TALANOA
INTEGRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGS

TALANOA SESSION REPORT

Thursday August 30 2018
Suva Business Centre,
Victoria Parade,
Suva, Fiji.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
We offer our sincere thanks to all our Members and Partners who have worked with us on our journey to support an enabling environment for Green-Blue Pacific economies, and affect transformative change for sustainable and inclusive development in the Pacific.

DESIGN
The Talanoa Series Report was designed in house by the PIDF Strategic Communications Unit. Photographs are acknowledged to PIDF Programme and Strategic Communications Units.

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<th>Acronym</th>
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<td>ACSE</td>
<td>Adapting to Climate Change and Sustainable Energy</td>
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<td>CRPD</td>
<td>The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Sector Organisations</td>
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<td>ESCAP</td>
<td>The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<td>EU-GIZ</td>
<td>The European Union (EU) - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH</td>
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<td>MoU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
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<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
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<td>The Pacific Disability Forum</td>
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<td>PIANGO</td>
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<td>The Pacific Islands Development Forum</td>
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<td>The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

More than 90% of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets are linked to international human rights and labor standards. The full achievement of the SDGs is only possible if we protect and fulfill people’s rights in the process. In fact, by putting in strong mechanisms of protection of human rights, we’d have a much higher probability of achieving many of the SDGs. PIDF recognizes that subsequently, the human rights framework offers important and useful guidance for the implementation of the SDGs.

Similarly, the SDGs can contribute in substance to the realisation of human rights in the Pacific. As an initial phase towards this, the Pacific Islands Development Forum and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Pacific hosted a Talanoa with other relevant human rights stakeholders, to discuss the linkages between human rights and the SDGs, specifically from a Pacific perspective.

In terms of outcomes, this Talanoa introduced a new partnership and paved the way for further proposed collaboration between PIDF and OHCHR in the formalization of an MoU, aimed towards a coherent vision and strategy in embracing human rights issues in the Pacific in terms of advocacy, securing the rights of people with specific disabilities, upholding the rights of people and communities affected by climate change and environmental disasters, supporting public and private sector in upholding human rights standards when facilitating and conducting business, and human rights outreach and education, to fulfill our commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind.

This Talanoa also served as an interactive platform to bring together advocates, practitioners and stakeholders in the human rights arena to present, share understanding and discuss key human rights challenges and issues in the Pacific directly related to the activities of the partnership.

A copy of the Concept Note, Agenda, Flyer and Participants’ List are provided as Annex 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively to this report.
SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS

Welcome Address - Mr. François Martel, Secretary General PIDF

“Human rights are the cornerstone of the SDGs and are one condition for accelerating efforts in achieving the SDGs.” stated the PIDF Secretary General in welcoming the participants at the Talanoa. Secretary General Martel further stated “Your attendance here is proof that integration of human rights is vital in discussions,” and emphasized that “The OHCHR has proved itself an important global forum to mobilize key stakeholders not just for global advocacy, but to utilise such platforms as this Talanoa to build partnerships and discuss important human rights issues in the Pacific and the challenges we face”.

A copy of PIDF Secretary General Martel’s, Welcome Address is provided as Annex 5 to this report.

Opening Address by Dr. Chitralekha Massey, Regional Representative Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for the Pacific, Suva-Fiji

Dr Massey welcomed the participants and stated in her address that the word ‘Talanoa’ is fitting in that it is a gift which is immersed and grounded in human rights and implies participation, inclusion, listening to each other, trying to understand a different perspective and finding a common ground to move ahead together. “A single word standing for an idea symbolising the core principles of human rights” “Deciding for oneself; living in the community; working and socialising without discrimination – these are four essential areas where progress can be made that will have an enormous impact on the well-being of millions of people.”

Dr Massey stated that the Talanoa and the work together of PIDF and OHCHR will explore ways to reaffirm the dignity and equality of users of mental health services, people with psychosocial disabilities and those with mental health conditions. Dr Massey emphasized that the dream of each one, who lives in a village, a town or a metropolis, all women and men desire above all to achieve secure livelihoods and jobs through environmentally sustainable economic growth shared by all, and that dream is now supported by a common world commitment, the Sustainable Development Goals, signed at the United Nations in New York by numerous presidents and leaders of countries.

Dr Massey concluded her address with the statement that “I share the hope with you that we might contribute to reforming policies that worsen discrimination, abuse and the arbitrary institutionalisation that people frequently face, as well as other practices that fail to respect people’s autonomy, choices and rights.

Dr. Massey stated that she and her team looked forward to working closely together with the team at PIDF and with the States in the Pacific to making the SDGs a reality for all.

A copy of Dr Massey’s, Opening Address is provided as Annex 6 to this report.
Session 1

Topic: How Human Rights can support Pacific Island Countries achieve their targets as set in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Presented by Mr. Patrick Marega Castellan, Deputy Regional Representative, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for the Pacific, Suva-Fiji

Mr. Castellan’s presentation focused on how much human rights are anchored in the SDGs. He stated that “It’s written in the Preamble of the 2030 Agenda that the SDGs seek to realise the human rights of all. The SDGs are explicitly grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights treaties, and other relevant instruments. The SDGs agenda is universal and people-centered, is informed by the indivisibility of all human rights and the need for equality and non-discrimination, and promotes participation and accountability. Finally, the SDGs recognize the interdependence of economic growth, human rights and sustainable ecosystems and aim at the wellbeing of present and future generations.” Mr. Castellan also emphasized that the SDGs and the ‘leaving no one behind’ programmatic principle call for free, active and meaningful participation of all stakeholders, particularly the most marginalized. There is strong focus on the role of civil society, in all phases of implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SDGs.

The 17 SDGs and many of their 169 targets and 241 indicators are closely linked to specific human rights. Goal 16 reflects many civil and political rights, goals 5, 10, 16 focus on equality and non-discrimination and goals 13 and 17 are connected to the right to development. Many other goals are connected to economic, social and cultural rights. For example, when we expand to consider human rights in the context of the Green/Blue Economy, SDGs 12, 14 and 15 come into the picture. The right to health, right to adequate food and right to safe drinking water and right of all peoples to freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources are some of the linkages between human rights and the Green/Blue Economy.

