

PIANGO

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

January 2007

In this Update

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

1. Secretariat Briefs

International Women's Development Agency call for project proposals, due no later than 15 February 2007

The International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) calls for project proposals for the 2006/2007 financial year. Projects supported are located in the Pacific, and the key areas are Freedom from Violence, Participation in Decision-Making, Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS, Economic Empowerment, and Environment and Natural Resource Management. Proposals need to be received by the office no later than 15 February 2007. Further information at <http://www.iwda.org.au/wp/2006/12/10/how-do-i-apply/#more-101>

Scholarships for ICT4D Masters Study in Manchester

The new one-year MSc ICTs for Development degree aims to create "ICT4D champions" who combine technical competencies in information systems and project management with an understanding of development context and practice: <http://www.sed.manchester.ac.uk/idpm/postgraduate/masters/mscict.htm> Applicants who have applied, received and accepted a formal offer by June 2007 will be considered for a range of scholarship opportunities. Two of these are full scholarships available on a competitive basis for applicants from developing countries to any of IDPM's Masters degrees. One is a partial fee-waiver scholarship, available exclusively for developing country applicants to the MSc ICT4D programme. Details on other funding sources and on part-time employment opportunities while studying in Manchester can be found at: <http://www.sed.manchester.ac.uk/idpm/postgraduate/about/funding.htm>

nzaid - Governance and Conflict Prevention Fund

In regards to a previous posting for applications, nzaid will not be considering any future applications for the Governance and Conflict Prevention Fund for the present financial year (ie to June 2007).

Military strongarm response Fiji NGO activism and dissent

Fiji NGO activists have been the target of military intimidation, strong-arm and violent tactics between December 2006 and January this year. Daily media reports on NGO activism and how the military has treated them. Leading human rights activists have been taken to the military

camp, interrogated, tortured and released. The military has denied delivering some of the strong arm tactics. In January two women human rights activists went into hiding and one was taken in recently but later released. Fiji Interim Prime Minister Bainimarama told the media that NGO's activism is making their work difficult.

Fiji NGOs meet PIFS panel of EPG on Fiji Situation, 30th January morning

13 Fiji NGO representatives along with PIANGO (as an observer) were invited by PIFS to meet with the Eminent Persons' Group (EPG). The EPG is chaired by Vanuatu Deputy PM Sato Kilman, and the 3 other members include retired PNG Chief Justice Sir Arnold Amet, Samoa's Minister of Environment Famuina Liuga and Retired Commander of the Australian Defence Force General Peter Cosgrove. The TOR for the EPG were to assess the causes and nature of the overthrow of the democratically elected government in Fiji; assess/identify prospects for resolving the present Fiji situation; identify steps to take Fiji forward to a return to democracy and also the role PIFS can play to assist Fiji towards the desired outcomes. The EPG has also met members of the interim government, the President, trade unions and the Fiji Human Rights Commission. It will meet Deposed PM Qarase at his home village in the Lau group of islands which is near 2hours flight time from Suva.

Fiji NGOs meet with Interim PM and Cabinet, 30th January afternoon

Fiji human rights NGOs have been the voice of dissent and protest on the issues of rule of law, illegal overthrow of elected governments, the abuse of human rights and interrogation and follow on violence by the military, the so called independence of the judiciary, etc. However, Fiji NGOs were invited by the office of the Prime Minister to an afternoon tea to meet the members of Cabinet and an opportunity to talk on issues of common concern. Fifteen NGO representatives attended the 'meet and greet' event hosted by the interim Prime Minister. Some NGO representatives felt that it was the first step to engagement and dialogue with the interim government and the military leadership. PIANGO was also invited to join the Fiji NGOs.

SPC Planning Meeting for HDP, 24-26 January

The meeting brought together government and NGO representatives from the region to contribute to the strategic planning exercise for the HDP unit. The HDP was set up as a response to the recommendation of the review of SPC programme, and appointed Linda Petersen as HDP Manager. HDP is the amalgamation of three previous bureaus of the SPC - women, youth and culture. The NGOs at the Noumea meeting identified the need for SPC to formally engage with civil society in their programmes planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Media Education Kit, by UNESCO

"Media Education: A Kit for Teachers, Students, Parents and Professionals" has been published in English and French by UNESCO. The kit is partly a product of the MENTOR project initiated by UNESCO and supported by the European Commission. This Training Kit provides a complex and comprehensive view of media education, encompassing all media, old and new. It seeks new ways in which people can enhance their participation in the political and cultural life of the general community through the media.

