2019 Pacific Update draft program (10 May 2019)

Note this is a draft program and not all speakers are confirmed.
# 2019 Pacific Update – Wednesday 3 July – USP Laucala Campus

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00-10.30am</td>
<td>Welcome addresses and opening ceremony</td>
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<td><strong>Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium</strong></td>
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<td>Panel 1D: Aid, China and debt</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30-1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1.30-3.00pm</td>
<td>Panel 2A: Development challenges in outer islands</td>
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<td>2.30-3.00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
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<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
<td>Panel 3A: Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>Welcome cocktail &amp; kava reception</td>
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<td>Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Marquee</td>
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# 2019 Pacific Update – Thursday 4 July – USP Laucala Campus

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<td>Panel 4B: Governance</td>
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<td>Panel 4C: Trade and resources</td>
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<td>Panel A: Issues in the Fijian economy</td>
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<td>3.00-3.30pm</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
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<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
<td>Panel A: Fijian humanitarian responses</td>
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<td>Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium</td>
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<td>5.05pm</td>
<td>Vote of thanks</td>
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<td>5.15pm</td>
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<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Closing dinner (by invitation only)</td>
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### 2019 Pacific Update – Friday 5 July: Labour mobility workshop – USP Laucala Campus

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<td>1.30-3.00pm</td>
<td>Panel 2A: Skills</td>
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<td>3.00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
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<td>3.00-5.00pm</td>
<td>Panel 3: Research agenda brainstorming</td>
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<td>Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium</td>
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<td>Close and refreshments</td>
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Wednesday 3 July 2019

8.30am  Registration

9.00am  **Welcome addresses and opening ceremony**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

Welcome remarks: **Professor Pal Ahluwalia, Vice-Chancellor, University of the South Pacific**

Opening remarks: **His Excellency Mr John Feakes, Australian High Commissioner to Fiji**

Keynote speaker: **Hon Ralph Regenvanu, Foreign Minister, Vanuatu**

10.30am  Morning tea

11.00am  **Panel 1A: Building on the blue Pacific – integrity and accountability in the fisheries industry**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

The Pacific fishing industry is made up of a complex net of activities, actors and authorities, which bring regulatory and enforcement challenges and provide numerous opportunities for law-breaking. This panel will highlight the need for regional cooperation to establish transparent and accountable governance structures in the fisheries sector, and argue for this public policy issue to be at the forefront of debate, not only in the Pacific but in the context of the way the Pacific fisheries sector impacts the rest of the world.

Minister Tetabo Nakara, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resource Development, Government of Kiribati

Annika Wythes, Anti-Corruption Adviser – Pacific, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Hugh Govan, Senior Adjunct Fellow, University of the South Pacific

11.00am  **Panel 1B: Ambitions beyond growth – investing in the 2030 development agenda**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

*Details TBC*
11.00am  **Panel 1C: The future of Pacific media in times of digital disruption, fake news and geopolitical tension**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 2*

Pacific media are under challenge as never before, from forces ranging from a burgeoning array of foreign competitors, to new technology and social media, among others. This panel of leading media practitioners will look at the state of media in the region, ask how Pacific media can better address the challenges facing Pacific communities, and look at how the media is responding to growing geopolitical competition.

Scott Waide, Bureau Chief – Lae, EMTV PNG

Francis Herman, CEO, Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation

Makereta Komai, Editor-in-Chief, PACNEWS and Pacific Island News Association

Jemima Garrett, Freelance Journalist and Journalism Trainer

11.00am  **Panel 1D: Aid, China and debt**  
*Location TBC*

Analysing Pacific debt: how significant is China?  
*Rohan Fox, Research Officer, Development Policy Centre, ANU, and Matthew Dornan, Senior Social Protection and Jobs Specialist, World Bank*

Public policy processes: power, agency and translations in the Pacific  
*Suzanne O’Neill, PhD Candidate, Department of Pacific Affairs, ANU*

Improving aid by enhancing transparency – the Lowy Institute Pacific Aid Map  
*Jonathan Pryke, Director, and Alexandre Dayant, Research Fellow, Pacific Islands Program, Lowy Institute*

Pacific studies in China: historical evolution, structure and research focus  
*Denghua Zhang, Research Fellow, Department of Pacific Affairs, ANU*

12.30pm  Lunch
1.30pm  **Panel 2A: Development challenges in outer islands**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

This panel will present preliminary findings of World Bank research on challenges that arise from the geographic dispersion of most Pacific island countries (PICs), and discuss how PIC governments deal with these challenges.

