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## Strengthen Partnerships for MDGs Achievement

The unequal realisation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the Pacific emphasises the need for continued strong partnerships among development partners in this region.

The UN Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative for the Samoa Multi Country Office, Nileema Noble made these comments at the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) Executive Meeting that was held in Samoa in June and to which the UN was invited to attend as observers.

Ms Noble led a delegation to the meeting that also included the Head of the ESCAP Pacific Office Iosefa Maiava and Garry Wiseman, Manager of the UNDP Pacific Centre.

"The UN system in the Pacific remains firmly committed to UN reform and implementation of Paris Principle and Cairns Compact for delivering meaningful development services in a harmonised and co-ordinated fashion for enhanced results and impacts on the ground. This is particularly important as we move toward the deadline for achieving the MDG goals by 2015, which have been compounded by the challenges of global economic crisis and meeting the challenge of Climate Change," said Ms. Noble.

She said that in many ways the UN system in the Pacific operated in a very similar way to CROP agencies.

"Many of the United Nations agencies seek to deliver support at the global, regional and national level, with each level of support

expected to reinforce and promote stronger development at the country level."

She said that the inter-relationship between regional and

country interventions was an important dimension of the work of the UN, and that many agencies had a mix of both national and regional programmes.

"The existence of the CROP network and the commitment of the region to increased cooperation and integration provide a strong basis for UN regional support. As does the apparent economies of scale offered for delivering some programmes through a regional framework. However, it is important to underline that the latter does not necessarily promote regional cooperation but is simply seen as a more efficient way or as being cost effective."

The UNDP Pacific Centre works closely with a number of CROP agencies on a range of issues relating to governance, poverty alleviation, HIV, environment and energy, conflict prevention and disaster risk management.



*Nileema Noble, UN Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative for the Samoa Multi Country Office*

### Japan joins to provide support to South-South Project

UNDP-Japan Partnership Fund has joined with the UNDP's Special Unit for South-South Cooperation to provide funding for the South-South project. The project has been established to strengthen the safety and resilience of the Pacific and Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) communities to a range of natural hazards by facilitating and supporting a South-South cooperation program targeted at strengthening climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction capacity in SIDS, based on the transfer of appropriate 'southern' expertise and technologies. The project is coordinated by UNDP Pacific Centre, with extensive support from the regional UNDP programme Caribbean Risk Management Initiative (CRMI) and UNDP's sub-regional Centre in Trinidad and Tobago.

# PNG Mobile Money Players Learn from Kenya's M-Banking Success

Two of Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme's (PFIP) partners from Papua New Guinea, Nationwide Microbank and DataNets, Ltd., were given an opportunity to attend the Mobile Money Transfer Africa Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya from the 4th to the 7th of May.

Representatives of the both institutions, whose attendance at the conference was supported by PFIP, had the chance to meet with the leading mobile money transfer operators in the world, including mobile network operators, banks and other providers.

Mobile Money Transfer Africa is the leading mobile money event on the African continent and it brings together experts and showcases successful mobile money operators from Africa's pioneering operators and financial institutions.

Africa—and Kenya in particular—has been the centre for innovation in using mobile phones and other wireless technology to provide financial services. Kenya was the first country in the world to offer mobile phone banking through M-Pesa services in 2007. Within its first year, it surpassed 2 million subscribers and by January this year, 9 million people representing 23% of the population in Kenya were using M-Pesa.

"Attending the conference gave us the potential to re-prioritise our delivery schedules in Papua New Guinea based on what was potentially more successful for mobile money," said DataNet's Sundar Ramamurthy, who found the Mobile Money Transfer Africa conference very informative and practical.

In April last year, DataNets launched a pre-cursor to mobile payments in PNG whereby users can purchase pre-paid electricity. Mr. Ramamurthy said he shared this experience with other participants at the conference and this was well received.

Nationwide Microbank's Ravindra Ranjith also found the workshop very interesting.

"Now we understand that m-banking needs a lot of infrastructure, not just software and hardware, but also agents and trainers etc. We think that it will take a little longer than what we had expected and we are now looking at EFTPOS to be used for branchless banking," said Mr Ranjith.