Further information at: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001492/149278E.pdf>

Capacity Building Seminar on Management and Development for NGOs, March 15-26, Galilee College, Israel

Registration has now commenced for the joint UNESCO (Israel National> Commission) - Galilee College International Seminar on Management and Development of NGOs. This seminar is designed for Directors and senior officials in non-governmental organisations and addresses the current role of NGOs in community development and challenges NGO leaders in their efforts to build their organisations.

Further information is available from the website www.galilcol.ac.il or contact Mrs Carina Baum at cbaum@galilcol.ac.il

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

DSE Solomon Islands - LASI Finance and Administration Officer

Here is a good employment opportunity for a person with qualifications in accounting and office management. LASI, the Literacy Association of Solomon Islands, is recruiting a Finance and Administration Officer. The position involves: computerized accounting, using MYOB; budgeting and financial reporting; managing revenue and expenditures; administration of personnel and payroll, records, travel arrangements, supplies and equipment. The requirements include: a degree or diploma in accounting or a related field; up-to-date skill in computerized accounting; at least 2 years experience in office administration. The salary is approximately \$35,000 a year. You can get an information package from the LASI office in the SIDT building, New Chinatown . ring 24049 or e-mail director@solomon.com.sb The closing date for application is February 19th.

DSE Solomon Islands - Courtesy call to NGOs

DSE team will be having visits to some of the NGOs in Honiara to discuss the coming year and assess the capacity building needs of members. The meetings will be from the 30 January to the 1 February.

DSE Solomon Islands - NRRC Strategic planning workshop

The National Resource and Rights Coalition (NRRC) will be holding their strategic planning workshop from the 23 - 25 January at the CYP conference center. This workshop is to draw up a strategic plan for the coalition which focuses on environmental issues. This workshop will have participants from the provinces, representatives from Government departments and other stakeholders.

DSE Solomon Islands - HIV Stakeholders Forum Meeting 6 January 2007

The Solomon Islands National AIDS Council is having a stakeholders meeting on 6 January. The forum will be looking at the operational work plan for 2007 from all parties in the sector. Reports from the World AIDS Day and training on Professional Counseling in Fiji, will be presented. At this forum, Oxfam representatives will present the Capacity Building plans of the Pacific Regional HIV Project (PRHP) and Ministry of Health will present the NGO/Partners proposal for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) round 7.

DSE Solomon Islands - RAMSI / Civil Society meeting 31 January

DSE would like to invite all civil society representatives to the first RAMSI/Civil Society meeting for 2007 on the Wednesday 31st of January at 2.00 at the DSE Conference Room. RAMSI would like to take the opportunity to update civil society on current programs and outreach for the coming year. DSE would also like to discuss with representatives the possibility of issues and theme based meetings, integrating with DSE strategic directions. Members of civil society may wish to take the opportunity for discussions regarding current issues of relevance to the RAMSI operation including the much debated re-arming of the police protection unit.

3. GDP Courses and Dates

Please submit one application for all required courses for 2007. Priority will be given to students who submit their enrollments by 1 February 2007. Contact details below.

Advanced Training of Trainers, Auckland, 12-16 February

ATOT enables participants to design and deliver effective interactive training sessions to clients/workers in not-for-profit organisations.

Culture and Values, Samoa, 19-23 February and Fiji 12-16 March

This course explores what is different about managing a NFP organization 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.

Governance, PNG 12-16 March

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.

Facilitation, Small Team Leadership, Negotiation. Vanuatu, 26-30 March

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.

The GDP course timetable and the GDP brochure for 2007 are available on the PIANGO website at <http://www.piango.org/pimi.htm>

To find out more about the GDP, read the brochure and the 2007 timetable. 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_s@hotmail.com

People applying from; Kiribati, Tuvalu, Marshall Is, Nauru, Vanuatu, Samoa and Tonga and Fiji.

Katrina Juliet Esera-Take, Samoan Umbrella 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 Is and Fiji

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

4. Pacific Donor News

International Women's Development Agency (IWDA): <http://www.iwda.org.au>

International Women's Development Agency call for project proposals, due no later than 15 February 2007

The International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) calls for project proposals for the 2006/2007 financial year. Projects supported are located in the Pacific, and the key areas are Freedom from Violence, Participation in Decision-Making, Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS, Economic Empowerment, and Environment and Natural Resource Management. Proposals need to be received by the office no later than 15 February 2007.