He further stated that to bring all this together, the alliance and partnerships between Governments, CSOs including community groups, private sector, and regional and international organisations, are the best mechanism. Policies, legislations, and actions plans put in place by Pacific countries to achieve SDGs need to be informed by the human rights obligations and recommendations endorsed by those same countries. Implementation and reporting must reflect those efforts and concrete examples of alignment between human rights and SDGs should be reflected in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) of the Pacific Island Countries.

A copy Mr. Castellan’s presentation is provided as Annex 7 to this Report.
Session 2

Topic: Climate induced displacement and migration with a rights based focus.

Presented by Ms. Irene Isabel Lata Prasad, In-Country Coordinator, EU-GIZ Adapting to Climate Change and Sustainable Energy (ACSE) Programme, Climate Change and International Cooperation | Ministry of Economy, Fiji

Ms. Prasad stated that “Climate change will impact everyone in some way” and also emphasized that climate induced displacement in the context of the adverse effects of climate change and disasters also raise a wide array of human rights considerations. The links between climate change and human rights are more widely accepted than ever before. The Human Rights Council has adopted a series of resolutions calling attention to the effects of climate change on the full enjoyment of human rights, and the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC has also recognized that ‘the adverse effects of climate change have a range of direct and indirect implications for the effective enjoyment of human rights.

“According to the Fijian Green Growth Framework, there are around 40 communities identified for relocation. The relocation of communities is the last resort for adaptation. Proper assessment of the socio-economic dynamics of these communities is critical.”

Ms. Prasad reiterated that the Climate Change Division would like to emphasize on the following points:

“Planned Relocation” projects currently underway (Narikoso Village in Kadavu and Waciwaci District School in Lakeba) and Finalising of the draft Relocation Guidelines

A copy of Ms. Prasad’s statement and pictures are provided as Annex 8 to this Report.

Session 3

Topic: Advocacy work for rights and services for persons living with disabilities and their support group, with special focus on those living with mental illness and albinism

Presented by Ms. Laisa Vereti, Manager – Planning, Policy and Advocacy for Pacific Disability Forum (PDF)

“For those of us working in development, with partners, translating SDGs with the human rights linkages will boil down to legislation, policy, programme planning and financial and human resources. Many of our mental health acts in the Pacific are outdated.” So noted Ms. Vereti as she delivered a passionate presentation on the inclusion of people with disability, in particular people with psychosocial disability and the linkages between Human Rights and SDGs

Ms. Vereti stated that eleven Pacific island countries have ratified the UN Convention On The Rights Of Persons With Disabilities (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, FSM, Palau, PNG, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu). PDF is working hard supporting its members in the two countries to get Solomon Islands and Tonga to ratify. In the Pacific, two countries have reported on the UN CRPD (submitted report to the UN CRPD Committee); they are Cook Island and Vanuatu being scheduled to report. Through the project partnership with UNOHCHR, PDF is supporting four of its members to develop their alternative report; these are Kiribati, Marshall Island, Palau and Vanuatu, with Vanuatu having a pre-session with the committee in September, here in Fiji.

To ensure that persons with psychosocial disabilities are not to be left behind in the achievement of the SDGs, first and foremost, it’s important for countries in the Pacific to undertake a comprehensive legislation review, to ensure that all pieces of laws and legislation in PICs are in compliant with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). It means having a disability legislation that is compliant with the CRPD, and mainstreaming of all other domestic laws. In The Pacific, only Cook Islands, Fiji and Marshall Islands has a disability law, of which, only the ‘RMI Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2015’ holds the principles of the CRPD and is compliant with the CRPD. For persons with psychosocial disabilities, the Mental Health Acts would directly affect them, sadly to say, most of the Mental Health Acts in the region are outdated and are not compliant at all with the CRPD. One of the challenges for the inclusion of persons with psychosocial disability is changing ‘mindsets’ within institution – let alone families and communities. As example, there is still a lot of stigma associated with persons with psychosocial disabilities; they are unlikely to get a job, even if they are ‘survivors’.

Ms. Vereti emphasized that “If all this talk does not lead to concrete action, then we will not achieve the aspirations of the SDG, persons with psychosocial disabilities will continue to be left behind.” In Fiji, PDF works with and supports the
Psychiatric Survivors Association (PSA) in promoting the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities.

Ms. Vereti concluded her session with the important and challenging question by saying, “When you talk about inclusivity and mainstreaming SDGs, where is disability in that discussion?”

She reiterated that there needs to be a change of mindset of institutions and the workforce should be more inclusive of persons with psychosocial disability. There needs to be innovation and creativity with a strong regional cooperation and this regional cooperation needs to translate into concrete action in order to really ‘leave no one behind’.

A copy of the UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (CRPD) can be accessed at the following URL: http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/convention/convoptprot-e.pdf

Session 4

Topic: Human rights education, inclusive of environmental rights, for the people of Pacific island countries, acknowledging that these need to emerge from a Pacific context

Presented by Ms. Emele Duituturaga, Executive Director of the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO)

“For activists to talk about human rights, we have to navigate through religion, culture and traditions. And in the context of the Pacific, these are amplified even more. People centered development is fine, but voice, dignity and wellbeing need to be the core.” These were the points stressed by Ms. Duituraga during her session.

With the important question of, “Can the SDGs achieve human rights?” Ms. Duituturaga informed that long before the SDGs and MDGs, Pacific CSOs were already advocating human rights and that inclusive discussions are vital and also data, information, ICT are all inputs into achieving some part of the Human Rights agenda. Ms. Duituraga stated that she envisioned Human Rights as being at the heart of agenda 2030 and it’s the ambition of the SDGs.

In response to the question of where do we start?

Ms. Duituraga stated that in relation to the VNR, where countries need to be report and it being a state led report, it needs to involve participation from other stakeholders.

For 2019 VNR with the theme ‘Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality’, each of the countries involved are meant to give an in-depth report on the SDGs and she requested the UNOHR to provide some guidance on those rights particularly related to this as this would also be very helpful toward the spotlight report.

