

PIANGO August e-Update

1. Secretariat News

CSO Parallel Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Accra, Ghana

PIANGO Executive Director, Bakanebo Tamaroa, and FSPI Regional Programme Manager for MORDI, Fakavae Taomia left for Accra in Ghana to represent the Pacific CSOs at the CSO Parallel Forum on Aid Effectiveness. For more information email bakanebo@piango.net

6th PIANGO Council

18 out of the 22 National Liaison Units met at the Rendezvous Hotel in Auckland, New Zealand for the 6th PIANGO Triennial Meeting. The main objective of the meeting was to elect new PIANGO Board members and discuss important PIANGO issues. For more information email bakanebo@piango.net

New Chair for PIANGO Board

Drew Havea has been elected the new PIANGO Board Chair for the next three years. Mr Havea has the honor of four new Board members from Tahiti (Gabriel Tetiarahi), Guam (George Salas), Fiji (Lorraine Tevi) and Papua New Guinea (Moale Vagi) with Kiribati (Claire Baiteke) and Niue (Ahohiva Levi) being re-elected to the Board. For more information please email: bakanebo@piango.net.

Council Adopts PIANGO Constitution Amendments

The 6th Council has endorsed and adopted the amended constitution which will be ready for layout and design for publication. The adopted constitution will be posted on the PIANGO website soon for your information. For more information please email: katabwena@piango.net

2008 Pacific Regional CSO Forum

More than 100 participants attended the 2008 CSO Forum held back to back with the 6th PIANGO Council in Auckland, New Zealand. With a difference to previous CSO Forum, this years Forum focussed on building the capacity of CSOs and agreeing on prioritized outcomes for CSOs action. For more information please email: katabwena@piango.net

CSO Accountability Workshop

A CSO Accountability workshop was conducted by the One World Trust and attended by more than 10 NLUs. For more information on the workshop please email: bakanebo@piango.net

Mini PIMER Consultation

Executive Directors of NLUs and PIANGO Secretariat met to discuss pending issues from the 4th PIMER Consultation held earlier this year. Major issues discussed were strengthening policy engagement at national level, Media Needs Assessment and Sub-Regional Meetings. For more information please email: katabwena@piango.net

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

The Fiji Council Bi-Annual Conference will be held from the 5th-7th September in Lautoka, Fiji

The major objectives of the meeting are to build capacities of CSOs in information sharing, strengthening key relationship and ensuring performance to ensure organizations effectiveness, increase understanding of CSO roles in social responsibilities and social rights and to

develop social leadership skills of community based organizations. For more information email: ambalika@fco.org.

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>](#)

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 Marquee 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](#).

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.

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

Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS)

Email: fco.org

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.

People applying from FSM, Palau, Guam and CNMI send your applications 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, 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>](#)

11 August 2008: Australia commits upto \$2.5 Billion (21.25 Trillion Rupiah) to Indonesia Australia will provide up to AUD 2.5 billion (21.25 trillion rupiah) over the next five years to Indonesia to tackle poverty and assist it to achieve its social and economic development priorities. Indonesia is Australia's largest development assistance partner. Australia is committed to working in partnership with Indonesia to meet its Millennium Development Goals and create a better life for the poorest people in Indonesia. [More>](#)

14 August 2008: Australian Humanitarian Assistance following conflict in Georgia Australia will provide \$1 million to deliver emergency humanitarian assistance to people adversely affected following the conflict in Georgia. The recent conflict has caused the displacement of over 100,000 people according to estimates by both the Government of Georgia and the Russian Federation. The International Committee of the Red Cross reports 2,000 dead and a further 3,500. [More>](#)

28 August 2008: Australia carries MDG3 torch I am pleased today to accept a Millennium Development Goal 3 Champion Torch from the Danish Government to highlight Australia's commitment to gender equality. The MDG3 Champion Torch initiative was launched in Copenhagen in March. More than 100 torches will travel around the world prior to the UN High Level MDG meeting on 25 September 2008. Millennium Development Goal 3 is to Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women. The goal is critical to the practical achievement of progress in developing countries. [More>](#)

