeon says. [More>](#)

Fiji - FCOSS

FCOSS concerned with the High Cost of Living

The community concern about the rising cost of fuel, food and fees has become the national talking point. The social and economic systems are on the verge of catastrophic change, for which our communities have not been prepared. Since embracing the economic policy of globalisation and all that goes with it, we as a nation relied totally on this for deliverance to economic prosperity. The present crisis of cost uprising is the result of this over reliance on one system. [More>](#)

Australia - ACFID

Opportunity for NGOs to provide online input to research on water, sanitation and hygiene investment options

The International WaterCentre (IWC) and the Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF) at the University of Technology, Sydney are working with AusAID to guide the strategic direction and investment options for water, sanitation and hygiene, with a particular focus on engagement with NGOs working in the water and sanitation sector. [More>](#)

World Bank chief says \$6 billion in food aid needed every year due to continuing high prices

The president of the World Bank, Robert Zoellick, said on Saturday that poor countries will need some \$6 billion in food aid annually, with food and energy prices expected to remain high for many years.

[More>](#)

Full Details of ACFID Council 2008 now available: Council 2008- Climate Change: a changing climate

ACFID Council and AGM for 2008 will be held at the Marque Hotel, Canberra on 23 and 24 October. Council 2008 includes a hypothetical role play about responding to a humanitarian emergency, keynote addresses by Dr Peter Christoff (who currently teaches climate policy at the University of Melbourne and is Vice-President of the Australian Conservation Foundation) and Ms Nelly Caleb (acting national coordinator with Vanuatu's Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association), an opportunity to raise issues and present new ideas in the Members' Open Forum, and a diverse range of workshop topics to choose from. [More>](#)

3. GDP Courses and Dates

To find out more about the GDP, the course timetable for 2008 is available on the [PIANGO website](#).

Community Research: PNG, 12-16 May

The focus of this course is on the two most common uses of research in NFP organisations - needs and assessment and programme evaluation. This course aims to equip students with the skills and confidence to plan their own community research, evaluation or assessment, as well as to demystify research concepts so that they can more confidently evaluate the research findings of others.

Volunteering: Fiji, 5-9 May

This course investigates the special attributes of volunteers and paid staff and how these can be utilised for maximum benefit. People who complete this course successfully will be able to recruit, motivate, empower, manage and retain volunteers and paid staff for "NFP" organisations.

Governance: Samoa, 9-13 June

This course enables students to clearly distinguish between governance and management, to critically evaluate the relationship between the two roles and to understand the complex functions of a not-for-profit governing body. On successful completion students will be able to work effectively with and within the governing body of a not-for profit organisation.

Financial Management: Vanuatu, 16-20 June

Focuses on making accounting and financial systems work for NFP organisations. You analyse financial information, learn how to prepare and understand financial statements, evaluate accounting software and examine the differences between the needs of for-profit and NFP organisations.

To apply for a place on these courses, please contact your local country contact:

Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS)

Email: fcoss@connect.com.fj

People applying from: Kiribati, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga and Fiji.

Katrina Juliet Esera-Take, Samoa Umbrella of NGOs (SUNGO)

Email: sungotraining@lesamoa.net

People applying from Fiji, Tonga, Niue and Samoa.

Emeline Siale Ilolahia, Civil Society Forum Tonga (CSFT)

Email: csft@kalianet.to

People applying from Samoa, Fiji and Tonga.

Henry Vila, Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO)

Email: vango@vanuatu.com.vu

People applying from Solomon Islands and Fiji

Development Services Exchange (DSE)

Email: teamleader@dse.org.sb

People applying from Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Nauru.

or PIANGO, to Bakanebo Tamaroa on bakanebo@piango.net or piango@connect.com.fj

4. Pacific Donor and Funding News

AUSAID

13 July 2008: Australia's additional \$50m for food crisis The Australian Government today confirms it will provide \$50 million to a new World Bank trust fund to stimulate agricultural production in developing countries adversely affected by recent steep increases in food prices. The \$50m is in addition to the \$30m the Australian Government contributed to the World Food Programme for emergency humanitarian food aid in May. The World Bank is seeking \$500 million for the new fund and Australia's contribution represents 10% of the World Bank's appeal target. [More>](#)

31 July 2008: Australia and Nauru Sign Memorandum of Understanding

Nauru's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Kieren Keke, and I today signed a Memorandum of Understanding which governs Australia's development assistance to Nauru. Australian development assistance to Nauru supports health, education, economic and financial management and public sector capacity building, including policing assistance. The MOU represents the Australian Government's commitment to help Nauru restore essential infrastructure and services and to improve economic self-sufficiency. [More>](#)

Commonwealth Foundation

11 April 2008: Civil Society April Grant Recipients Named

At its April Grants Committee meeting, the Commonwealth Foundation approved funding for 17 civil society organisations to improve collaboration and ensure sustainable futures for a broad range of communities around the Commonwealth. A combination of civil society organisations, including Commonwealth Associations will now benefit from £264,689 of grants for activities supporting the Commonwealth Foundation's three programmes of sustainable development, governance and democracy and culture and diversity. [More>](#)

