

# PIANGO

Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations  
Association des ONGs des Iles du Pacifique

February 2008

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## 1. Secretariat News

### Executive Director's Courtesy Visits

Whilst in New Zealand for the PAC meeting, Bakanebo Tamaroa paid a courtesy visit to the New Zealand International Aid and Development Agency (NZAID) and the Development Resource Centre (DRC). The purpose of the visit to NZAID was to discuss further the Grant Funding Agreement. Bakanebo also visited the Council for International Development (CID) to meet its new Executive Director David Culverhouse. For more information contact bakanebo @ piango.net

### Acting New Zealand High Commissioner to Fiji visits PIANGO

The New Zealand acting High Commissioner to Fiji, Caroline McDonald visited the PIANGO Secretariat on 26th February to strengthen PIANGO's working relationship with NZAID. Ms McDonald had an opportunity to discuss the Grant Funding Agreement with the PIANGO Board, with plans for signing the agreement in March.

### Board Meeting

The first PIANGO Board meeting for 2008 was held at the PIANGO Secretariat from 24-26 February. The Board acknowledged the hard work of the Secretariat with the assistance of Emele Duituturaga. Major events discussed were the PIMER consultation to be held 20-23 April and the PIANGO council. For more information, contact bakanebo @ piango.net

## Capacity Building

### GDP Pacific Advisory Committee

PIANGO Executive Director, Bakanebo Tamaroa attended the Pacific Advisory Committee meeting held at the UNITEC campus in Auckland on Friday 8th February. The meeting was attended by Pacific Advisory trainers from Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu and PNG. For more information, contact bakanebo @ piango.net

## Information Sharing

### PIANGO to continue work on Regional Mapping project

Bakanebo Tamaroa and Tim O'Donovan, DRC's Executive Director, met in Wellington recently to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PIANGO and DRC. The two directors both agreed that they should focus on joint projects including further development for PIANGO's website and the Regional Mapping Project.

### **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**

### ***Cook Islands - CIANGO***

#### **New Centre Fund Raising**

The land lease for CIANGO's new centre is almost through with the legal conditions and also the plan for the two story building. The various affiliated groups have had successful fund raisings with each of the 58 member groups raising \$5,000 each as their contribution towards the new building. It is very pleasing to see the efforts of the groups, and most of these groups are from the outer island.

#### **International Women's Day event**

CIANGO is giving its full support to the International Women's Day on 8 March, which is being spear-headed by the National Council of Women, and commencing with pikelets for breakfast on the morning of 7 March at the SINAI Hall at 7am. The cost of the breakfast is \$10 per person and the proceeds will go towards the NCW operation fund raising.

#### **CI Global Volunteers celebrate 100th Group**

As host for the Global Volunteers in the Cook Islands, CIANGO will be hosting the celebration of the 100th group of volunteers that have come to the Cook Islands. Other organisations have shown interest in the celebration and are already planning activities for that special day on 12th March. The program is under the leadership of Debi Futter - Country Manager for the Cook Islands Global Volunteers.

### ***Papua New Guinea - MNCL***

#### **MNCL New Board Chairperson**

In November 2007, Mr Moale Vagi, the Deputy National Director with Prison Fellowship PNG, was elected as the new Chairperson of the MNCL Board of Trustee. He brings on board vast technical and community-wide experience, including banking, human resources and community leadership. The new Board underwent Board Induction and Management Training facilitated by an experienced National Governance Trainer.

### ***Solomon Islands - DSE***

#### **New National Coordinator for the GEF Small Grant Programme**

UNDP has announced that they have recruited the National Coordinator for the Global environment Fund (GEF), Ms Arlene Lingo, who took up duty as of the 4th February. She will be formulating the National Steering Committee and then together they will formulate the Country Programme Strategies (CPS).

### ***Tonga - CSFT***

#### **Canadian Visitors to CSFT**

A group of Canadian Parliamentarians visited Tonga to meet with government, business and the civil society sector, including the Civil Society Forum of Tonga and its members.

#### **Australian Visitors to CSFT**

The Australian Parliamentary Secretaries for International Development Assistance and Pacific Island Affairs met with CSFT members to get a greater sense on the network with the Pacific region and to make sure there is a continuous engagement across all the Pacific countries.