Commonwealth Foundation

14 July 2008: Commonwealth speaks of the experience of the vulnerable

Climate change champions spoke of the need to see vulnerable community groups as experts at the Commonwealth Foundation's latest briefing. The briefing, entitled Climate Change: Vulnerability and Voice, brought together representatives of Commonwealth governments was held in the presence of His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales. One of the briefing's key speakers, Head of the Red Cross / Crescent Climate Centre Madeleen Helmer, said that poor people - not groups like the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change were the experts. "People who have not moved from where they live for decades are the experts," Helmer said. "They see the weather patterns change. They are not alien to the effects of climate change; it's something they have seen happening." [More>](#)

21 July 2008: HIV Prevention-Using Culture in the Commonwealth

The Commonwealth Foundation's Human Development Programme joined with its Culture Programme to deliver a joint approach to tackling HIV and AIDS. The briefing delivered the message that culture in all its forms and definitions needs to be integrated with HIV and AIDS mitigation strategies if the Commonwealth is to stem the increase of HIV infections across all regions. The briefing was attended by Commonwealth High Commissioners, international development organisations and members of the civil society. [More>](#)

24 July 2008: Caribbean cultural organisations call for UNESCO Convention ratification

Caribbean governments should observe the 2005 UNESCO cultural Convention in trade negotiations and agreements. That was among the key messages when cultural organisations met in Trinidad in July 2008 to discuss how to move towards ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in the Commonwealth Caribbean. [More>](#)

8 August 2008: Foundation supports civil society in Cameroon

A forum explored the potential for further partnerships between civil society organisations and communities. The Inter-Agency Forum held at British Council offices in Yaounde, Cameroon, on Wednesday 30 July 2008, explored the potential for further partnerships between civil society organisations and communities nationally and regionally. [More>](#)

8 August 2008: Rwanda discusses importance of civil society

Representatives gather to discuss the role of civil society in rebuilding the country. The Commonwealth Foundation Director Dr Mark Collins visited Kigali, Rwanda's thriving capital, to brief officials and civil society on the "people's Commonwealth" in the run-up to consideration of Rwanda's application to join. In a full day meeting on 5th August attended by UK and Uganda Ambassadors, Minister of Local Government Hon Protais Musoni and Minister for Justice Hon Tharcisse Karugarama, amongst many others, Dr Collins emphasized the Foundation's role in strengthening the rich diversity of civil society organizations and explained in detail the Foundation's programmes and their work. [More>](#)

18 August 2008: New approaches needed to meet climate change challenge

New approaches are needed to meet climate change challenges. Attitude, approaches and policy need to shift at national, regional and European level if civil society is to effectively address biodiversity loss and climate change, reported a recent high-level international conference. [More>](#)

28 August 2008: Caribbean NGOs plan joint HIV & AIDS approach

Government representatives and civil society groups must work together to tackle HIV & AIDS issues in the Caribbean. NGOs from the Commonwealth Caribbean meet in Barbados to strategise on mitigating the impact of HIV and AIDS in the region. The Commonwealth Foundation facilitated a three-day regional workshop for Caribbean civil society organisations (CSOs) working on HIV and AIDS to strategise on effective grassroots initiatives to address the challenges in containing the AIDS pandemic in the Caribbean. This regional initiative held in Barbados from 25-27 August was the first key activity of the Pan-Commonwealth Civil Society Network on HIV and

AIDS for the region which is headed by the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA). National and regional CSOs/NGOs representing the Commonwealth Caribbean and Overseas Territories working with people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS participated. [More>](#)

29 August 2008: Commonwealth Civil Society leads the fight to end AIDS in Malawi

Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO), a Malawi civil society organisation received an award from former Zambian President. Former Zambian President, His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda praised non-governmental organisation Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO) for its efforts in promoting awareness of key interventions in addressing HIV and AIDS in Malawi. "Their work has touched the lives of many people and has been duly recognised not only here in Malawi but also by the international community at large", Dr. Kaunda said. [More>](#)