PFIP's Regional Advisor Tillman Bruett accompanied both the representatives on visits to Safaricom's M-Pesa operation as well as a large Microfinance Institution, Jamii Bora, which is using new biometric point of sale devices to serve very low

income and vulnerable clients in Nairobi's slums.

"A core part of PFIP's mandate is to promote knowledge sharing. Enabling partners to share ideas with other companies around the world engaged in this cutting edge technology is crucial to helping Papua New Guinea and other Pacific nations build their own branchless banking solutions and reach the millions of unbanked households," said Mr. Bruett.

Last year, PFIP in partnership with the International Finance Corporation published a report "Building a Mobile Money Distribution Network in Papua New Guinea," which highlights how a mobile money system might develop in PNG, what existing networks it might use for "cash in" and "cash out" services, and how mobile money might help individuals, companies and government alike to lower cost and increase security linked to the movement of money.

PFIP is a Pacific-wide programme helping provide sustainable financial services to low income households. It is funded by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), European Union, AusAID and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and operates from the UNDP Pacific Centre.

## ***PNG Pilot Moves to Support Payments for Cocoa Farmers***

*PFIP has also provided seed funding to other mobile money players in the Pacific to implement similar projects. Mobile phone based money transfer services can reach many rural and isolated communities, it also makes a cash transfers safer and cheaper.*

*In Papua New Guinea, PFIP has provided support to Datanets, a company that is piloting a project, MPowa.*

*MPowa is a mobile payments solution that provides a low-cost, secure payments service for the Papua New Guineans who are mobile phone users but who may not have access to banking and other financial resources.*

*It allows registered customers to pay for goods and services from their mobile phone through the use of an electronic wallet (eWallet) to purchase*

# Reserve Bank of Fiji Taking Giant Steps in Facilitating Mobile Money

The Reserve Bank of Fiji launched the E Money Fiji on June 9, a project aimed at making mobile money a reality in Fiji. Working in partnership with two mobile companies, one which of which launched its mobile phone based money transfer services on June 17, the Reserve Bank is hoping to get more people in Fiji access financial services.

"The Reserve Bank of Fiji hopes that through this initiative, a large number of our people who currently do not have access to financial services will benefit greatly as they will not have to go to a bank to do their routine banking.

Through mobile money, they can for example, transfer funds from person to person, receive salaries and wages in remote areas from government and other employers, and pay bills such as electricity and water bills. They can even withdraw and deposit money," said the Governor of the Reserve Bank, Sada Reddy.

The introduction of mobile money in Fiji is expected to improve the lives of the rural people, and has a potential in increasing economic activity in the rural and maritime areas with access to mobile networks. The coverage of the mobile network operators in Fiji is estimated to be around 80-90 percent of the population.



Sada Reddy, Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji

A recent report released by the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP) estimates that about 109,000 households in Fiji miss out on savings, credit and other financial services.

The report "Fiji Financial Services Sector Assessment" highlights that untapped savings demand, largely present in the rural areas, stands at least FJD \$70 million dollars while the unmet demand for credit, mainly present in the urban areas, is at least FJD \$57 million dollars and there are over 130,000 Fijians who could benefit from insurance products in the short term.

Mr Reddy commended the role played by PFIP in promoting financial inclusion in Fiji.

"The significant progress we are

making in Fiji in recent times in terms of various initiatives have been greatly enhanced by PFIP's active role in providing valuable advice, direct participation with decision makers, service providers and key stakeholders. PFIP's role in financing awareness programmes and seed money to service providers has proven to be very successful in this global strategy of financial inclusion," said Mr. Reddy.

The Reserve Bank is also working on a best practice E-Money Legislation, which will license all providers of e-money services.

Mr. Reddy was recently sponsored by PFIP to attend the GSMA Mobile Money Summit in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil where over 640 leaders around the world in the mobile money ecosystem comprising mobile network operators, regulators, academics, financiers and donors met to network and learn about the latest international developments in the industry. He said he greatly benefitted from attending this Summit.

PFIP is a Pacific-wide programme helping provide sustainable financial services to low income households. It is funded by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), European Union, AusAID and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and operates from the UNDP Pacific Centre.