## **Tuvalu - TANGO**

### **Tuvalu NGO Learning Complex**

TANGO is still in the process of building the NGO Learning Complex. Initially scheduled for completion in September 2007, the Learning Complex (which is a "H"-shape building) has now delayed its completion due to the frequent delays of its supplies from abroad. The construction of the complex has been divided into 4 phases, where each phase has its own portion of construction. Phase 1 which includes the foundation only of the whole building has already been completed. Phase 2 which includes the first wing of the "H" shape complex is now underway. Phase 3 and 4 will be implemented in the near future.

## **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: Fiji, 3-7 March; 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.

### **Volunteerism: Papua New Guinea, 3-7 March; 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.

### **Culture and Values: Fiji, Vanuatu, 31 Mar - 4 April**

This course explores what is different about managing a NFP organisation than a business or government department. Students examine the distinct values, culture and characteristics of NFP organisations in Aotearoa, overseas and of your organisation in particular. Students analyse what this means for their approach to management, leadership and their learning on this programme.

### **Small Team Leadership: Solomon Islands, 14-18 April**

This course equips students with the skills needed to create and sustain effective teams, design and run training for staff and clients, make the most of meetings, and facilitate groups and teams at work. Students will also analyse the nature of conflict within an organisation and will be able to harness it creatively to empower individuals and teams. Theories and models are actively tested and the learning is designed for students to develop skills and strategies that can be applied directly to their organisation.

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

### Asian Development Bank (ADB)

#### **8 February 2008: Electronic Banking to Bring Financial Services to Vanuatu's Rural Areas**

Rural areas in Vanuatu, out of normal reach of bank branches, will soon enjoy access to modern banking services thanks to funding support from Japan and the ADB that will bring electronic banking and card-swipe technology as close as the local shop.

*More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2008/12394-vanuatu-financial-projects/>*

#### **15 February 2008: Cook Islands' Infrastructure Development Plan to Include Climate Proofing Projects**

The ADB and the governments of Japan and New Zealand are helping Cook Islands prepare an infrastructure development plan that will include climate proofing projects to mitigate the impact of severe weather events.

*More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2008/12397-cook-islands-infrastructures-developments/>*

#### **22 February 2008: Economic Report Indicates Some Optimism for Medium-Term Growth in Nauru**

While Nauru will continue to rely on its relationship with donor nations, the medium-term outlook for the country's economic health is optimistic as Government reforms begin to take hold, according to the latest ADB Country Economic Report on the small Pacific island nation.

*More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2008/12404-nauru-economics-reports/>*

### AUSAID

#### **2 February 2008: Australia-Pacific Technical College Up and Running in Samoa**

More than 50 students have begun classes at the new Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC) in Samoa.

*More >*

*[http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=5442\\_6107\\_9143\\_2058\\_8210](http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=5442_6107_9143_2058_8210)*

#### **2 February 2008: Opening of New Samoa Police Headquarters**

Law and order in Samoa will be significantly boosted with the opening of a new state-of-the-art Samoan Police Headquarters in Apia. The new headquarters is part of the five-year \$15.6 million Samoa Police Project designed to create a safe, secure and stable environment in Samoa. Construction costs were funded by AusAID and built by Samoan craftsmen.

*More >*

*[http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=2584\\_8774\\_5690\\_5825\\_9086](http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=2584_8774_5690_5825_9086)*

#### **3 February 2008: Australia to Help Pacific Countries Tackle Climate Change**

Australia is working with Samoa and other Pacific Island countries to address the impacts of climate change. The Australian Government is providing more than \$2 million to support community adaptation activities in Samoa, Fiji, Vanuatu, Tonga and Solomon Islands.

*More >*

*[http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=8691\\_5911\\_1082\\_9057\\_4645](http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=8691_5911_1082_9057_4645)*

### **18 February 2008: Leading the Way on Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Asia-Pacific for Women in Humanitarian Crises**

As part of the Australian Government's commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), today I launched the AusAID funded \$3 million 'SPRINT' program - Sexual and Reproductive Health Program in Crisis and Post-Crisis Situations in East, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific.

*More >*

[http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=1711\\_6538\\_8819\\_8412\\_9040](http://www.usaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=1711_6538_8819_8412_9040)

## **Commonwealth Foundation**

### **22 February 2008: Pacific Journalists Focus on Media's Role in Development**

The Commonwealth Foundation, in partnership with the Commonwealth Press Union (CPU), is organising a workshop for young journalists from the Pacific region on "Preparing for Change: Supporting Development Journalism and Social Responsibility in the Pacific" in Honiara, Solomon Islands from 25 to 29 February 2008.