NZAID

10 July 2008: NZ to help nursing in the Pacific

New Zealand will contribute \$4.5 million over three years to the World Health Organization (WHO) to support and strengthen nursing in the Pacific, Foreign Minister Winston Peters announced today. "Our partnership with the WHO will focus on improving the quality of nursing services and education in the Pacific, as well as creating new opportunities for continuing education," said Mr Peters. "There is a critical shortage of skilled healthcare workers in the region, which presents a serious threat to people's health. [More>](#)

15 July 2008: NZ and PNG sign new aid strategy

New Zealand is to increase its development work in Papua New Guinea, with the focus on health, education and economic growth, Foreign Minister Winston Peters announced today. "The government, through its development agency NZAID, will fund projects worth over \$300 million over the next ten years to help PNG meet its development goals," Mr Peters said. "The NZAID-Papua New Guinea country strategy signed in Port Moresby today marks a major milestone in the relationship between the two countries, and demonstrates New Zealand's commitment to a healthy and prosperous Pacific. [More>](#)

20 August 2008: RSE Scheme extended to Solomon Islands workers

The New Zealand Government is establishing a scheme to provide training in New Zealand for [Recognised Seasonal Employer](#) (RSE) scheme workers from the Pacific, and is inviting Solomon Islands to join the five other nations which already have kick start status under the scheme, Prime Minister Helen Clark announced from Niue today. [More>](#)

21 August 2008: NZ committed to a healthy Pacific

New Zealand will work to help Pacific governments build health systems that deliver quality care to all, Prime Minister Helen Clark announced today at the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting. "Over the next seven years New Zealand, through NZAID, will spend over \$2 billion in development assistance to the Pacific region. The [New Zealand Pacific Development Strategy](#) sets the direction for our assistance and prioritises health-related activities and includes greater coordination with other donors," Helen Clark said. [More>](#)

5. Pacific Regional NGO News

Greenpeace

19 August 2008: Leaders urged to fortify Pacific Region: Greenpeace

The region needs to be fortified against regional security threats such as excessive greenhouse gas emissions, overfishing, and rampant deforestation Greenpeace urged leaders at the Pacific Island Forum in Niue this week. Greenpeace Pacific Political Advisor Seni Nabou said the Pacific faces an increase in cascading impacts of climate change that put at risk regional security such as: food, energy, health and natural resources. [More>](#)

26 August 2008: Protecting forests saves our climate

New Greenpeace has launched our Forests for Climate tour with a colourful welcome in Papua New Guinea. Our ship, Esperanza, will tour the region protecting forests and showing how deforestation contributes to climate change. To the sounds of beating drums and singing, the Esperanza docked in the tropical heat of Port Moresby. The ship's crew was welcomed by traditional Huli, Kairuku, and Oro dancers along with Asaro mud men from coastal and highland regions. Dancers' costumes were made from the fibres of tapa and pandanus trees, leaves, bird of paradise feathers and, naturally, mud. [More>](#)

WWF

9 July 2008: G8 Leaders summit declaration on the climate change and how it impacts the Pacific Island Nations

The outcomes of the G8 meeting in Japan are not sufficient to prevent dangerous impacts of climate change occurring in the Pacific. As a group of countries amongst those most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change, the expectations of the Pacific from the G8 summit were as follows: [More >](#)

6. Crop Agency News

PIFS - Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

21 July 2008: Officials meet to negotiate trade in services agreement

Senior officials from the Forum Islands Countries (FICs) will meet in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, from 23-25 July 2008, to progress negotiations of a trade in services agreement among the FICs. The FICs, which excludes Australia and New Zealand, are now engaging in the second round of negotiations to determine areas of investment, temporary movement of natural persons, and other related disciplines that would encourage the FICs integrate better in the global economy. "This trade in services agreement is expected to be an extension to the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA), which is currently limited to the liberalisation of trade in goods among the FICs," said Feleti Teo, Acting Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. [More>](#)