24 April 2008: Working Together Key to Addressing Climate Change in Cities

"No one group of society can solely mitigate, prepare or plan for a city that can support its people without destroying the environment it lives in". That was the message from civil society, governments and professionals at the latest climate change briefing organised by the Commonwealth Foundation with support from the British Council. The briefing - the fourth in a series of six tackling climate change issues across the Commonwealth - featured five speakers from planning, architecture, development, and other areas key to planning built environments, in front of an audience of civil society organisations and representatives of Commonwealth governments. [More>](#)

European Commission

5 April 2008: Samoa Call for Proposals

Under the Non State and Local Authority in Development thematic programme for the European Commission has been made available for Samoa of €50,000 [More>](#)

28-29 April 2008: EPA meeting in PNG

Trade Ministers as well as Civil society and business representatives from Pacific ACP states and from European Union will meet in PNG to take stock of the progress made so far in the negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement. [More>](#)

NZAID

5 April 2008: NZ Supports Eco-tourism Development in Afghanistan

Prime Minister Helen Clark said today that New Zealand will be supporting an eco-tourism project in Bamyán Province in Afghanistan over the next three years. Helen Clark made the announcement today from the NATO leaders' summit in Bucharest, Romania, where the

future of international support for Afghanistan was discussed. [More>](#)

Current Issue 8 April 2008

Marine research in Tuvalu that will empower people to make decisions about their environment. [More>](#)

UNDP

3 April 2008: UNDP Contributes more resources to Pacific

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) announced today that it has doubled its resource allocation to 10 Pacific Island Countries for 2008-2010. [More>](#)

27 April 2008: New UN Presence More resources

The United Nations in Solomon Islands today launched its Joint Presence - a collaboration among the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). [More>](#)

5. Pacific Regional NGO News

Greenpeace

21 April 2008: Tuna Overkill

Greenpeace has taken action against the US purse seiner, Cape Finisterre, in a pocket of international waters between Pacific Island countries known as the Pacific Commons. [More >](#)

6. Crop Agency News

PIFS - Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

1 April 2008: Implementing the Pacific Plan

The region's senior government officials and technical agency heads met in Nadi, Fiji, to deliberate on progress of the Pacific Plan. [More>](#)

23 April 2008: Forum Mission to Monitor Nauru's Election

The Pacific Islands Forum will send two observers to monitor the general election in Nauru on 26th April. This follows a request from the government of Nauru. [More>](#)

24 April 2008: Dates for 39th Pacific Islands Forum confirmed

The 39th Pacific Islands Leaders' Forum and related meetings will be held in Niue in the week of 18th August 2008. [More >](#)

28 April 2008: Tuvalu Ratifies PICTA

Tuvalu is the eleventh Forum Island Country (FIC) to ratify the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA). PICTA is a Free Trade Agreement among the FICs, which aims to gradually reduce import duties on goods that originate from the member countries. Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu have ratified PICTA. [More>](#)

SOPAC

22 April 2008: Energy Efficiency Efforts Is All it Takes - A Call for energy Security

Energy efficiency and conservation emerged as an important issue in the Pacific region due to the continuing increase in the world market oil prices which affect increases in electricity tariffs, transportation costs, prices of consumer goods and services. [More >](#)

22 April 2008: national Capacity Assessment to Determine Vanuatu's Response Ability

A week long assessment of Vanuatu's tsunami warning and mitigation system which begins today will help the country better prepare for tsunamis, says Vanuatu Meteorological Service Director, Mr Jotham Napat. [More >](#)

28 April 2008: Samoa Works Towards an Efficient Tsunami Early Warning System

This week, Samoa will receive a boost to its existing tsunami warning and mitigation system, with the support of an international team who will lead a week long tsunami warning and mitigation system workshop. The devastating Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004 highlighted the need for the global community to protect coastal communities, by working towards efficient and robust tsunami early warning systems. Last years Solomon Islands tsunami, which took the lives of approximately 22 people, was a solemn reminder of the tsunami threat existing

in the Pacific Ocean.

[More >](#)

SPC - Secretariat of the Pacific Community

24 April 2008: NGO Alliance against HIV/AIDS

Responding to a traditional Fiji sevusevu ceremony in his honour as part of the opening formalities to a Pacific regional NGO Alliance against HIV/AIDS in Suva. Delegates were visibly moved by the custom prelude to the keynote speech, which summed up a key aim of the meeting – to put the house of its Pacific NGO organizations working against HIV/AIDS in order, and move forward in solidarity. [More>](#)

24 April 2008 French territories to discuss CEDAW reporting process

Over 70 representatives from governments, local bodies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisations in the three French Pacific territories will attend a meeting on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) at SPC headquarters in Noumea next week. The delegates, from French Polynesia, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna, will assess progress on the implementation of CEDAW in the three territories and discuss the CEDAW reporting process. [More>](#)

