

PIANGO

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

November 2007

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1. Secretariat News

NZAID Meeting

The PIANGO Programme Managers for Capacity Building and Information Sharing, together with the interim Finance Manager, met with Dimitri Geidelberg and Kate Lee from NZAID, on the Grant Funding Agreement. PIANGO is working closely with NZAID to secure a multi-year funding agreement. For more information, email bakanebo@piango.net

Resignation of Administration Manager

The Secretariat staff hosted lunch to farewell Susana Lolohea who resigned as the Administration Manager in October. PIANGO thanks Susana for her contributions to the Secretariat and wish her the best in her future endeavours.

Staff Retreat

The Secretariat staff and Board will meet over a two day retreat in Nadi in December to evaluate and monitor work from 2007. For more information please contact bakanebo@piango.net

Closure of Business

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

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

Resource Centre

Renovation work has begun at the PIANGO Resource Centre. Contracted work has been assigned to convert the bottom flat of the Secretariat into the regional resource centre. For more information on the work regarding the Resource Centre, please contact 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

Cook Islands - CIANGO

Core Funding

EU financial assistance to CIANGO expired in July, and the future of CIANGO with the EU funding is uncertain. CIANGO has made a submission to Government for some core funding to restore and maintain the Secretariat while we wait for official notification from the authority to clarify and confirm the EU/Government partnership with CIANGO.

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.

Papua New Guinea - MNCL

AGM

The second Annual General Meeting of the MNCL was held at the Canossa Centre outside Port Moresby on 10th November 2007. 17 association members attended. The members were impressed with the professionalism of the AGM Reports and how far MNCL has progressed. The AGM elected a new Chair, Deputy and two new members formed part of the Committee, while the Treasurer, Secretary and three former members were retained.

Republic of Marshall Islands - WAM

New trainees

We have just started a new round of training last week - we have 22 new trainees in the basic Traditional, Vocational, and Life Skills program; 8 trainees in the advanced program, including 1 new trainee and 7 graduates from the basic program; and 1 female trainee in the administration program. We are also very excited that one of our female graduates of the basic program has elected to remain with us as a Trainer-in-trainer, to eventually become WAM's first female Assistant Trainer.

3. GDP Courses and Dates

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

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

Tamara on bakanebo@piango.net or piango@connect.com.fj

4. Pacific Donor and Funding News

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

8 November 2007: Japan, ADB, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat Build Regional Cooperation

Japan, the ADB and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) are launching a \$1.07 million technical assistance project focused on enhancing regional cooperation among Pacific island countries.

More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2007/12247-pacific-regional-cooperations/>

9 November 2007: ADB Continues to Support Cook Islands Plan for Sustainable Infrastructure Development

In its recently issued Country Operations Business Plan for Cook Islands 2007-2009, the ADB says its work with the South Pacific nation will continue to promote good governance, environmentally sound infrastructure and fiscal management.

More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2007/12249-cook-islands-infrastructures-developments/>

14 November 2007: ADB and Tonga Enter into Partnership Strategy

The ADB and the Kingdom of Tonga have entered into a five-year Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) that focuses on poverty reduction anchored on infrastructure development, prudent economic and fiscal management, and private sector development.

More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2007/12256-tongan-partnerships-strategies/>

15 November 2007: Japan and ADB Help Palau Prepare Water Supply Sector Development Plan

Japan and the ADB are helping Palau prepare a water supply sector development plan that will provide secure, reliable and affordable water supply on the island of Babeldaob and in the state of Koror, located in the south of the tightly clustered archipelago.

More > <http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2007/12265-palau-water-supplies-development/>

AusAID

22 November 2007: Humanitarian Relief for Papua New Guinea

Australia will provide up to \$1 million in humanitarian assistance following extensive flooding to Oro Province (PNG) as a result of Cyclone Guba.

More > http://www.ausaid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=7702_405_6022_4268_641

Commonwealth Foundation

16 November 2007: Commonwealth leader calls for action on climate change

Rich nations must be made accountable for climate change and pay for solutions to mitigate its impact, a key Commonwealth leader said. Dr. Mark Collins, Director of the Commonwealth Foundation also called on small and vulnerable states to join together and demand reduction in emissions by the larger industrialized nations.