*More >* <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/news/detail.cfm?id=395>

## **NZAID**

### **February 2008: Currents**

Currents is the magazine of the New Zealand Government's international aid and development agency, NZAID. Published six times a year, it considers development issues and profiles New Zealand's international aid programme.

*More >* <http://www.nzaid.govt.nz/library/>

## **Oxfam New Zealand**

### **22 February 2008: PNG: Eileen Kolma on Oxfam's peacebuilding work**

There are two sides to Papua New Guinea: the beautiful side and the not so beautiful side - the violence against women, the gender inequalities, the conflicts, the poor governance. This is not to ignore the positive, for there are a lot of positive grassroots initiatives that are creating change and this is what Oxfam tries as much as possible to focus on.

*More >* <http://www.oxfam.org.nz/news.asp?aid=1715>

## **5. Pacific Regional NGO News**

### **WWF SP**

#### **20 February 2008: Earth hour in Fiji globally marks the urgency for action on Climate Change**

Earth Hour in Fiji and globally marks the urgency for action on climate change. A similar global effort took place three years ago with the launch the Kyoto Protocol. This month marks the third anniversary of the Kyoto Protocol.

*More >*

[http://www.wwfpacific.org.fj/current/news/press\\_releases/climate/08\\_02\\_Kyoto\\_earth\\_hour.cfm](http://www.wwfpacific.org.fj/current/news/press_releases/climate/08_02_Kyoto_earth_hour.cfm)

## 6. Crop Agency News

### Forum Fisheries Agency - FFA

#### **Niue Premier Young Vivian Visits FFA Headquarters in Honiara**

Premier of the Pacific Island nation of Niue, Hon Young Vivian arrived in Solomon Islands and immediately began a number of important engagements, including a visit to the Secretariat of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) in Honiara.

More > <http://www.ffa.int/node/1037>

### Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat - PIFS

#### **20 February 2008: PIFS commends Cooks Government on passage of first Pacific FOI law**

The 14th of February 2008 marks a landmark day in the Pacific, with the passage of the first Pacific Island Country Freedom of Information law by the Government of the Cook Islands.

More > <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2008/pifs-commends-cooks-on-foi-bill.html>

#### **22 February 2008: Pacific ACP Trade officials consider update on EPA negotiations with EU**

Pacific ACP Trade Officials considered an update on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations and other trade matters of importance to the Pacific ACP States (PACPS) in the EPA negotiations when they met in Nadi, Fiji on 21 February 2008.

More > <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2008/trade-officials-discuss-update-on-epa-negotiations.html>

### Secretariat of the Pacific Community - SPC

#### **7 February 2008: SPC appoints Amena Yauvoli to head its regional office in the Northern Pacific**

Mr Amena Yauvoli, a Fiji national, has been appointed Manager of the SPC Regional Office for the Northern Pacific in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

More > [http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=186&Itemid=1](http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=186&Itemid=1)

#### **24 February 2008: Workshop to initiate EU-funded agricultural commodities programme**

Consultative workshop on agricultural commodities will be held in Samoa at Hotel Kitano Tusitala, 27-29 February, 2008. The planned technical consultation will kick-off the All ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme, a EUR 45 million project funded by the EU until December 2010.

More > [http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=197&Itemid=1](http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=197&Itemid=1)

### SOPAC

#### **5 February 2008: Experts assist with Solomon Island's Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System**

SOPAC, in conjunction with key Solomon Islands personnel, a team of experts from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau), and Emergency Management Australia (EMA) will today begin a week long assessment of the Solomon Island's tsunami warning and mitigation system.

More > <http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-index.php>

## 7. Other News

### Australian Development Gateway

#### **Ask the environment specialist - March 17 - 31**

Climate change has a significant impact on the lives of those in developing countries, often the most vulnerable to these environmental changes. How they adapt is determined largely by their

level of development. From March 17th to 31st Dr Donna Green will answer your questions on climate change and development.

*More > <http://www.developmentgateway.com.au/jahia/Jahia/pid/4867>*

## **CID**

### **Disasters and Development - articles wanted**

The next issue of DevForum magazine will be on the theme 'disasters and development'. If you would like to write something on the impact of disasters on development, on preparing for and coping with disasters or anything else on this subject, please contact Sam at sam @ cid.org.nz to discuss subjects, deadlines and everything.

## **CIVICUS**

### **Registration for 8th CIVICUS World Assembly 2008 now open**

The CIVICUS World Assembly is a forum for international civil society representatives to get together, exchange ideas, experiences and build strategies for a just world.