**Overview of the research project**  
*Robert Utz, Lead Economist, World Bank*

Spatial analysis of socio-economic development in the PICs  
*Darian Naidoo, Economist, World Bank*

Political economy of spatial development in the PICs  
*David Craig, Consultant, World Bank*

Livelihoods on outer islands of the PICs  
*Kim Edwards, Senior Economist, World Bank*

Urbanisation in the PICs  
*Artesa Saldivar-Sali, Senior Municipal Engineer, World Bank*

Internal migration in the PICs  
*Matthew Dornan, Senior Social Protection & Jobs Specialist, World Bank*

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1.30pm  **Panel 2B: Insuring yourself against climate risk**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

Chair: Krishnan Narasimhan, Deputy Programme Manager and Insurance Specialist, UNCDF Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme

The Pacific is subject to the negative impacts of a range of weather-related events that can cause considerable losses, both financial and non-financial. The insurance gap and unmet needs for more protection that is inclusive, scalable and innovative, needs to be addressed. This panel will discuss the use of parametric or index-based insurance in the Pacific.

*Ariff Ali, Governor, Reserve Bank of Fiji*

*Ali Ghiyazuddin Mohammed, Policy Manager – Digital Financial Services, Alliance for Financial Inclusion*
Sarah Jane Wild, Head of Pacific Operations, Tower Insurance, and Board Member of Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company

Katerina Syngellakis, Head of Global Green Growth Institute Fiji

1.30pm **Panel 2C: Student panel**
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 2*

*Details TBC*

3.00pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm **Panel 3A: Health**
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

Policy options for specialised clinical services in Pacific island countries: the case of overseas medical referral

*Andrea Boudville, Senior Technical Advisor, Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne; Wayne Irava, Technical Officer – Health Financing, Division of Pacific Technical Support, World Health Organization; and Berlin Kafoa, Public Health Division, Pacific Community*

Is an SSB tax an effective regulatory measure to address the childhood obesity crisis? A case study of Fiji, Nauru and Tonga

*Daiana Buresova, Regional Coordinator – Pacific, McCabe Center for Law and Cancer*

Non-communicable disease mortality in small Pacific island countries – estimating the loss of human capital resource

*Shamal Chand, Graduate Assistant, and Baljeet Singh, Senior Lecturer, University of the South Pacific*

Access to medicine in the South Pacific: endogenous factors impeding the benefits of the WTO TRIPS agreement

*Salvin Nand, Deputy Dean, School of Law, University of Fiji*

3.30pm **Panel 3B: Disasters, risk and financing**
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

Transforming private sector engagement during disasters

*Glen Craig, Chairperson, Vanuatu Business Resilience Council*
Pacific experiences in accessing climate change finance
Exsley Taloiburi, Climate Finance Adviser, Scott Hook, Economic Infrastructure Adviser, Aholotu Palu, Climate Finance & Public Management Adviser, Ledua Vakaloloma, Climate Finance Officer, and Susan Sulu, Climate Change Finance and Planning Officer, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

Small is beautiful but risky: household risk indices for the atoll islands of Tuvalu
Tauisi Taupo, Assistant Lecturer, University of the South Pacific

Cash transfers in the Pacific: adding to the evidence base
Representative from Oxfam Fiji

3.30pm Panel 3C: Gender
Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 2

Using short films to stimulate conversation on gender issues in Samoa
Safua Akeli Amaama, Director, Centre for Samoan Studies, and Ramona Boodoosingh, Senior Lecturer, National University of Samoa

Gender equality in the Pacific: a critical analysis of official and non-canonical discourses
Kate Power, Lecturer, University of Queensland

Girls arise: supporting adolescent girls in Fiji
Representative from the Fiji Women’s Rights Movement

Dynamic, imperfect but astute? Informed policy and programming through Pacific Women’s research agenda
Yvonne Underhill-Sem, Associate Professor, University of Auckland

5.00pm Close

5.30pm Welcome cocktail & kava reception
Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Marquee
Thursday 4 July 2019

8.30am  Registration

9.00am  **Keynote address**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*  

*Her Excellency Dr Hilda Heine, President of the Marshall Islands*  

*Winston Dookeran, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and former Minister for Foreign Affairs*

10.30am  Morning tea

11.00am  **Panel 4A: Locally-owned businesses on customary land in the South Pacific – key success factors**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*  