A copy of Ms. Emele Duituturaga’s PPT presentation is provided as Annex 9 to this Report.

Question & Answer Session and Discussions

Padre James Bhagwan stated that the challenge faced, not just from an institutional perspective but from a human perspective, was to ensure that this work continues in a very serious manner and is moving from talking to action and that theological underpinnings of human rights are vital. Padre Bhagwan also reiterated “Bringing all the voices and finding ways we can work together to ensure that we continue to take action at the ground level as opposed to keeping it to the head level and then struggling later on.”

Ms. Duituturaga supported Padre Bhagwan’s statement and stated that religion and tradition were two key pillars that needed to be navigated. “Navigate” because we can’t go against it. “When you go into communities, understanding where people might be coming from is important. “There is liberation theology and needing to understand and appreciate that this is a possible approach to that end.”

This discussion gave way to the question posed by PIDF Team Leader Mr. Mark Borg to the participants and invited their thoughts on whether human rights are clashing with religion and tradition or was this more of a misunderstanding and misperception?”
In response to this question, Dr. Chitralekha Massey shared an anecdote of how she and her colleague were in one of the island states recently and how the entire discussion on human rights perception was that if we adopt and start working with human rights, it is in complete conflict with tradition and cultural values. She further stated that from the prospective of the UNOHCHR there is no conflict and the UN Human Rights Office has two clear guides. It’s all about human dignity and it’s about respect and keeping the human person at the centre of it. It’s also about equality of treatment and no religion really goes against that. The other point emphasized was that there may be traditional practices that may be deeply embedded in culture but if they have no value and they are harmful then they are not protected values. “Tradition and culture evolves over a period of time, you have an evolution and progress. There are then changes that then become the norm and if you consider the evolving world, we must have these dialogues and Talanoa’s to discuss ways to again, navigate these, that is respectful and we are able to see the others’ perspective and reach an understanding.”

Dr Massey further emphasized on three key points:

- First, the ability to impart traditional values and a form of behavior for children.
- Second, issue around women’s rights, highlighting the importance of women’s participation and inclusion in forums and positions of power, not just for the Pacific but globally as well.
- Third, the concept of gender and how it works with the concept of traditional family values. And where does it sit along with the religious setting.

Dr Massey acknowledged that challenges existed very clearly and that partnerships and dialogue will allow issues to be addressed holistically to find a way forward.

Secretary General Martel suggested that in relation to the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR), there may be an opportunity to test the elements of human rights as part of these as there will be a specific training on the VNR for PICs in the week beginning September 24th undertaken by ESCAP through UNDESA. “It’s quite likely that we will have the chance to include these elements in the training of the officials from the different countries - only two countries in the Pacific have reported and it’s also important that these are included in the guidelines and into the training packages. PIDF will be involved in this process. This training is an excellent opportunity to include the key element of human rights as well.”

MOU Signing Statements

**MoU signing statement by Mr. François Martel, Secretary General, Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)**

“The Protection of Human Rights is not only important for achieving the SDGs, it is also one of the conditions for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the entire SDG agenda, in critical areas for the Pacific, in terms of advocacy, securing the rights of people with specific disabilities, rights of people affected by environmental disasters, and human rights outreach and education, which have been incorporated in PIDF’s MoU with OHCHR today”, said PIDF Secretary General, François Martel.

Secretary General Martel further stated that the MOU has been in the making for a while and this is also a way of ensuring that the work is not duplicated in the Pacific, as the key elements of the MOU, they are on issues not fully addressed in the past and are priorities for both organisations and that with the MoU signing at the regional level, PIDF will continue working with OHCHR to promote and include human rights in PIDF’s work for sustainable Blue/Green Economies in the Pacific and assist in supporting PIDF members in integrating human rights in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The Secretary General also informed that PIDF’s Charter also makes specific mention of spirituality and universality, which is why this area is strategically significant for PIDF’s work.

**MoU signing statement by Dr. Chitralekha Massey - Regional Representative, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)**

Dr. Massey stated that the regional office for the Pacific UNOHCHR was extremely pleased to sign the MOU. The Regional Representative informed the participants that “The existence of the UNOHCHR office in Fiji is because all of you here voiced your concern over the lack of integration of human rights in development.” The Regional Representative also stated that Human Rights were a broad and varied mandate, thus partnerships were important and we must work together to speak up with one voice for stronger, accountable institutions and policies. She further stated “Our hope is that this partnership only strengthens further and rises to the challenge.”
Proposed next steps

- Explore methodologies (including consultations with UNOHCHR) of including elements of Human Rights into the guidelines and training package of the specific training on the Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the countries on the SDGs which is scheduled to start in the week beginning September 24th undertaken by ESCAP through UNDESA, in the training of the officials from the different Pacific Island countries.

- Initiate and engage in more multi-stakeholder forums on elements of Human Rights as mentioned in the PIDF and OHCHR MoU, focusing on inclusivity of faith based groups, traditional leaders (through iTaukei Affairs Board, faith based and religious organisations).

- Promote elements of Human Rights integration into the SDG priorities of PIDF member countries through the National Sustainable Development Boards (NSDB). Assist in the review and possibly incorporate this in National Strategic Plans.

- Initiate discussions with member states on how Human Rights can be integrated into the Voluntary National Review (VNR) for the Pacific.

Note: Materials from this Talanoa are available online at URL: [http://greenbusiness.solutions/hrsdgs-talanoa/](http://greenbusiness.solutions/hrsdgs-talanoa/)
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Talanoa on "Integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"

30th August 2018, 3pm to 5pm. Suva Business Centre, Victoria Parade, Suva. Fiji In Partnership with Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR),

Summary

This concept note outlines the background, rationale and objectives for a Talanoa on "Integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" proposed to take place in Fiji at the Suva Business Centre, Victoria Parade on 30th August 2018.