30 April 2008: RICS first assignment: linking Gaire to the global community

The community of Gaire, in the Central Province, is in a state of excitement. This rural community, located an hour's drive southeast of Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) and home to about 2500 people, will be the first operational rural site for the Pacific Rural Internet Connectivity System (RICS). The Pacific RICS project is aimed at providing affordable high-speed Internet access and radio to rural and remote communities. It is undertaken within the Digital Strategy and defined by the Pacific Plan approved by the Forum leaders in Port Moresby in 2005. [More >](#)

SPREP - South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

8 April 2008: Ramsar Convention meeting in Samoa

The Oceania region is coming together to develop a stronger Pacific voice at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention in October. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is coordinating a two-day preparatory meeting to be held at SPREP headquarters in Apia, Samoa from 10-11 April. [More>](#)

25 April 2008: Future Pacific Environment Leaders commit to action

The Pacific has come together to develop a united strategy in preparation for the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) 9th Conference of the parties to be held in May this year. A three-day retreat saw nine Pacific islands countries meet to outline their priorities and how they will work together at the CBD's Conference of the parties.

[More>](#)

7. Other News

CIVICUS

CIVICUS Legitimacy, Transparency and Accountability Programme at the World

Assembly. CIVICUS' members to develop a project and assist in strengthening LTA structures. Registration for 8th CIVICUS World Assembly 2008 now open [More>](#)

Submit your topic suggestion for the 'BBC World Have Your Say' at the CIVICUS World

Assembly. The global interactive programme broadcasting live from the 2008 CIVICUS World Assembly. Registration for CIVICUS Youth Assembly 2008 now open [More>](#)

Islands Business

April 2008

The Pacific islands region's leading current affairs and business magazine published monthly. Distributed throughout 22 island countries. March edition includes Forum Budget Fiasco, Ongoing concern over World Bank and Sea Cucumbers. [More >](#)

SEED / AECD

Seed Educational Technologies for Education Award: Deadline 15 April 2008

The Seed Award for Educational Technologies for Development (SET4D) aims at promoting the development of promising researchers in developing countries in the field of Educational Technologies and ICT4D, through offering opportunities for learning, visibility and

networking. [More >](#)

UNICEF

International Children's Day of Broadcasting (ICDB): Deadline 16 May 2008 Submissions are now open for the 2008 ICDB Awards. The competition is open to radio and television broadcasters who participated in the 2007 International Children's Day of Broadcasting with programs on the theme "The World We Want." [More >](#)

US Embassy - Scholarship

Fullbright Scholarship and Humphrey Fellowship Announcement - Application deadline 1 July 2008

The US Embassy in Suva is pleased to announce Fulbright Scholarship and Humphrey Fellowship opportunities for the 2009-2010 academic year are now open to citizens of the following eligible Pacific island states: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. [More >](#)

Women PeaceMakers Program

Applications now open for the 2008 Program: Deadline 23 May 2008

The Program invites four women from around the world who have been locally involved in human rights and peacemaking efforts. Women accepted into this program are seeking ways to further their peacemaking efforts in their home countries. [More >](#)

8. Calendar of Meetings & Activities

Calendars of Meetings and Activities are available at the following websites:

[ADB](#)

[Commonwealth Foundation](#)

[East-West Center](#)

[Forum Fisheries Agency](#)

[Forum Secretariat](#)

[SPREP](#)

[WTO](#)

9. About PIANGO, Suggestions, Feedback

Your suggestions for future articles are welcome, as well as any feedback on recent articles.

The closing date for article submissions for the April e-Update is Friday 25 May 2008. Article submissions should be brief and text only. Please email to piango@connect.com.fj

About PIANGO

The Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) is a regional network of NGO focal points or coordinating bodies known as National Liaison Units (NLUs) based in 21 Pacific Island countries and territories.

PIANGO was formally established in 1991 to assist NGOs in the Pacific to initiate action, give voice to their concerns and work collaboratively with other development actors for just and sustainable human development. PIANGO's primary role is to be a catalyst for collective action, to facilitate and support coalitions and alliances on issues of common concern, and to strengthen the influence and impact of NGO efforts in the region.

National Members

Member contact details can be found on the [PIANGO website](#)

Aotearoa / NZ - ANGOA

Australia - [ACFID](#)

Cook Islands - CIANGO

Fiji - [FCOSS](#)

Kiribati - KANGO

Micronesia (FSM) - [FANGO](#)

Nauru - NIANGO

Niue - NIANGO

PNG (interim) - MNCL

Samoa - SUNGO

Solomon Islands - DSE

Tahiti - Hiti Tau
Tonga - [CSFT](#)
Tuvalu - [TANGO](#)
Vanuatu - VANGO

Interim Members

Bougainville - Nikana Ma'atara
East Timor - CSCBF
Guam - Sanctuary Inc
Palau - PCAA
Wallis and Futuna - ASCV
West Papua

Observers

American Samoa
Hawaii
Marshall Islands

e-Update in French language

The e-update is also available in French. Please advise us if you would like to receive the e-Update in French by sending an email to piango@connect.com.fj

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