

2016 State of the Pacific Conference

by Ashlee Betteridge
22 August 2016

The State of the Pacific 2016 conference will take place over three days from 13-15 September. State of the Pacific is an annual conference hosted by our ANU colleagues at the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia (SSGM) Program. A showcase for research on the Pacific region, it brings together academics, policy makers, business leaders, civil society representatives and the media to discuss current research on the Pacific and to explore the vital links between research and policy.

2016 marks the 20th anniversary of SSGM's establishment and the 70th anniversary of Pacific Studies at ANU. Drawing on this unique legacy – seven decades of long-term applied research in and on the region – and the extensive networks of researchers, policy makers and practitioners developed during this period, State of the Pacific 2016 will explore a range of issues concerning state, society and governance in Melanesia and the broader Pacific today.

These issues will be explored through four broad themes:

- Pacific regionalism
- Social and cultural developments in the Pacific
- The state of democracy in the Pacific
- Political economy trends in the Pacific

The Development Policy Centre will be convening a panel on the state of governance and the economy in PNG, as well as participating in other panels (for example, Matt Dornan will be speaking on climate change, and Associate Tess Newton Cain on the New Pacific Diplomacy panel), so come along to hear from some of our team, as well as a great line-up of speakers from the region.

Registration for the conference is now open – [register on Eventbrite](#), or [visit the conference website](#) for preliminary programs.

Author/s:

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Ashlee Betteridge was the Manager of the Development Policy Centre until April 2021. She was previously a Research Officer at the centre from 2013-2017. A former journalist, she holds a Master of Public Policy (Development Policy) from ANU and has development experience in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. She now has her own consultancy, Better Things Consulting, and works across several large projects with managing contractors.

Link: <https://devpolicy.org/2016-state-pacific-conference-20160822/>