The Talanoa is intended be a platform to share knowledge, raise Human Rights challenges and issues affecting the Pacific and engage in discussion on the importance of integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the SDGs. This will act as the initial way forward for a new partnership between PIDF and the Pacific Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

At the conclusion of the Talanoa, a Memorandum of Understanding between PIDF and UNOHCHR will also be signed which will pave the way to a future collaboration and on the integration of human rights in the achievement of the SDGs for the Pacific thus rallying the call underpinning the new agenda which is “to leave no one behind”.

Rationale

More than 90% of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets are linked to international human rights and labour standards. The achievement of the SDGs is only possible if we protect people’s rights in the process. In fact, by putting in strong mechanisms of protection of human rights, we’d have a much higher probability of achieving many of the SDGs.

PIDF recognizes that subsequently, the human rights framework offers important guidance for the implementation of the SDGs. Similarly, the SDGs can contribute in substance to the realisation of human rights in the Pacific.

As an initial phase towards this, the Pacific Islands Development Forum and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Pacific will host a Talanoa with other relevant human rights stakeholders, to discuss the linkages between Human Rights and the SDGs, specifically from a Pacific perspective.

This Talanoa will also present the proposed collaboration between PIDF and UNOHCHR as an initial step towards a coherent vision and strategy in embracing human rights issues in the Pacific in terms of advocacy, securing the rights of people with specific disabilities, rights of people affected by environmental disasters, and human rights outreach and education.

Objectives

1. To introduce a new partnership between the Pacific Islands Development Forum and the UN Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights for the Pacific.

2. To bring together advocates and practitioners to present, share understanding and discuss key Human Rights challenges and issues in the Pacific directly related to the activities of the partnership.

3. To officially sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations for joint advocacy on Human Rights in the Pacific and to fulfill our commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind.
Program outline
The program will involve a Welcome Address by Mr. François Martel, Secretary General, Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) followed by the opening of the Talanoa by Dr. Chitralekha Massey, Regional Representative of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

There will be four 10 minutes sessions with speakers on the following topics:
- How Human Rights can support Pacific Island Countries achieve their targets as set in the Sustainable Development Goals
- Climate induced displacement and migration with a rights based focus
- Pacific disability through advocacy work for rights and services for persons living with disabilities and their support group with special focus on those living with mental illness and albinism
- Human Rights education, inclusive of environmental rights, for the people of Pacific island countries, acknowledging that these need to emerge from a Pacific context.

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<td>3.00pm – 3.10pm</td>
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| 3.10pm – 3.20pm | **Welcome Address**  
Mr. François Martel  
Secretary General, Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) |
| 3.20pm – 3.30pm | **Opening of the Talanoa**  
Dr. Chitralekha Massey  
Regional Representative  
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for the Pacific |
| 3.30pm – 3.40pm | **How Human Rights can support Pacific Island Countries achieve their targets as set in the Sustainable Development Goals.**  
Mr. Patrick Castellan  
Deputy Regional Representative  
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for the Pacific |
| 3.40pm – 3.50pm | **Climate induced displacement and migration with a rights based focus.**  
Ms. Irene Isabel Lata Prasad  
In-Country Coordinator  
EU-GIZ Adapting to Climate Change and Sustainable Energy (ACSE) Programme  
Climate Change and International Cooperation, Ministry of Economy Fiji |
| 3.50pm – 4.00pm | **Pacific disability through advocacy work for rights and services for persons living with disabilities and their support group with special focus on those living with mental illness and albinism.**  
Ms. Laisa Vereti  
Manager Planning, Policy and Advocacy  
Pacific Disability Forum |
| 4.00pm – 4.10pm | **Human rights education, inclusive of environmental rights, for the people of Pacific island countries, acknowledging that these need to emerge from a Pacific context.**  
Ms. Emele Duituturaga  
Executive Director, Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisations (PIANGO) |
| 4.10pm – 4.30pm | **Question & Answer Session and Discussions**                                                      |
| 4.30pm – 4.40pm | **PIDF & UNOHCHR MoU signing**                                                                 |
| 4.40pm – 5.00pm | **Photo Session & Refreshments**  
Event Concludes |

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Talanoa on Integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the SDGs - TALANOA SESSION REPORT  
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More than 90% of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets are linked to international human rights and labour standards. The achievement of the SDGs is only possible if we protect people’s rights in the process. In fact, by putting in strong mechanisms of protection of human rights, we’d have a much higher probability of achieving many of the SDGs.

Hosted by the Pacific Islands Development Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Pacific, this Talanoa will seek to:

- Discuss the linkages between Human Rights and the SDGs, specifically from a Pacific perspective;
- Present the proposed collaboration between PIDF and OHCHR;
- Have a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between PIDF and OHCHR.

Owing to your continued interest in Human Rights and SDGs in the Pacific, you are invited to attend and participate in this Talanoa.