*This panel contributes to this debate around customary forms of tenure by providing evidence of how customary land can provide the opportunity for a variety of different forms of economic activity that provide social, economic and cultural returns to communities in ways that other forms of tenure simply could not do.*

*Reshaping understanding of economies in the South Pacific: beyond customary land as a barrier to economic development*  
*Regina Scheyvens, Professor, Institute of Development Studies, Massey University*

*Case studies of sustainable business development on customary land in Samoa*  
*Litea Meo-Sewabu, Lecturer, University of the South Pacific*

*Case studies of sustainable business development on customary land in Fiji*  
*Suliasi Vunibola, PhD Candidate, Institute of Development Studies, Massey University*
11.00am  **Panel 4B: Governance**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

Central agencies coordination in PNG  
*Robyn Ata, Acting Director, Department of Prime Minister and National Executive Council, Papua New Guinea*

Rethinking new public management: an inquiry into public service reforms and service delivery in Solomon Islands  
*Jerry Siota, Graduate Assistant and PhD Candidate, University of the South Pacific*

Leadership and support for public sector reform in Papua New Guinea: evidence from experiments  
*Fiona Yap, Associate Professor, ANU; and Anthony Swan, Gavi*

11.00am  **Panel 4C: Trade and resources**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 2*

Predicting policy impact by looking at the past: a history of trade protections in PNG  
*Maholopa Lavell, Lecturer, University of Papua New Guinea*

Solomon Islands forestry – challenges and future directions  
*Andrew Piper, Consultant, NRE People, and Luke Kiddle, Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington*

The pace and pattern of regional trade flows – a comparative study for the Pacific and Caribbean island countries  
*Khushbu Rai, Teaching Assistant, University of the South Pacific*

Oceania trade regionalism: estimations from gravity equations  
*Laisa Ro’i, Associate Professor, University of New Caledonia*

12.30pm  Lunch

1.30pm  **Panel 5A: Issues in the Fijian economy**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

Informal sector and economic development: inclusiveness and gender equality through tourism sector in the case of Fiji  
*Rukmani Gounder, Professor, Massey University*
Does Fiji’s growth story contradict with reality on the ground? A business perspective  
Sunil Kumar, Senior Lecturer, University of the South Pacific

Public debt, economic growth and fiscal sustainability in Fiji: status, challenges and the way forward  
Janesh Sami, Assistant Lecturer, University of the South Pacific

1.30pm  
**Panel 5B: PNG development issues**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

2019 PNG economic survey  
Rohan Fox, Research Officer, and Stephen Howes, Director, Development Policy Centre, ANU; Maholopa Laveil, Lecturer, University of PNG; Bao Nguyen, Lecturer, and Dek Sum, Associate Lecturer and Project Coordinator, Development Policy Centre, ANU and University of PNG

The electrification of Papua New Guinea  
Cassian Drew, Partner, APAC, and Luke Jeffress, Manager, Palladium

Do beliefs change? Sorcery accusation-related violence in migrant Simbu communities in Port Moresby: a case study of the 6 mile and 9 mile settlements  
Geejay Milli, Lecturer, University of Papua New Guinea

1.30pm  
**Panel 5C: Infrastructure**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 2*

Increasing access to electricity in Solomon Islands – experience and lessons from an ongoing project  

On the road: lessons from Kiribati  
Pierre Graftieaux, Program Leader for Infrastructure, Environment, Disaster Risk Management, Agriculture, Rural, Urban and Social Development, PNG & Pacific islands, World Bank

ICTs as enablers for transformational development in the Pacific region – what’s required to make this happen?  
Bart Hogeveen, Head of Cyber Capacity Building, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute
Spread of information and communication technology and the economic growth of Pacific island countries: a panel study
Keshmeer Makun, Assistant Lecturer, University of the South Pacific, and TK Jayaraman, Research Professor, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman

3.00pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm Panel 6A: Fiji humanitarian responses
Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium

Remote Fijian communities building back safer: an interrogation and promotion of local resources, technologies and supply chains for construction
Temily Baker, Research Coordinator, Mereoni Matalomani, Researcher, and Losevati Naidike, Researcher, Habitat for Humanity Fiji

Bridging the divide between humanitarian-development nexus: lessons of governance from TC Winston in Fiji
Anna Gero, Research Principal, and Keren Winterford, Research Director, University of Technology Sydney

A Fiji shelter handbook to localise disaster response
Doreen Narayan, Shelter Project Manager, Habitat for Humanity Fiji