*goods and service, top up mobile phone credits, purchase electricity and carry out simple financial transactions.*

*This project has moved to a second pilot phase in partnership with NGIP Agmark, a leading exporter of PNG Cocoa to establish MPowa payments solution that will benefit the grassroots grower. Adoption of the MPowa mobile payments solution will allow*

*the buyers to pay growers without the need for cash. Growers will have immediate access to their funds and will be able to purchase goods and services or draw down cash from selected retailers and financial institutions.*

*"This is an important step in harnessing the power and flexibility of mobile phones to help rural and low income people as well as a great example of how private sector companies, such as*

*DataNets and Agmark, assist income generating activities in agricultural areas. Such a solution has the potential to reach hundreds of thousands of smallholder farmers in PNG," noted Tillman Bruett, Pacific financial Inclusion Advisor.*

*Sundar Ramamurthy, Managing Director of Data Nets Limited said PFIP's support to the project as well as knowledge sharing and experience was valuable.*

# Building Skills for Peace and

Rewind ten years and Simon Mannie used to be a civil servant, working near Honiara, helping local farmers to increase their livestock production. This tranquil life drastically changed when he had to take up arms to protect himself and his community.

Simon is from the island of Malaita in the Solomon Islands. He, like many other Malaitans was working and living on the island of Guadalcanal, on which the capital Honiara is situated.

The conflict in the Solomon Islands, which started in 1998, emerged from the struggle indigenous inhabitants of the main island of Guadalcanal had against the growing influence on their land and economy by settlers from the neighbouring Malaita Island. It resulted in the loss of life, destruction of property, significant sexual and gender-based violence, internal displacement and massive economic losses.

In 2003, the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) intervened to restore law and order

and help rebuild the machinery of the government.

Fast forward ten years and Simon is participating in a regional programme on peace and development, known as Strengthening Capacities for Peace and Development in the Pacific project (CPAD).

Simon spent a few years in prison paying for being a rebel and is now a member of the Solomon Islands based civil society organisation, Sycamore Foundation which works on reconciliation. Part of Simon's work is to arrange for the families of victims to meet perpetrators of the crime and seek forgiveness as part of a restorative justice process.

Simon shared his experiences at the CPAD induction workshop that was organized by the UNDP Pacific Centre in Nadi from May 3 – 11.

The objectives of this Pacific-wide project are to strengthen a cadre of peace practitioners from the Pacific through: skills building; up-scaled policy interventions; the regional sharing of good practices and effective peace building mechanisms suited to the Pacific; and through improved access to resources and expertise made available through the Pacific Peace Community.

A key issue is to avoid the duplication of work being done at the regional level or the national level



*Sharing his story: Simon Mannie at the CPAD workshop*

Here's what some of the participants at the workshop had to say:

**Willie Kwansing,  
the General  
Secretary of the  
Fiji Chamber of  
Commerce and  
Industry**



"Often the private sector underestimates its contribution to the peace process. What we must understand is that business thrives where there is stability and we suffer when there is conflict. One way the private sector can contribute to the peace process is to remain engaged and participate actively in policy formulation that will contribute to prosperity and stability."

**Sharon Bhagwan  
Rolls, Co-ordinator  
of Femlink-  
Pacific**



"The potential with community radio is also an opportunity to bring stakeholders together to undertake in depth discussions and deepen the dialogue on critical issues especially when the commercial airwaves don't provide that space anymore.

There is immense opportunity to incorporate community media and in particular community radio more into the peace and development architecture in our region."



**Shalendra Singh,  
the Divisional  
Head of Journal-  
ism at the  
University  
of the South  
Pacific, Suva**

"Conflict takes a terrible toll, both in terms human suffering and misery and on national development.

So news reporting should at the least be well-thought out and measured rather than sensationalized.

Sensitising our journalists to conflict through training will prevent these kinds of practices and lead to more responsible reporting."

# Development in the Pacific

and in doing so complement and add resources to current initiatives.

Simon, along with some fifty other participants from Bougainville, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tonga discussed the root causes of conflict and designed responses to address conflict and strengthen peace during the workshop.

“One of the key things I learnt through this workshop is the way in which a consultive policy development process can help address the contributing factors of conflict. As highlighted during this workshop, it is important also that the individual, the community and the institutions link together and work for peace building,” said Simon.

The workshop participants, made up of civil society, members of the government, regional organizations and United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP) formed a virtual community to continue working together on local, national and regional peace building initiatives.