**Date:** Thursday August 30 2018  
**Venue:** Suva Business Centre, Victoria Parade, Fiji  
**Time:** 3pm-5pm

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<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Citizens Constituionl Forum</td>
<td>Ms. Lucrisha Nair</td>
<td>Project Support Officer</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia</td>
<td>Mr Thomas Ambrosius</td>
<td>1st Secreatry</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia</td>
<td>Ms. Ratih Wulandari</td>
<td>Social Culture Function</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>International Labour Organization (ILO) Office for Pacific Island Countries</td>
<td>Mr. Peter Blumel</td>
<td>Communication Officer</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>IOM Fiji</td>
<td>Mrs. Mahym Orazmuhamedova</td>
<td>Chief of Mission</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Kiribati High Commision</td>
<td>Ms. Mary Maita</td>
<td>1st Secreatry</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Ministry of Economy - Climate &amp; International Cooperation Division</td>
<td>Ms Irene Isabel Lata Prasad</td>
<td>In-Country Coordinator EU-GIZ Adapting to Climate Change and Sustainable Energy (ACSE) Programme</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Dr. Chitralekha Massey</td>
<td>Regional Representative</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Ms. Samita Singh</td>
<td>Administrative Associate</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Patrick Castellan</td>
<td>Deputy Pacific Rep</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Mr. Dip Magar</td>
<td>Human Rights Officer</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Ms. Kavita Naidu</td>
<td>National Human Rights Officer</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Pacific Disability Forum</td>
<td>Ms. Laisa Vereti</td>
<td>Manager Planning, Policy and Advocacy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Association of Non Government Organisations (PIANGO)</td>
<td>Ms. Emele Duituturaga</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Development Forum</td>
<td>Mr. Francois Martel</td>
<td>Secretary General</td>
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**Attendance List for Talanoa "Integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the SDGs"**
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<td>16</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Development Forum</td>
<td>Mr. Nitish Narayan</td>
<td>Team Leader, Strategic Communications</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Development Forum</td>
<td>Mr. Mark Borg</td>
<td>Team Leader, Programme Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Development Forum</td>
<td>Mr. Nikhil Lal</td>
<td>Coordinator Programme Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Development Forum</td>
<td>Ms. Afsrin Ali</td>
<td>Coordinator Programme Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Project Survival Pacific</td>
<td>Mr. Lavetanalagi Seruiraduvatu</td>
<td>Co -Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Save the Children Fiji</td>
<td>Iris Low-McKenzie</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>South African High Commission</td>
<td>Mr. Eden Reid</td>
<td>First Secretary – Political at the SAHC</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Mr. Martin Child,</td>
<td>Senior Human Rights Advisor, RRRT</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Ms. Josephine Kalsuak</td>
<td>Senior Human Rights Advisor, RRRT</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Dr Jayshree P. Mangubhai</td>
<td>Senior Human Rights Adviser – Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT)</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>U.S Embassy, Suva</td>
<td>Mr. James Bjorkman</td>
<td>Acting Political and Economic Chief</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>UNISDR Pacific Sub-Regional Office</td>
<td>Mr. Andrew McElroy</td>
<td>Sub-Regional Coordinator (Pacific)</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>University of Fiji</td>
<td>Mr Jooseph Camillo</td>
<td>Dean, School of Law</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>UNOCHA</td>
<td>Ms. Anne Colquhoun</td>
<td>Head of Office</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>UNOCHA</td>
<td>Ms Nazgul Borkosheva</td>
<td>Humanitarian Affairs Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Uto Ni Yalo Trust (Fijian Traditional Voyaging Society)</td>
<td>James Bhagwan (Rev)</td>
<td>Chaplain\Mentor</td>
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Dr. Chitralekha Massey, Pacific representative for the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, Members of the Diplomatic Corps and representatives for International and Regional Organizations. Advocates for Human Rights  Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon, Bula vinaka,

I extend to you all my warmest welcome for this Talanoa on “Integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the SDGs”. At the outset; allow me to thank all participants at this joint event. For the most, you are the actors on the ground and your presence at this Talanoa conveys your commitment towards keeping the momentum for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and more importantly the integration of Human Rights into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Pacific Islands.

A few months ago, on this Year, the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Fiji received the visit of Dr. H.E. Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein, the Outgoing United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. I had the great honour to meet directly with him to dialogue on issues of human rights in the Pacific, and from our perspective what we considered as priorities. For those who attended his Public Lecture at USP, titled “Navigating new challenges with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”, you will remember how he acknowledged the profound impacts climate change has already on human rights, including rights to life, self-determination, development, food, health, water and sanitation, and housing. These are cornerstones of the Agenda 2030.

He also called for Governments to draw upon the wisdom and knowledge of civil society organizations as the development challenges we face today needs to be addressed through all sectors of society. Human Rights are not only important for achieving SDG’s, it is also one of the conditions for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the entire SDG agenda, in critical areas for the Pacific, in terms of advocacy, securing the rights of people with specific disabilities such as p, rights of people affected by environmental disasters, and human rights outreach and education. This is why we have worked in close collaboration with the Pacific office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights in developing a partnership to address these five key areas of cooperation.

At the regional level, PIDF will continue working with the Pacific office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and include human rights in PIDFs work for sustainable Blue/Green Economies in the Pacific and assist in supporting PIDF members in integrating human rights in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. In this context, PIDF worked very closely with PIANGO and CIVICUS on the adoption of the Global Civil Society Declaration on climate-induced human displacement and migration that will be proposed for adoption by the Pacific leaders for submission to the UN Global Compact on Migration at the end of this year.

And in just a few hours, in another Talanoa on the Blue Economy at USP Oceania Centre hosted by OXFAM – Pacific, I was asked to share the key recommendations of the 1st High- level Pacific Blue Economy Conference held in August last year, here in Suva and the first recommendation is – I quote:

“Creating a sustainable Pacific Blue Economy will require collective and coordinated actions of many stakeholders. Partnerships across Governments, private sector and civil society organisations are needed to shape this future – a future which is people-centred, and places human rights and human dignity at its core.”

Today’s event, in the form of this Talanoa, is intended to introduce this new partnership between the Pacific Islands Development Forum and the UN Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights for the Pacific, and use the occasion of the signing of our comprehensive MOU to also serve as a first platform to share knowledge, raise Human Rights challenges and issues affecting the Pacific and engage in discussion on the importance of integration of Human Rights in the achievement of the SDGs. This will act as the initial way forward for our new partnership on supporting our members and stakeholders in human rights advocacy and outreach in the Pacific.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights team for co-organizing the very first yet vital Talanoa with our PIDF Team. We will then conclude with the signing of the MOU heralding a new partnership for joint advocacy on Human Rights in the Pacific and to fulfill our commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind. I trust you will find this talanoa of much interest and thank in advance our speakers and for your active participation in this event.

I thank you - Vinaka vakalevu.
Excellencies, Distinguished panellists, Colleagues, Friends,

I am honoured to welcome you to this talanoa, and please allow me this opportunity to share a few reflections with you.

Let me begin with the word talanoa, a word I was first introduced to some months after my arrival in Fiji two years ago. A word that brings to mind blue oceans, beaches, rugby and, yes, a formal kava ceremony, too, Fiji, its culture and its traditions. Fiji gifted this word to the world at COP 23. And it is only fitting that this gift is a word immersed and grounded in human rights. It is about participation, inclusion, listening to each other, trying to understand a different perspective and finding a common ground to move ahead together. A single word standing for an idea symbolising the core principles of human rights. So welcome to this talanoa on the integration of human rights into the realisation of the SDGs in the Pacific.