7 August 2008: Forum welcomes ongoing engagement with regional civil society

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is committed to continued engagement with civil society, as mandated by Forum Leaders. "Civil society plays a critical role in advocating for change, policy development and service delivery," says Feleti Teo, Acting Secretary General of the Forum Secretariat. "Their contribution to development has long been recognised and mechanisms have been put in place at different levels to consolidate their input in the policy making process." [More>](#)

11 August 2008: Pacific Islands Forum family mourns passing away of Greg Urwin It is with great sadness that the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Pacific Islands Forum family announces the passing away of the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Mr Greg Urwin in Apia, Samoa on the night of Saturday 9th August. Mr Urwin passed away after being ill for the past eight months. He was 62. [More>](#)

19-20 August 2008: Thirty-Ninth Pacific Islands Forum

The Thirty-Ninth Pacific Islands Forum was held in Niue from 19-20 August 2008 and was attended by Heads of State and Government of Australia, the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and representatives of Federated States of Micronesia and Palau. New Caledonia and French Polynesia attended the formal session as Associate Members and Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Wallis & Futuna, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the United Nations as observers. The Forum Retreat was held at Alofi, Niue. [More>](#)

20 August 2008: Pacific ACP Leaders committed to beneficial EPA with EU

Pacific ACP Leaders from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, including the Vice President of the Federated States of Micronesia, met in Alofi, Niue, on 19 August 2008 before the 39th Pacific Forum Leaders meeting. Timor Leste was represented by its Ambassador to Australia. The Premier of Niue, Hon. Toke Talagi chaired the meeting and will be chair of the PACP Group for the next year. [More>](#)

SOPAC

24 July 2008: CEOs' support needed to mainstream Disaster Risk Management

A challenge in implementing Disaster Risk Management in any region of the world is access to resources. In this respect, Pacific island governments have only limited means to execute initiatives related to natural disasters. Consequently, such initiatives must compete for funds with initiatives from other sectors such as health, education and defence. The "Pacific Regional Disaster Risk Management Meeting for Pacific CEOs of Finance/Planning and Disaster Management" which starts tomorrow will help respective CEOs develop greater understanding of the global and regional commitments towards Disaster Risk Management. Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) says the meeting will highlight the linkages between disasters and development to demonstrate the importance of mainstreaming DRM into planning and budgeting. [More >](#)

04 August 2008: Niue Launches Sustainable Coastal Development Policy

The Acting Premier of Niue Hon Pokotai Sipeli launched the Niue Sustainable Coastal Development Policy in Alofi, last week (30th July). The launch was attended by the New Zealand High Commissioner in Niue, His Excellency Mr. Brian Smythe, Cabinet Ministers, Head of Departments and Representatives of the Private Sector and Communities. [More >](#)

SPC - Secretariat of the Pacific Community

25 August 2008: HIV and Human Rights – Now More Than Ever

It's the third morning of the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City and the honorable Francesca Semoso, Deputy-Speaker of Parliament for Bougainville, is sitting on a mat at the Pacific Meeting House, yet her passion and desire to make a difference in the midst of discrimination and human rights abuses are such she can barely stay still. 'It is my right to be gay, or lesbian, or to enjoy same sex marriage, everywhere in the Pacific,' she declared. 'Similarly, we need to educate our youth to be responsible and practise safe sex, rather than tell them 'no' and shun them.' [More>](#)

25 August 2008: FACT Project to Increase Trade Value of Pacific Commodities

Pacific Island nations see increased exports of agriculture and forestry products as a way to reduce trade deficits, alleviate rural poverty and stem urban drift. At present, the value of these exports varies enormously between Pacific Island nations. In Fiji, agriculture and forestry exports generated €121 million in 2007, or €147 per head of population, mostly from sugar (€83 million), timber and wood products (€20 million) and taro (€10 million). In Solomon Islands, the sector generated €68 million in 2007, or €19 per head, almost entirely from round

logs (€61 million). On the other hand, atoll island nations have few or no export options, e.g. Kiribati exported about €2 million worth of coconut products, worth €22 per head. [More >](#)