The Fiji group has identified dispute resolution mechanisms for resource based conflicts, as a priority for follow up and a national workshop will be held in September on these issues. A second national initiative will look at building a framework for better engagement on peace and development between civil society and the government.

The Solomon Islands group plans to launch a consultative process after the national elections in August this year for its new parliamentarians so that they can consider in more detail issues of peace and development and the links to governance.

On the regional front, the Pacific Peace Community will work with the University of the South Pacific to produce a special edition of the Journal of Pacific Studies that will include thought provoking analysis on conflict prevention and peace building in Pacific Island Societies.

The other regional activities will include training for journalists on peace journalism as well as a workshop on the role of the private sector in peace building. Through the CPAD project, a number of civil society organizations across the region will receive small grants to undertake peace and development projects.

The CPAD project is funded by UNDP’s Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery and AusAID.



*Group work: CSO reps examining the root causes of crises (from L) Adi Vasulevu Chute, Sandra Fong and Veena Singh-Bryer*

**Dennis Kuiai, Bougainville**  
Autonomous Government's Chief Executive Officer of the Division of Peace, Reconciliation and Weapons Disposal (Second from right below)

“I see this workshop as a motivator and a driving force to proceed with the policy decisions that the Autonomous Bougainville Government had decided. It is a policy direction on a co-ordinated approach to peace and development in Bougainville.”



**Siosio Po’oi**  
Pohiva of the Friendly Islands Human Rights and Democracy Movement, Tonga

“Having identified the importance of engaging relevant stakeholder in the peacebuilding process, that is a challenge that needs to be addressed in order to apply the strategies and lessons learnt during this workshop.”



**Tracy Vienings, UNDP Pacific Centre's Conflict Prevention and Peace Building Expert and organiser of the workshop**

“I believe that this workshop has created a broader understanding of the linkages between peace and development.”

The implications of this are that participants are thinking about how to also address the underlying causes of conflict, not only mediating them as they occur.”

# Samoa UNDP staff receive gender training

Seventeen staff of the UNDP Multi Country Office Samoa were trained on gender equality concepts and their application to UNDP's work. The group, which included programme officers, administrative and support staff and managers, was trained by a team from the UNDP Pacific Centre, led by the Gender Focal point Karen Bernard.

The training was conducted in a participatory manner and included role-playing exercises, participatory dynamics and quizzes for which the winners were awarded token prizes. This approach was employed to empower and motivate all staff to make constructive contribu-

tions to improving gender equality, addressing sources of potential resistance.

"One of the workshop's main objectives was to explore strategies for achieving progress on gender issues in the Samoan context. While strong national cultures as found in Samoa must be treasured, at the same time UNDP's global Gender Equality Strategy notes that "it is of immense importance that UNDP staff are sufficiently aware and self-critical to be able to embrace new values, attitudes and practices", said Ms Bernard.

As UNDP's mandate is to support

national governments in pursuing sustainable and equitable social development, it must promote gender equality and women's empowerment as fundamental to all development processes.

The United Nations advocates for gender equality, recognizing that worldwide women tend to be at a systematic disadvantage in comparison to men. Studies have shown that women and children are more likely to be killed in disasters, compared to men, and that both women and men are made vulnerable by socially prescribed gender roles and limitations, which encourage them to behave in certain ways. Poor women in particular are disproportionately affected by the negative impacts of climate change, as they have few opportunities for alternative livelihoods, little access to resources, and are often in charge of labor-intensive household activities such as fetching water, cooking, and caring for children.

The staff trained at this workshop discussed and brainstormed ideas about how to ensure greater gender equality in UNDP's projects in these areas, as well as in their daily lives and in the office.

"One of the insights gained by participants at this workshop is the critical role that men can play in breaking with stereotypes and in leading the way to a full recognition of women's contributions to social and economic life. Accordingly, participants suggested that male facilitators should be engaged for future such workshops, with two candidates identified among the Samoan national staff to take on this role," said Ms Bernard.

A number of follow-up actions are being considered to build on the learnings from this workshop, including training for UNDP's implementation partners later this year, targeting government and civil society representatives.