3.30pm Panel 6B: Youth and development
Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1

The Pacific Early Age Readiness and Learning Program (PEARL) – learnings from an initiative to improve Pacific literacy
Sally Brinkman, Consultant and Bihn Thanh Vu, Senior Education Specialist, World Bank; Kris McDonall, Kevin Macdonald, Wendy Jarvie, Souhila Messaoud-Galusi, Myrna Machuca-Sierra, Siosiana Tapueluelu

The political economy of youth in Fiji and Solomon Islands: to be seen but not heard
Aidan Craney, Lecturer, La Trobe University

Empirical analysis of fertility: a cross-country study of the Pacific islands
Sumeet Lal, Graduate Assistant, and Rup Singh, Senior Lecturer and Head of School of Economics, University of the South Pacific
Finding our voice: supporting adolescent girls in the Pacific region
*Tara Chetty, Gender Advisor, Pacific Women Support Unit*

3.30pm **Panel 6C: Private sector issues**
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

Putting local leadership and culture at the centre of private sector growth in the tourism industry in Vanuatu
*Adela Issachar Aru, CEO, Vanuatu Tourism Office*

Nutrition enhancement: increasing fiber intake in Tarawa, Kiribati
*Hsiang-Chi Chen, Nutrition Specialist, Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund*

Facing food security risks: the rise and rise of the sweet potato in the Pacific islands
*Viliamu Iese, Research Fellow; Elisabeth Holland, and Morgan Wairiu, Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development, University of the South Pacific; Robin Havea, University of the South Pacific; Soane Patolo, Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovation, Tonga Trust; Minoru Nishi, Nishi Trading, Tonga; Taniela Hoponoa, Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovation, Tonga Trust; Michael Bourke, ANU; Annika Dean, University of New South Wales; and Logotonu Wagainabete, Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees, Pacific Community*

Mired in MIRAB
*Stephen Pollard, Consultant Economist, and David Abbott, Manager – Data Analysis and Dissemination, Statistics for Development Division, Pacific Community*

5.00pm Vote of thanks

5.15pm Close

6.30pm Closing dinner (by invitation only)
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Marquee*
Friday 5 July 2019 – Labour mobility workshop

This year a third day has been added to the Pacific Update to discuss recent labour mobility research and brainstorm emerging issues and research priorities. This third day is open to the public, including all Pacific Update participants.

8.30am Registration

9.00am **Opening session**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

Welcome and chair: *Stephen Howes, Director, Development Policy Centre, ANU*

Opening: *Danielle Heinecke, Assistant Secretary, Pacific Labour Mobility and Economic Branch, DFAT*

Pacific labour mobility – impacts and futures  
*John Connell, Professor, University of Sydney, and Kirstie Petrou, Research Associate, University of Adelaide*

10.30am Morning tea

11.00am **Panel 1: Sending-country governance**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium*

Sending country governance of labour mobility  
*Stephen Howes, Director, and Richard Curtain, Research Fellow, Development Policy Centre, ANU*

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm **Panel 2a: Skills**  
*Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 1*

Identifying opportunities for APTC graduates from recent Australian immigration data  
*Richard Curtain, Research Fellow, Development Policy Centre, ANU*

APTC and achieving a net skills gain for Pacific economies  
*Andie Fong Toy, Labour Mobility Adviser, APTC*
Can Fiji’s skill shortage be addressed through a more receptive labour immigration policy?  
Sunil Kumar, Senior Lecturer, University of the South Pacific, and Sothea Oum, Asian Development Bank

Brain drain and/or brain gain: what have we learnt thus far?  
Satish Chand, Professor, University of New South Wales

1.30pm  Panel 2b: Social impacts and dimensions  
Japan-Pacific ICT Centre Video Conference Room 2

Longitudinal study of ni-Vanuatu seasonal workers participating in New Zealand’s RSE  
Rochelle Bailey, Research Fellow, Department of Pacific Affairs, ANU

A comparative analysis of media coverage on labour mobility in the Pacific and Australia  
Prashanth Pillay, Research Analyst and Vipul Khosla, Design and Evaluation Lead, ABC International Development

Latest developments in de-risking and the impact on remittances in the Pacific  
Representative from UNCDF Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme

3.00pm  Afternoon tea

3.30pm  Panel 3: Research agenda brainstorming  
Japan-Pacific ICT Auditorium

Details TBC

5.00 pm  Close and refreshments