28 August 2008: Agriculture Ministers Meet to Tackle Global Food Crisis, Food Security

Rising global food prices have made imported food, particularly basic items, very expensive for Pacific Island households. Already we are seeing an increase in poverty levels. In the last two years, the cost of a kilogram of flour increased from ST 1.54 to 3.04 in Samoa and a kilogram of rice from PGK 2.40 to 3.70 in Papua New Guinea. Similar scenarios are happening right across the Pacific. In Solomon Islands, the price of imported food increased by 26% over the first six months of 2008. Prices are expected to remain high in the foreseeable future. [More>](#)

SPREP - South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

3 July 2008: Positive changes will help the Pacific's fight against climate change

A major step forward was made for the Pacific islands in their fight against climate change during a subsidiaries body meeting in June in Bonn Germany. For the first time, language was included on adverse effects of climate change. It may seem like a small step, but could bring about monumental positive changes for the small islands states impacted by climate change. [More>](#)

22 August 2008: Pacific Climate Change Roundtable

The fourth Pacific Climate Change Roundtable Conference will be held in Apia in October 2008. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has started preparations for the event that will bring together all interested stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach to this critical issue facing the region. Over a period of four days, those who work to help the Pacific address climate change issues will convene to help the region find a way forward with all nations, donors, environmental agencies and interested groups working on the same page. [More>](#)

7. Other News

CIVICUS

Civil society calls for concrete commitments at up coming OECD Summit

In the first week of September, more than 800 representatives of multilateral and bilateral donors, developed and developing country governments, and civil society organisations (CSOs) will gather in Accra, Ghana, for the OECD-DAC (Development Assistance Committee)'s Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (2-4 September). Just prior to the forum, a civil society parallel Aid Effectiveness Forum will bring together more than 400 CSOs from 30 August to 1 September, to discuss and finalise their recommendations to the High Level Forum (HLF) decision-makers. At the last High Level Forum, held in Paris in March 2005, donors and governments signed onto "The Paris Declaration", a five-year plan for reform of aid practices that includes five principles to make aid delivery effective – country ownership, alignment to country priorities, harmonisation of the terms for aid, management of aid for results, and mutual accountability for these results – with related goals for action. [More>](#)

Islands Business

28 August 2008: ADB to help Pacific nations find ways to deal with high prices

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is to help Pacific countries come up with ways of cushioning the impact of high prices on the poor. As a result of sharp increases in the price of fuel, some Pacific countries are experiencing double-digit inflation, power shortages, and pressure on government budgets. In response, ADB has approved technical assistance of US\$225,000 to help developing countries in the region fully assess the impact of rising commodity prices. [More >](#)

UNICEF

2 July 2008: Young Leaders from around the world convene at Junior 8 Summit. In a few hours, young people from G8 countries and the developing world will open the fourth annual "Junior 8" Summit in Chitose City, Japan. With an agenda that parallels the G8 itself, they will have the opportunity to share their views directly with the world's leaders when the G8 convenes in Toyako, Hokkaido Japan on July 7. [More >](#)

ONGO

The NGO National Platforms International conference will take in Paris on 27 and 28 October 2008

The NGOs national platforms International Conference will take place in Paris on 27-30 October 2008. On 27th and 28th October, Coordination SUD will organize a get-together reserved for NGOs national platforms representatives from more than 80 countries. This meeting aims to promote NGOs initiatives to the national authorities and to regional and international organizations. Besides a discussion on good practices and advices drawn from singular experiences, the conference intend to create conditions for a better participation of NGOs from the South in international debates and facilitate the creation of a global network or a NGO national platforms alliance. [More>](#)

World Bank

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>](#)

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 September e-Update is Friday 19 September 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

American Samoa

Australia - [ACFID](#)

Cook Islands - CIANGO

Fiji - [FCOSS](#)

Kiribati - KANGO

Marshall Islands

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

Hawaii

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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