Further information at <http://www.iwda.org.au/wp/2006/12/10/how-do-i-apply/#more-101>

NZAID: <http://www.nzaid.govt.nz>

January 2007: NewZAID No. 31

NewZAID updates you in brief on key issues and events on the NZAID agenda. e.g. Health infrastructure in PNG, rebuilding in Solomons and Fiji coup sanctions.

Further information at: <http://enews.nzaid.govt.nz/index.php?id=7>

5. Other News

Islands Business: www.islandsbusiness.com

January issue out now. Including Prognostications for 2007, Outlook for Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, and EPA with Europe in doubt.

Further information at: http://www.islandsbusiness.com/islands_business/

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS): <http://www.forumsec.org>

10 January 2007: PIFS Congratulates Cook Islands on Implementation of Pacific Plan

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat has congratulated the government of the Cook Islands for progressing the implementation of the Pacific Plan at the national level, with the planned launch of its National Sustainable Development and Preventive Infrastructure Master Plan this month.

Further information at: <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/cook-islands-implementation-of-pacific-plan.html>

26 January 2007: China assists ICT and Transportation in PICs

The Government of the People's Republic of China released US\$400,000 to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat towards the development of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), as well as air and sea transport services within the region.

Further information at: <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/china-assists-ict-transportation-pics.html>

30 January 2007: Young Professionals on Board

The Young Professionals Scheme, an initiative born out of the Pacific Plan, kicked off this month at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. The Secretariat is placing a total of six young professionals from the region across its programmes.

Further information at: <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/young-professionals-on-board.html>

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC): <http://spc.int>

December 2006: Traditional Marine Resource Management and Knowledge information bulletin

The edition of this information bulletin on traditional knowledge contains articles with refreshingly contrasting points of view. In the first article of this new issue, A. Sabetian and S. Foale reassert the idea that very low human population densities, rather than some form of "traditional management" or conservation ethic, have so far protected many fisheries in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea. In the second article, F. Hickey describes the erosion and transformation of traditional concepts and practices related to marine resource management in Vanuatu and calls "for a greater recognition, strengthening and support for these indigenous systems in Vanuatu and the region."

Further information at: <http://www.spc.int/coastfish/News/Trad/20/>

6. Calendar of Meetings & Activities

Date	Body	Meeting / Activity
29 Jan - 2 Feb	Forum Secretariat	WTO NAMA Workshop, Nadi, Fiji
14 Feb	Forum Secretariat	Pacific Plan Action Committee meeting, Suva, Fiji
23 Feb	Forum Secretariat	Pacific Plan Action Committee meeting, Suva, Fiji
28 Feb	Forum Secretariat	EU Technical Assistance meeting, Suva, Fiji
March-April	WTO	ILO Forum on Decent work for a Fair Globalisation
23 - 27 April	Forum Secretariat	ADB Consultations on the Regional Audit Initiative, Suva, Fiji
29 April	Forum Secretariat	Gender Focal Points Meeting, Suva, Fiji
29 May - 14 June	WTO	96th Session of the International Labour Conference
10 - 12 Jul	Forum Secretariat	Forum Economic Ministerial Meeting, Koror, Palau
4 - 20 Dec	WTO	Conference of International NGOs, UNESCO, Paris, France

Note: Further information is available at the following websites:

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

Forum Secretariat - <http://www.forumsec.org.fj/> -> Events

Pacific Plan - <http://pacificplan.org/> -> Calendar of Events

SOPAC - <http://www.sopac.org/> -> Calendar

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

WTO - <http://wto.org/> -> Events Calendar

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 February e-Update is Monday 26 February 2007. 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.

Secretariat Contact

Address: 30 Ratu Sukuna Road, Suva, Fiji
Postal: PO Box 17780, Suva, Fiji
Phone: (679) 330 2963 / 331 7048
Fax: (679) 331 7046
Email: piango@connect.com.fj
Website: www.piango.org

National Members

Member contact details can be found on the PIANGO website at 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

Subscription Information

Subscribe

To subscribe to PIANGO's mailing list, which includes this monthly e-news updates, PIANGO's quarterly PIANGO Link newsletter and occasional reports of significant news, please send an email to piango@connect.com.fj with the word "subscribe" in the subject of the message.

Unsubscribe

To unsubscribe to PIANGO's mailing list, which includes this monthly e-news updates, PIANGO's quarterly PIANGO Link newsletter and occasional reports of significant news, please send an email to piango@connect.com.fj with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject of the message.

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 above.

Archive

Archived and current version of e-Updates are available from the website www.piango.org