

PIANGO

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

December 2007

In this Update

1. Secretariat News
2. Pacific NGO Briefs
3. GDP Courses and Dates
4. Pacific Donor and Funding News
5. CROP Agency News
6. Other News
7. Calendar of Meetings and Activities
8. About PIANGO

1. Secretariat News

Executive Director

The Executive Director of PIANGO, Cema Bolabola, completed her term with the PIANGO Secretariat on Friday 14th December. The position has been advertised and four applicants short listed for interviews in the new year. Bakanebo Tamaroa will manage the organisation until a new Executive Director is appointed. The Board, Secretariat and Members wish her well for her future endeavours.

Closure of Business

The PIANGO Secretariat office will formally close for Christmas and the New Year on the evening of 21st December and will re-open on Monday 7th January 2008. For more information please contact bakanebo@piango.net

Staff Retreat

The Secretariat staff and Board met for a one day retreat in Nadi this month to evaluate and monitor work from 2007. The retreat was very successful with many achievements recognised and fruitful discussions for the next year. For more information please contact bakanebo@piango.net

Capacity Building

New Programme Director for GDP

UNITEC are delighted to welcome Hilary Star Foged as the new Programme Director for the Graduate Diploma in Not-for-Profit Management. For all programme director enquiries please contact Hilary on hstarfoged@unitec.ac.nz

Information Sharing

Production of December PIANGOLink

The Information Sharing programme is currently in the process of producing PIANGO's newsletter for the fourth quarter of 2007. Contributions from NLUs, stakeholders and partners are welcomed. Please send your contributions to katabwena@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 Briefs

Papua New Guinea - MNCL

MNCL Supports Cyclone Guba Victims

MNCL donated K5,000 towards the Oro Disaster Relief Efforts. The money from its Internal Revenue was handed over to members of the Oro Disaster Committee by the Treasurer of the MNCL, Mrs Susan Setae.

Culture and Values and Governance

The 2 day workshop, in collaboration with PIANGO, had 23 participants and was conducted by UNITEC of New Zealand. It was a very educational, interesting and enjoyable workshop.

Solomon Islands - DSE

Office Closure

The DSE office will close as of 22 December 2007 to 6 January 2008 for the Christmas and New Year period. The office sincerely apologises for any inconvenience this may cause.

Inland Revenue Seminar

NGO Finance officers attended a seminar on PAYE tax last month at the Ministry of Finance leaf hut. The seminar updated NGOs on the new calculations to assist NGOs in taxing PAYE from employees.

Vanuatu - VANGO

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

VANGO successfully hosted its AGM on Friday 7 December 2007 at the Vanuatu Kaljarel Senta conference room. Annual narrative and audited financial reports were presented. Members present elected a new VANGO Board of Directors which included Charleon Falau (from Wan Smol Bag as Chairman), Vivien Lich (from Habitat for Humanity as Vice Chair), Peter Takaro (from Vanuatu Teacher's Union as Secretary), Andy Lynch (from DPA as member), John Salong (from Lolihor Development Council as member), and Jenny Ligo (from VNCW as member). An NGO Social followed the closing of the AGM.

3. GDP Courses and Dates

To find out more about the GDP, the course timetable for 2008 is available on the PIANGO website.

Small Team Leadership: Samoa, 18-22 February

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.

Community Research: Fiji, 3-7 March

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

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.

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

Ashiana Shah; Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS)
Email: fcoss@connect.com.fj and ashiana@fcoss.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.

or PIANGO's Programme Manager - Capacity Building, Bakanebo Tamaroa on
bakanebo@piango.net or piango@connect.com.fj

4. Pacific Donor and Funding News

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

4 December 2007: ADB President Calls for Fundamental Change in Water Management in Asia and Pacific

ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda called on all countries in the Asia and Pacific region to make a fundamental change in the way they manage water to build a sustainable future.

<http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2007/12306-asian-water-managements/>

14 December 2007: ADB Exploring Future Carbon Fund, Committed to Addressing Climate Change

ADB is exploring ways to develop a future carbon fund beyond the 2012 period of the Kyoto Protocol, as part of its commitment to help its member countries and development partners address climate change issues.