## Looking for a short-term consultant?

*Can't find the right person for the job?*

***You should contact the UNDP Pacific Centre!***

As part of its efforts to enhance knowledge sharing and access to expertise in the Pacific, UNDP Pacific Centre manages the Pacific Roster of Experts. The Pacific Roster of Experts is an online database of quality assured Pacific and international professionals with knowledge and expertise in:

- Crisis Prevention and Peacebuilding
- Climate Change
- Governance
- Poverty Reduction and MDGs
- Financial Inclusion
- Aid Management and Coordination
- Gender
- And more

### **How do I access experts?**

Send the approved terms of reference or advertisement to [registry.pacific-centre@undp.org](mailto:registry.pacific-centre@undp.org). We will search the Roster on your behalf and send a list of suggested consultants.

### **Can I be on the Roster?**

If you meet the below criteria, simply send an email to [registry.pacificcentre@undp.org](mailto:registry.pacificcentre@undp.org). All experts on the Roster must:

- Have a relevant skills set, particular experience, substantive and/or functional competency within key areas of support
- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience with international development organizations, civil society private sector or non-governmental organizations
- Is available and interested in conducting short term assignment on behalf of clients of the Pacific Roster
- Demonstrated knowledge of the Pacific and/or a combination of skills and experiences relevant to the Pacific context

Your CV will be screened by a committee. If you are considered eligible, you will receive an invitation to join. More details can be found on the Pacific Centre website <http://www.undppc.org.fj/>

### **Please note:**

- Being on the Roster does not guarantee a position with UNDP
- If you are on the Pacific Roster, your CV will be shared with stake holders and partners outside of UNDP

# Staff Movement

The last quarter saw much movement amongst Pacific Centre staff, with one retirement, one promotion within UNDP, a movement to a regional organization and a new arrival.

David Abbott, the Macroeconomic and Poverty Reduction Advisor and MDG Team Leader retired from UNDP. David had been with the Pacific Centre since 2006. David who brought with him over 30 years developing country experience in Africa, Asia, and particularly the Pacific Islands, says he will go back to being a consultant.

David helped a number of Pacific Island Countries to compile their national poverty analyses which he hopes will provide a valuable new source of data for the development of sound evidence-based pro-poor policies targeting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, and aimed at improving MDG achievement and reducing hardship and poverty.

Also moving on from the MDGs team is Carol Flore Smereczniak, the Pacific Regional MDG Specialist who had been with the Pacific Centre for the past four and half years. Carol

has taken up the position of the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Papua New Guinea.

Governance Specialist Nurina Widagdo has moved on from the Pacific Centre to join the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). She has taken up the position of Manager, Grant Management

Unit in the Public Health division and will be working out of Noumea, New Caledonia. Nurina had been with the Pacific Centre since 2008.

Joining the Pacific Centre is Cameron Noble, Programme Specialist – Conflict Prevention who will be working very closely with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

For the past six years he worked on peace processes and peace building projects in Indonesia (Jakarta and Aceh). Cameron has also worked in Afghanistan and Sierra Leone as a field coordinator managing emergency, development and peace-building programs.

He has also worked in Japan and has a Master of Arts in International Relations and Area Studies from Saitama University in Japan, a Master of Arts in Japanese Studies from Monash University in Australia, and a Bachelor of Arts in Industrial Design.



*Above - Farewell: David Abbott shows off his farewell present*

*Right - Newcomer: Cameron Noble joins the Crisis Prevention and Recovery Team*



*Left - Off to new places: Carol Flore Smereczniak (R) joins the PNG UNDP Office as Deputy Resident Representative and Nurina Widagdo (L) joins SPC*

## Capturing Lessons Learnt from Cyclone Pat

Seventy percent of homes and infrastructure on Aitutaki, the main island in the Cook Islands, were damaged or destroyed by Cyclone Pat that hit the island in February this year.

The Government and Cook Islands Red Cross responded quickly and effectively to the needs of the people both in the emergency and recovery phase, with strong collaboration with donor agencies and non-government actors.

Three months later, stakeholders in the disaster response and recovery process, including various Ministries, the Red Cross, non government organizations and United

Nations agencies met to capture lessons learned from Cyclone Pat to feed into future disaster preparedness and response activities in Cook Islands.