More > <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/news/detail.cfm?id=357>

18 November 2007: Commonwealth leaders praise civil society as Summit opens

Commonwealth leaders called for civil society to address key challenges facing citizens at the opening of the Commonwealth People's Forum (CPF) in Kampala.

More > <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/news/detail.cfm?id=363>

20 November 2007: Communications for Development in the Commonwealth

The modern media is much maligned for its negative influence and interest in what some would call the trivial details of life. Yet an increasing number of media professionals are realising the power and positive potential of media to play a key role in development.

More > <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/news/detail.cfm?id=369>

26 November 2007: CPF Civil Society Statement

After five days of debate, discussion and interaction in Kampala, the civil society statement is available.

More > <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/news/detail.cfm?id=383>

27 November 2007: Civil Society welcomes long awaited Commonwealth climate change action plan

The call for action on climate change made by civil society and the Commonwealth Foundation during the Commonwealth People's Forum in Malta 2005 has been ratified by the 2007 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Uganda.

More > <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/news/detail.cfm?id=384>

NZAID

21 November 2007: Emergency flood aid for Papua New Guinea

New Zealand is providing emergency funding to help people affected by severe flooding in Oro province in eastern Papua New Guinea, Foreign Minister Winston Peters said.

More > <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentID=31376>

Oxfam Australia

26 November 2007: Disasters escalating four-fold as climate change hits poor hardest

Weather-related disasters have quadrupled over the last two decades, from an average of 120 a year in the early 1980s to as many as 500 today, says international agency Oxfam in a new report. The increase in these extreme climatic events is in line with climate models developed by the international scientific community.

More > <http://www.oxfam.org.au/media/article.php?id=416>

Oxfam New Zealand

13 November 2007: Pacific solidarity essential in European trade talks

It's one of the oldest tactics – divide and rule. It may be predictable, but it is still highly effective. It is being used in trade negotiations between the European Union and the fourteen Pacific Island Countries.

More > <http://www.oxfam.org.nz/news.asp?aid=1615>

16 November 2007: Oxfam responds to the Select Committee Inquiry into New Zealand's relationships with South Pacific countries

Oxfam New Zealand has submitted a response to the Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry into New Zealand's relationships with South Pacific countries, which looks at the role New Zealand plays and can play in assisting Pacific Island Forum nations to develop sustainable economies.

More > <http://www.oxfam.org.nz/news.asp?aid=1620>

United Nations

Due 10 December 2007: Applications for Fellowship Program

The deadline for applications for the three month 2008 English speaking UN Minority Fellowship Programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva is 10 December 2007. It is expected that five fellows will be chosen to participate, and entitled to return air ticket and living expenses. The candidate must belong to a minority group, and will gain knowledge and skills in the field of international human rights to assist their organisation.

More > <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/minorities/fellowprog.htm>

5. Pacific Regional NGO News

Greenpeace Australia Pacific

19 November 2007: Whalers head out to hunt

The Japanese government whaling fleet has left its home port of Shimonoseki for its biggest hunt since the 1986 ban on commercial whaling. The fleet plans to kill more than 1000 whales in the Southern Ocean.

More > <http://www.greenpeace.org/australia/news-and-events/news/whales/whalers-depart-japan>

6. Crop Agency News

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)

21 November 2007: People's Republic of China hands over Grant to PIFS for Regional Projects

The People's Republic of China (PRC) presented US\$650,000 as a grant to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat for the funding of several regional projects.

More > <http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2007/china-presents-grant-pifs.html>

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

14 November 2007: 5th Pacific Community Conference closes with a Pledge

The 5th Pacific Community Conference closed after two days of deliberations on development issues that affect people in the region.

More > http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156&Itemid=1

21 November 2007: Young people want active role in Youth Development

The new Human Development Programme Adviser for Youth at the SPC, Rose Maebiru, says, 'Young people want to be recognised as equal partners in their development.'

More > http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=158&Itemid=1

26 November 2007: SPC commemorates International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (IDEVAW)

A week of gender awareness training for staff at SPC ended with the commemoration of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (IDEVAW), also known as White Ribbon Day.