<http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2007/12331-asian-climates-changes/>

AusAID

6 December 2007: Australia Increases Support for PNG Flood

The Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance announced that Australia will provide a further \$1 million in humanitarian assistance to Papua New Guinea following the damage caused by Cyclone Guba.

http://www.ausaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=3934_5103_2024_9118_4494

NZAID

December 2007: Currents Issue six

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.

<http://www.nzaid.govt.nz/library/publications/currents.html>

Oxfam Australia

11 December 2007: Poor countries gain a voice in Bali

Delegates at the climate change negotiations in Bali have reached a key agreement that will set the course for how funds will be made available to poor countries to help them avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

<http://www.oxfam.org.au/media/article.php?id=422>

17 December 2007: The Bali Finale: Oxfam's Verdict

Bali has for the first time drawn up a roadmap for all countries to tackle climate change. But a handful of powerful countries have relegated the overwhelming scientific evidence to a footnote.

<http://www.oxfam.org.au/media/article.php?id=427>

Oxfam New Zealand

5 December 2007: European trade deal undermines Pacific integration

Oxfam New Zealand is concerned that Pacific integration has been undermined by the initialing of trade agreements between the European Union (EU) and Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Fiji.

<http://www.oxfam.org.nz/news.asp?aid=1647>

5. Crop Agency News

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)

11 December 2007: More needs to be done to support Regionalism

Countries in the Pacific region still have a long way to go to achieve “deep-seated” regionalism.
<http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/more-needs-be-done-achieve-regionalism--urwin.html>

14 December 2007: European Union gives FJD\$20 million to help Pacific Island Countries prepare for Natural Disasters

The European Commission today signed an agreement for FJD\$20 million to reduce the vulnerability to natural disasters and to build the resilience in eight Pacific Island Countries.
<http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/eu-helps-disaster-preparedness-some-forum-countries.html>

SOPAC

11 December 2007: SOPAC-EU Sign Regional Agreement on Sustainable Water Management

The “Pacific Integrated Water Resources Management Planning Programme” will be implemented in 14 Pacific ACP States.
http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-read_article.php?articleId=79

6. Other News

AWID

Call for Proposals for AWID Forum: Due 28 January

The Association of Women's Rights in Development (AWID) is an international membership organisation working to strengthen the voice, impact and influence of women's rights advocates, organisations, and movements internationally to effectively advance the rights of women.
http://www.awid.org/forum08/proposals_formats.html

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.
<http://www.civicassembly.org/>

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.
<http://www.rnw.org.uk/CIVICUS2008.aspx>

Council for International Development (CID)

12 December 2007: UN Warning of Human Development catastrophe

Climate change is threatening the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for developing countries.
<http://www.cid.org.nz/news/nr1197420712.html>

IPS Publications

Flotsam and Jetsam

The latest collection of poems from Solomon Islander poet Jully Makini. The 43 poems in this beautifully presented volume reflect the search for identity and stability associated with the struggle of developing societies dealing with the impact of globalization. Now available online at www.ipsbooks.usp.ac.fj

Islands Business

December 2007

The Pacific islands region's leading current affairs and business magazine published monthly. Distributed throughout 22 island countries. December edition includes Dame Carol Kidu, The Year that Was and Another Nauru?

http://www.islandsbusiness.com/islands_business/

UNDP / RRRT

11 December 2007: Human rights, everyone's responsibility

Respecting and protecting each other's rights is a collective responsibility, says UN resident coordinator and UNDP resident representative Richard Dictus. He made the comment while officiating at the seventh RRRT Pacific Human Rights Awards.

http://www.fijilive.com/news_new/index.php/news/show_news/292

UNIFEM

December 2007: Gender Equality and Aid Effectiveness Discussion Papers

These discussion papers draw on multi-stakeholder consultations on gender equality and aid effectiveness led by UNIFEM since November 2005.

<http://www.unifem.org/resources/series.php?ProductSeriesID=5>

7. 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=200712>

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

WTO - http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/events_e/events_e.htm

8. 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 January e-Update is Monday 28 January 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

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 www.piango.org