What is the dream of each one of us, who lives in a village, a town or a metropolis? All women and men desire above all to achieve secure livelihoods and jobs through environmentally sustainable economic growth shared by all. And that dream is now supported by a common world commitment, the Sustainable Development Goals, signed at the United Nations in New York by numerous presidents and leaders of countries.

“This is the people’s agenda, a plan of action for ending poverty in all its dimensions, irreversibly, everywhere, and leaving no one behind.” This is how the then UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon described the Sustainable Development Goals. They are the result of a negotiation process that involved the 193 UN Member States as well as the unprecedented participation of civil society and other stakeholders.

For the first time governments of developing countries and wealthy countries have agreed on a set of goals for everyone. These goals will help all nations and all people create jobs with new skills and better incomes, share prosperity, reduce poverty, and protect the planet from environment damage and climate change. They will address the interconnected elements of sustainable development: economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. The goals also commit governments everywhere to creating open and accountable institutions free of corruption, where the rule of law is of paramount importance. One hundred countries have representative decision-making at all levels so that the voice of citizens is clearly heard.

Let me quote the current HC on Human Rights: “[…] a country’s economic development is not in itself a synonym for the fulfilment of human rights.

Development can bring with it access to the fundamental services and goods that improve many people’s well-being and the ability to make choices about their lives. But if they cannot also voice their concerns and participate in decisions, the resulting “development” may not increase their welfare. What increases people’s welfare is respect for all their rights […] Conversely, discrimination and other human rights violations are a threat to development, just as they are a threat to peace and security.”

These words underscore our duty to uphold the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which stresses the interdependence and indivisibility of all human rights for all. And the SDGs make a unique and essential contribution in this regard.

This is a year of milestones for the human rights struggle and the systems designed to elevate and protect it. 70 years have passed since Member States—having learned the tough lessons of a devastating world war—declared with authority that all people are born equal in dignity and rights. 25 years have passed since in the Vienna Declaration. Member States have made it clear that a lack of development may not be invoked to justify the non-respect of internationally recognised human rights. 20 years have passed since the Human Rights Defenders Declaration affirmed the rights of people to stand up against the tyranny of those who would seek to deny these truths, resorting to civil and political oppression to deprive people of their right to material dignity, to full civil and political participation, by depriving them of their rights to education, to health and to shelter.

“Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.”

This promise of Article 28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is echoed in the Declaration on the Right to Development according to whose third article, States have the duty to co-operate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to it. To this end, States should work together to build an international economic order based on sovereign equality, interdependence, and the realisation of all human rights for everyone. This bedrock of the indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights for everyone, underpins the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and is the foundation for its just implementation. And, inequality and discrimination will be defining challenges during in the process of implementation. Every system is perfectly designed to deliver the results it delivers. That inequality has deepened in this century, within and between countries, suggests that from a human rights standpoint something is gravely dysfunctional in our social, international and economic order. Inequality between people owing to age, ethnicity, race, disability and other identities as well as discrepancies with respect to wealth and
accompounded by inordinate tolerance for that which must never be considered tolerable. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a powerful framework for addressing inequalities and for dismantling their close and constant companion, discrimination. But like the MDGs before it, equality will not be improved by 2013 nor will discrimination be on the decline if implementation of the Agenda fails to take into account the values, principles and norms enshrined in international human rights instruments, including the Declaration on the Right to Development.

In this, the means of implementation are fundamental, as Member States have emphasised in Article 2 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The maximum available resources for the realisation of these Covenant rights is a core component of a sovereign State’s duties to its people. Since every system is perfectly designed to produce the results it delivers different results will come only from a different systemic approach, an approach in which development and the benefits of globalization are shared fairly, so as to leave no one behind either by design or neglect. Let me also mention an issue that is far too often of a topic that is swept under the carpet in today’s societies. And that is the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which is fundamental to human dignity. And there is no health without mental health, of course. Clearly, the provision of adequate mental health services and support are essential: they cannot be viewed as a luxury, any more than clinics that fix broken limbs or treat malaria are a luxury. And it is clear that mental health services cannot legitimately be given lower priority than services that focus on people’s physical health.

A very high proportion of us may be affected by a mental health condition during the course of our lifetime. Indeed, as many as one in four people, according to some estimates. Quality mental health services should be accessible to all, regardless of social class or status; and no stigma or shame should be associated with using such services. But in reality, during their lifetime very few people with mental health conditions or psychosocial disabilities will benefit from the sort of accessible, quality services and support which are their right. Instead, many will face discrimination. Profoundly harmful stereotypes about people living with – or perceived to have – mental health conditions will condition the health services they receive, with a long-term impact on their participation and inclusion in society. Psychiatric institutions, like all closed settings, generate exclusion and segregation, and being forced into one amounts to arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Such institutions are also the locus of abusive and coercive practices, as well as violence that is often tantamount to torture. Institutionalisation and segregation have been an inadequate response at all levels – for adults with disabilities as well as children. The threat of becoming institutionalised also impedes users from accessing services in the early stages of anxiety or stress. An emphasis on institutionalisation has meant that rather than resolving gaps and weaknesses within family and community networks, bonds have been broken and children and adults have been denied their right to enjoy family life and participation and inclusion in the community.

For a person to be banished from society – to be considered unworthy of belonging to humanity and confined in seclusion– is deeply damaging to the human soul. States should ensure that people with mental health conditions and those with psychosocial disabilities may access treatment and support services, including peer support, in their communities. Segregation is harmful – not only for the individual, but also for the community as a whole. Clearly the human rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities and those with mental health conditions are not being protected around the world. This needs to change. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities offers a legal framework for a more comprehensive approach that upholds the rights of people with psychosocial disabilities, including the right to exercise legal capacity and give free and informed consent; the right to live and be included in the community; a move toward de-institutionalisation; and the right to liberty and security without discrimination. We must all move in the direction of strengthening and supporting this framework. And as we will see in this meeting, change is possible and is happening now.

Deciding for oneself; living in the community; working and socialising without discrimination – these are four essential areas where progress can be made that will have an enormous impact on the well-being of millions of people.