More > http://www.spc.int/corp/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=159&Itemid=1

Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

6 November 2007: Reviewing waste management in the Pacific

100,000 marine animals die from eating plastic debris each year and in most countries over half the waste in landfills is biodegradable and easily composted at home.

More > http://www.sprep.org/article/news_detail.asp?id=391

8 November 2007: Global Environment Outlook launched in the Pacific

'Environment for development' is the theme of the Global Environment Outlook (GEO4) that was launched during the 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in Alotau, Papua New Guinea.

More > http://www.sprep.org/article/news_detail.asp?id=392

12 November 2007: Renewable Energy for the Pacific

11 countries in the Pacific region will be working towards reducing their emissions of greenhouse gasses with a project that encourages the use of renewable energy.

More > http://www.sprep.org/article/news_detail.asp?id=394

23 November 2007: Niue pass legislation to help save our Ozone layer

The island of Niue with a population of approximately 1,600 people is doing their part to help regenerate the ozone layer. In September this year, Niue passed their Ozone Protection Legislation.

More > http://www.sprep.org/article/news_detail.asp?id=396

7. Other News

Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI)

3 November 2007: Pacific Development Network wants Resilient Communities

FSPI First Samoa Conference stresses partnership for self reliance.

More >

<http://www.fspi.org.fj/Press%20Release/PACIFIC%20DEVELOPMENT%20NETWORK%20WAN%20RESILIENT%20COMMUNI.pdf>

Islands Business

November 2007

The Pacific islands region's leading current affairs and business magazine published monthly. Distributed throughout 22 island countries. November edition includes MSG in disarray? Forum's Increasing Relevance, and Women Speak Out.

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

Stockholm Challenge Award 2008

November 2007

The Stockholm Challenge 2008 programme features six category awards for ICT for development projects and a chance to win the prestigious Stockholm Challenge Trophies. An extended programme of workshops, conference, study visits and social gatherings will bring together the most inspiring ICT entrepreneurs, researchers and students from all over the world to share experiences and knowledge. The award is open for applications from January 1st to December 31st.

More > <http://www.stockholmchallenge.se/node/28>

UNDP Pacific Centre

21 November 2007: Women, Men and State Must Work Together to Eliminate Discrimination Against Women

Developing mutual understanding, cooperation and respect among women, men and the State is important in eliminating discrimination against women.

More >

http://regionalcentre.pacific.undp.org/fj/Files/Press%20release/Women_Men_and_State_Must_Work_Together_to_Eliminate_Discrimination_Against_Women.pdf

UNESCO

Open Training Platform

The Open Training Platform would like to inform you that the project for sharing and accessing open capacity building resources for development has been growing since its launch in March this year. It gives access to 1600 free and (advocating open) training resources, from 50 development stakeholders.

More > <http://opentraining.unesco-ci.org/cgi-bin/page.cgi?g=;d=1>

UNIFEM

12 November 2007: Currents 2007

The November 2007 issue of UNIFEM's electronic newsletter focuses on a recent online campaign for World Poverty Day, sponsored by UNIFEM and the Women's Funding Network, which called for increased investment in women to eradicate poverty worldwide. It also reports on the UN Security Council's recent open debate on the role of women in peace and security.

More > http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=642

26 November 2007: UNIFEM and Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman Launch Internet Campaign on Ending Violence against Women

The United Nations Development Fund for Women, UNIFEM, its Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman, and a large number of partners launched an Internet campaign on ending violence against women.

More > http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=644

World Trade Organisation (WTO)

20 November 2007: Aid for Trade can turn possibility into reality

Development assistance is central to helping developing countries "move from making trade possible to making trade happen," WTO Director General Pascal Lamy said in his report to the high-level session of the Global Aid for Trade Review on 20 November 2007, because removing barriers is not enough for any country to benefit from trade — it has to adapt as well.

More > http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/sppl_e/sppl81_e.htm

8. Calendar of Meetings & Activities

3-14 December UN Climate Change Conference, Bali, Indonesia
3 - 4 December ADB Asia-Pacific Water Summit, Beppu City, Japan
4 - 20 December WTO Conference of International NGOs, UNESCO, Paris, France
19-20 December WTO General Council

Note: Further information is 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

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 December e-Update is Tuesday 18 December 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.

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

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 at www.piango.org