The workshop was organised by the Office of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), which is the convenor of the Pacific Humanitarian Team. It also included a simulation exercise of a more large scale cyclone event so that key stakeholders could be better prepared and coordinated humanitarian response in times of disaster.

Moortaza Jiwanji, the UNDP Pacific Centre's Disaster Risk Management Specialist, added to this exercise

by including a simulation of the recovery phase.

"The main outcome of the simulation exercise was to sensitize stakeholders to the importance of recovery work following on from natural disasters and to provide guidance on the planning process," he said.

In the aftermath of Cyclone Pat, UNDP through the Pacific Centre provided assistance to the Government of Cook Islands to conduct an early recovery assessment and to develop a comprehensive recovery and reconstruction plan for the people of Aitutaki. The plan was formally endorsed by the Cabinet in March.

## Latest Knowledge Products



### Financial Capability, Financial Competence and Wellbeing in Rural Fijian Households

This report contains findings of a survey conducted in 2007/08, some 18 to 24 months after the introduction of training and banking services. The survey validated that households that attended financial literacy training and have savings account enjoy significantly higher standards of living and financial security compared to those that had no access or even access to just one of these two interventions.

[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/Fiji\\_Financial\\_Services\\_Sector\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Fiji_Financial_Services_Sector_Assessment.pdf)



### Kiribati: Analysis of the 2006 Household Income and Expenditure Survey

This report provides estimates of National Food and Basic Needs Poverty Lines for Kiribati based on an analysis of the household data from the 2006 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES). This report analyses the expenditure data to estimate the incidence of poverty and the Head Count Index (HCI)<sup>1</sup> by comparing food and basic needs poverty lines to recorded levels of expenditure. It also provides an analysis of the broad characteristics of low-expenditure households in terms of their socio-economic status, demographics and level of household access to basic services.

[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/Kiribati\\_Poverty\\_Report.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Kiribati_Poverty_Report.pdf)

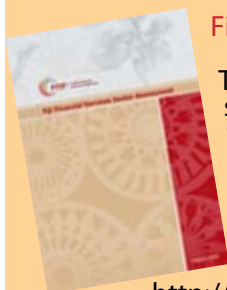
### Migration, Mobility and HIV: A Rapid Assessment of Risks and Vulnerabilities in the Pacific



The report provides a rapid assessment of migration and mobility as key influences on the distribution and spread of HIV in the Pacific. It is expected to contribute to the development of multi-sectoral responses required to address the HIV epidemic in the Pacific region and provide impetus for the development of effective and targeted interventions for people

on the move. It is a joint UNDP and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) report.

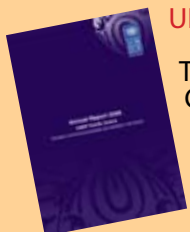
[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/Migration,MobilityandHIV\\_web.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Migration,MobilityandHIV_web.pdf)



### Fiji Financial Services Sector Report

This report provides an assessment of the financial services sector in Fiji. The report highlights that while the financial services sector in Fiji is well developed when compared with other Pacific Island countries, there are missed opportunities to provide better financial services and there is a need to ensure better financial awareness and capacity building

[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/Fiji\\_Financial\\_Services\\_Sector\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Fiji_Financial_Services_Sector_Assessment.pdf)



### UNDP Pacific Centre Annual Report 2009

This is the fourth annual report of the UNDP Pacific Centre.

[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/Pacific\\_Centre\\_2009\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Pacific_Centre_2009_Annual_Report.pdf)

**PASIFIKA Focus** is a publication of the UNDP Pacific Centre.

UNDP Pacific Centre focuses on specific issues within the practice areas of UNDP that impact on small vulnerable island countries of the sub region. The primary focus of the Pacific Centre is to deliver policy and technical advice and build capacity of Pacific Island countries to respond more effectively to the development challenges of the region.

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## Upcoming Events

### Development of a Framework for CSO and Government Engagement on Peace and Development Issues in Fiji

September 15 - 18, Fiji

At the Strengthening Capacities for Peace and Development in the Pacific (CPAD) workshop in Nadi, representatives to the meeting agreed that the most effective national development outcomes are achieved when government, civil society and other stakeholders work together.

Participants recommended the need to have a well defined framework for government/CSO partnerships for national development. UNDP was requested by government and CSOs from Fiji to facilitate and support this process.