This talanoa and the work together of PIDF and OHCHR will explore ways to reaffirm the dignity and equality of users of mental health services, people with psychosocial disabilities and those with mental health conditions. Amongst us are many notable practitioners struggling to ensure human rights-based systems of care and support, as well as several people who have themselves experienced the shortcomings of current practices. We also commit to working with other organisations such as the SPC and UN agencies to cast light on the inadequacies of the systems currently in place and appreciate your efforts to restore dignity to those whose dignity has been undermined.

I share the hope with you that that we might contribute to reforming policies that worsen discrimination, abuse and the arbitrary institutionalisation that people frequently face, as well as other practices that fail to respect people’s autonomy, choices and rights. My team and I look forward to working closely together with the team at PIDF and with the States in the Pacific to making the SDGs a reality for all.
How Human Rights can support Pacific Island Countries achieve their targets as set in the Sustainable Development Goals

Patrick Marega Castellan
Deputy Regional Representative
OHCHR Regional Office for the Pacific

Human Rights in the 2030 Agenda

- The SDGs “seek to realize the human rights of all”
- Para 8: We envisage a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination, of respect for race, ethnicity and cultural diversity, and of equal opportunity
- Para 10: The new Agenda is guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for international law. It is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties....
- Para 11: We emphasize the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, to respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all ...
- Para 15: We emphasize that the Agenda is to be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the rights and obligations of states under international law.

A human rights-based agenda
- People-centered
- Universality: applicable to all countries and all peoples – global partnership
- Indivisibility: civil-political & socio-economic
- Equality and Non-Discrimination: leaving no one behind, inequalities, data disaggregation
- Participatory: potential to open civic space
- Accountability of States to their people
- Interdependence: linking inclusive economic growth, human well-being and sustaining healthy ecosystems to economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, right to development and to future generations rights

Linkages between the SDGs and human rights
- The 17 SDGs and many of their 169 targets and 241 indicators are closely linked to specific human rights
- Economic, social and cultural rights – many goals
- Civil and political rights – mostly goal 16
- Equality and non-discrimination – Goals 5, 10, 16
- Right to Development - Goals 17, 13

See OHCHR table on interlinkages
ANNEX 7 (cont’d)

Integrating HRs and SDG implementation and reporting

- Policies, legislations, national actions plans or sectoral plans (i.e. health, education, employment, climate change) put in place by Pacific island Governments to achieve SDGs to be informed by international human rights obligations and HRM recommendations
- Increasing practice of developing National Implementation Plan on the Human Rights Recommendations with SDGs integrated i.e. Samoa, Vanuatu
- Link HRs and SDGs reporting i.e. Voluntary National Reviews – i.e. role of NMRFs

Leaving no one behind

- Grounded in normative principles and standards of non-discrimination and equality
- Identifying and addressing inequalities, combatting discrimination - and root causes
- Addressing gender inequalities
- Move beyond assessing average and aggregate progress towards ensuring progress for all population groups and individuals
- Requires legal, policy, institutional and other measures to promote equality and reverse the trend of rising inequalities
- Requires free, active and meaningful participation of all stakeholders, particularly the most marginalized
- Robust accountability framework

Active and meaningful participation in the Pacific

- Ensure participation of all critical stakeholders, including affected communities, women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, migrants, LGBTI, human rights defenders, indigenous peoples, other marginalized and traditional groups in all phases of implementation and monitoring
- Rights of freedom of expression, access to information, freedom of association and assembly are fundamental pre-requisites to empowering Peoples’ agencies

Climate induced displacement and migration with a rights based focus.
Global climate change is likely to affect everyone on Earth to some degree, whether in the form of social, psychological, economic or environmental change, or a combination of these. The possible consequences of climate change are many and varied, and some of them are potentially very serious.

Climate change & migration/ displacement
One such consequence and reality is the displacement and migration related to the adverse impacts of climate change and one that will become more severe as the effects of climate change increase.

As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has put it, climate change is a "threat multiplier". Since 2008, an average of 21.5 million people have been displaced from their homes each year by the impact of rapid-onset climate-related hazards - and the frequency and intensity of such events is expected to increase.

In its Fifth Assessment Report, the IPCC highlighted that displacement and migration are subject to various complex social, political, cultural, economic and environmental factors and that due to the presence of the multitude nature of interacting climatic and non-climatic drivers, it is difficult to demonstrate and assess the exact causal chains and links between migration and climate change with a specific degree of confidence.

The report, however, points out that migration is an emergent risk with a potential to become a significant risk. It is also pointed out that climate change potentially affects migration flows through intensification of natural disasters, increased warming and drought, sea-level rise, which makes coastal areas and some island states increasingly uninhabitable and competition over natural resources leading to conflict and displacement.

The report further notes that it is projected with medium evidence but with high agreement that climate change over the 21st century increases displacement of people and that the risk of displacement increases “when populations that lack the resources for planned migration, experience higher exposure to extreme weather events, in both rural and urban settings, particularly in developing countries with low income. Thus, one concludes that there is sufficient evidence that climate change exacerbates both sudden and slow onset natural disasters leading to internal and external displacement of persons who do not have the capacity or are vulnerable to such situations and events.

Displacement/ migration and human rights
Displacement in the context of the adverse effects of climate change and disasters also raises a wide array of human rights considerations. The links between climate change and human rights are more widely accepted than ever before. The Human Rights Council has adopted a series of resolutions calling attention to the effects of climate change on the full enjoyment of human rights, and the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC has also recognized that ‘the adverse effects of climate change have a range of direct and indirect implications for the effective enjoyment of human rights.’

These include, among others, the right to life, the right to adequate food, the right to water, the right to the enjoyment of highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, the right to adequate housing and the right to self-determination. It further highlights the impact of climate change on the rights of certain vulnerable groups due to factors such as geography, poverty, gender, age, indigenous or minority status as well as disability. While climate change impacts have implications for the human rights of individuals in all parts of the world, it is well established that the rights of those in already vulnerable situations are at particular risk.