*More >*

*[http://app.streamsend.com/c/121382/2652/mlm1qRk/H3Yp?redirect\\_to=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.civicassembly.org%2F](http://app.streamsend.com/c/121382/2652/mlm1qRk/H3Yp?redirect_to=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.civicassembly.org%2F)*

### **Registration for CIVICUS Youth Assembly 2008 now open**

Building on the success of last year's CIVICUS Youth Assembly the 2008 event will offer an exceptional opportunity to meet and work with other young women and men who are really making changes to things that matter.

*More >*

*[http://app.streamsend.com/c/121382/2662/mlm1qRk/H3Yp?redirect\\_to=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rnw.org.uk%3A80%2FCIVICUS2008.aspx](http://app.streamsend.com/c/121382/2662/mlm1qRk/H3Yp?redirect_to=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rnw.org.uk%3A80%2FCIVICUS2008.aspx)*

## **Islands Business**

### **February 2008**

The Pacific islands region's leading current affairs and business magazine published monthly. Distributed throughout 22 island countries. February edition includes High Seas Drama, \$M Cruise Business and Access Fees in the WTO.

*More >*

*[http://app.streamsend.com/c/69532/2262/mlm1qRk/H3Yp?redirect\\_to=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.islandsbusiness.com%2Fislands\\_business%2F](http://app.streamsend.com/c/69532/2262/mlm1qRk/H3Yp?redirect_to=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.islandsbusiness.com%2Fislands_business%2F)*

## **Pacific Future Leaders Environment Forum**

### **Call for applications closes Wednesday 27 February 2008**

The Pacific Future Environment Leaders Forum is a leadership initiative for young professional working in the area of environmental sustainability in the Pacific. This initiative aims to build the capacity of young Pacific islanders to facilitate adaption projects to reduce vulnerability to climate change in their communities. For information on how to apply email Ms Aliti Koroi on koroi\_al @ usp.ac.fj

## **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 > <http://www.seedlearn.org/award/>*

## **UNDP - Pacific Centre**

### **Pacific NGOs and CSOs at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**

The Pacific Centre will support the participation of four non government organizations (NGOs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) from the Pacific at the 52nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). This will be held at the United Nations headquarters in New York from February 25 to March 7.

*More > <http://regionalcentre.pacific.undp.org.fj/>*

## **UNIFEM**

### **12 February 2008: Pacific NGOs and CSOs at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**

Internationally acclaimed artists, social activists, and politicians, have added their names to the UNIFEM-led Say NO to Violence against Women campaign ([www.saynotoviolence.org](http://www.saynotoviolence.org)).

Hundreds followed suit at last night's Cinema for Peace annual gala event in Berlin, Germany.

*More > [http://www.unifem.org/news\\_events/story\\_detail.php?StoryID=654](http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=654)*

## **Women's Leadership Scholarship**

### **Pre-applications available until Friday 14 March**

The Women's Leadership Scholarship (WLS) program (formerly the Native Leadership Scholarship) creates educational opportunities for women activists, grassroots leaders, and organizers from the Global South and/or from indigenous groups. WLS pre-applications for the 2008-2009 academic year will be available beginning Jan. 1 through March 14, 2008.

*More > <http://www.nativeleaders.org/index.html>*

## **8. Calendar of Meetings & Activities**

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

ADB - <http://www.adb.org/News/calendar.asp>

Commonwealth Foundation - <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/diary/>

East-West Center - <http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/>

Forum Fisheries Agency - <http://www.ffa.int/event>

Forum Secretariat - <http://www.forumsec.org/event.cfm?cmd=list&sd=200802>

SPREP - <http://www.sprep.org/event/>

WTO - [http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/events\\_e/events\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/events_e/events_e.htm)

## **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 March e-Update is Thursday 27 March 2008.

Article submissions should be brief and text only. Please email to [piango @ connect.com.fj](mailto: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 at  
[www.piango.org](http://www.piango.org)  
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](mailto:piango@connect.com.fj)

**Privacy Policy**

This newsletter will be used to inform you of new and upcoming events and postings related to PIANGO and its activities. You will receive an e-newsletter about once every month and the quarterly PIANGO Link four times a year. Your information will not be sold, rented or leased to a third party. You can remove your name from the list at any time by following the instructions below.

**Archive**

Archived and current version of e-updates are available from the PIANGO website.