Actions to take
The most fundamental action that countries can take to protect the rights of people at risk of being displaced by the impacts of climate change is to limit the impacts of climate change by working to limit warming to 1.5 °C thereby reducing the threat to the most vulnerable populations.
This is the responsibility of all countries, and was affirmed in the Paris Agreement’s commitment to keeping temperatures well below 2°C above preindustrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. Under the UNFCCC Cancun Adaptation Framework, both displacement and migration are recognised as forms of adaptation, together with “planned relocation.”

The IOM has defined this further as follows:
“In simple terms, adaptation refers to any human response taken to cope with changes in the external environment in order to survive these impacts with minimal damage and improve living conditions in a given habitat. When people decide or are forced to move due to environmental and climatic changes – whether sudden or slow – their mobility is an adaptation strategy that allows them to minimize harm for themselves and/or improve their overall lives.”

Addressing climate-induced relocation in PICs
So in the context of the Pacific Island Countries, it is especially important to situate the mechanisms of addressing climate induced migration in a comprehensive understanding of the legal norms, customs, traditions and cultures that govern the societies within the island nations. It is therefore important to also consider the non-economic losses sustained and the rights of individuals in the process of migrating due to climate induced disasters. These include the loss of identity as well as the psychological, social, emotional and cultural damages associated with this relocation.

The Case of Fiji
Coping with and adapting to the challenges of climate change is a daily reality for many communities in Fiji, as elsewhere across the Pacific; and communities respond with a variety of adaptation techniques – seawalls are built and mangroves replanted. Among these different approaches, planned relocation in Fiji is a relatively new response to the effects of climate change, and one that is viewed as an option of last resort. Noting - relocation is a complex process and often traumatic for those involved - no one wants to leave their home!

According to the Fijian Green Growth Framework, there are around 40 communities identified for relocation. The relocation of communities is the last resort for adaptation. Proper assessment of the socio-economic dynamics of these communities is critical.

Successful relocation of villages:
- Vunidogoloa village in Cakaudrove Province FJ$1 million funded by Government.
- Tukuraki village in Ba $1m funded by EU
- Denimanu village on Yadua Island – rehabilitation of homes that were destroyed in Hurricane Evan in 2012. Funded by GoF

Villages partially relocated:
- Vunisavisavi village in Cakaudrove province
- Nagasauva village in Udu Point, Cakaudrove
- Planned relocations in initial stages (current):
- Waciwaci District School in Lakeba, Lau. EU funding
- Narikoso village in Ono, Kadavu. EU funding

Moving forward...
Finalising Draft Relocation Guidelines (RG)
Recognising that Government has a primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and assistance to people at-risk of climate change, the Fijian Government is finalising a Relocation Guideline that provides a step-by-step framework of procedures that will guide relocation work in Fiji. The guidelines are intended to be an easy and useful reference for:
- communities seeking assistance with climate-induced relocation;
- coordinating government ministries; and
- external organisations providing support with the relocation process.

The Climate Change Division has the responsibility to ensure the guidelines are finalized in time. Various stakeholders from government, NGOs, regional/ UN agencies, etc., will be consulted for inputs to the new RG. We will also ensure that the RG is inclusive of human rights considerations.
Human Rights education and the Pacific context

- “Let God and Kastom be the paddles of our Canoe”
- Human rights is about people centered development
- Well before SDGs Pacific CSOs have been engaged in human rights advocacy
- Climate, Ocean, Terrestrial - Pacific specific inclusions into SDGs (AOSIS/PSIDS culmination in 3rd SIDS Conference in 2014)

Beyond 2015 Red Flags for the Post 2015 Negotiations

- Equity – leave no one behind
- Human Rights
- The Planet
- Participation
- Accountability
- Economy
- Peace

Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Declaration

...We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet.

We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path.

As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda.

They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these did not achieve.

They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental...

AGENDA 2030 – 17 SDGs
Rooted in a Liberation history of self determination

- Well before the SDGs, Pacific CSOs have been engaged in humans rights advocacy
  - the ecumenical movement of the Pacific Conference of Churches (1961) which formed the basis of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement (1978, 1980, 1983 Conferences)
  - Contemporary women’s movement led by Pacific YWCA in 1960s spurred by the global women’s suffrage movement, right to vote 1963.
  - Rights based discourse in 1980s led to emergence of Fiji Women’s crisis Centre; Fiji Women’s Rights Movement, Women’s Action for Change
  - CEDAW ratification prior to 1995 Beijing 4th Women’s Conference
  - Indigenous Rights Movement leading up to 2007 UNDRIP adoption, today the focus is on Free Prior and Informed consent
  - Trade Union Movement introduced by British Colony to stop communism (Fiji) – ILO Conventions
  - Big Pacific climate push 2009, COP 15 – Copenhagen – AOSIS; 2014 Samoa SIDS Conference; 2015 SDG 13

VNR Reporting

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development specifies that Member States should “conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven.” These reviews are supposed to draw on contributions from indigenous peoples, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders, “in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities.” National parliaments and other institutions “can also support these processes.”

Development Effectiveness focuses on sustainable change that addresses the root causes as well as the symptoms of poverty, inequality and marginalization. places human rights, social justice, gender equality and ecological sustainability at the core of aid relations and the development process.

Aid effectiveness focuses on the effectiveness of development aid in achieving economic or human development (or development targets). Aid agencies are always looking for new ways to improve aid effectiveness.

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- The 2030 Agenda also indicates, in paragraph 84, that when the HLPF is meeting under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), it shall carry out regular reviews that are voluntary and state-led, involving ministerial and other relevant high-level participants, and involve developed and developing countries. The reviews are also to “provide a platform for partnerships, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders.”
2019 VNRs

- The countries planning to present their VNRs in 2019 are as follows: Azerbaijan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Croatia, Eritrea, Fiji, Iceland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Mongolia, Nauru, Palau, Philippines, Serbia, South Africa, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, UK and Vanuatu.

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- HLPF 2019 is scheduled to address the theme, ‘Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality’. It will conduct an in-depth review of SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), in addition to SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals) which is reviewed each year. [UN VNR webpage]