Outcome Document

"Leadership, Innovation & Partnership for Green/Blue Pacific Economies"

5th - 7th August 2013, Sheraton Fiji Resort, Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji
INAUGURAL PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT FORUM

“LEADERSHIP, INNOVATION AND PARTNERSHIP FOR GREEN/BLUE ECONOMIES”

5 – 7 AUGUST 2013

NADI, FIJI

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT
PREAMBULAR DECLARATION

Our Region to Develop and our Region to Own

1. **This is our forum.** As Pacific Islanders in dialogue and partnership with the International Community and with each other, we are interdependent and strive to live in harmony with our environment, forming a cornerstone of our identity and binding our farflung region into a coherent whole.

2. **This is our development path.** Our path builds, nurtures and defends a Pacific that is progressive in improving the wellbeing of its people, safeguards its unique cultural diversity, spirituality and identity.

3. **This is our future.** We embrace our identity and are proud of our diverse cultures and values. We are good stewards of our people, our resources and our ecosystems, we envision a Pacific that is mature, confident and focused on its strategic strengths and led by visionary and transformative Leaders.

4. A Pacific that we need consists of:

   • A Pacific that asserts a distinctive Pacific model of “green growth in blue economies” that is aligned to sustainable development principles;

   • A Pacific that reaffirms the importance of Government leaders undertaking bold, transformative and adaptive leadership;

   • Pacific Leaders that champion Green Growth and Sustainable Development by adopting innovative and “outside of the box approaches”, revisiting traditional practices and improving existing mechanisms;

   • A Pacific that integrates our Spirituality into our development paradigms and models;

   • A Pacific that enhances protection of critical ecosystems through the enforcement of legislation, creation of protected areas and creating awareness and promoting advocacy on our role as stewards of this creation;

   • **A Commitment to Action**

   Sustainability is a responsibility for all. Sustainable development begins with the choices of the individual and the decisions they make as consumers and members of society including those
they influence. Inclusiveness and Sustainability is a mindset that we must adopt and pass onto our children.

**Let us take action today.**

5. **10 Things we must do to Achieve Green-Blue Pacific Economies**

1. **Leadership**
   We acknowledge inclusive and stewardship leadership is a critical requirement for transforming our brown economies into green-blue economies with thriving societies. While political leadership will take the lead, it is essential that leadership in the private sector and civil society (including women, youth and people with disabilities) including religious and traditional, are included and play their roles in the decision making process.

2. **Recognition of role of healthy people**
   Healthy and happy Pacific people are the first requirement for sustainable development. A “Whole of Society” approach must be implemented to ensure significant action on the prevention and control of NCDs, promotion of maternal, child and adolescent health and the creation of public-private sector partnership that includes provision of tertiary care services, the use of mobile and internet telecommunication for cheap and readily available online health care, and the use of social media for behavior change programs and ICT for improved care especially in young people.

3. **Value of the Pacific Common and Collective**
   We prioritize the valuation of critical ecological, social, spiritual/cultural assets that are not being recognized under the “brown economy”; and for the development of appropriate development indicators that reflect and measure progress in these areas of inclusive and sustainable development.

4. **Long term financing / trust funds – support to communities**
   We must implement long term financing mechanisms, including trust funds, that are sourced from public sector budgets, climate change funds, development partners, private sector and other innovative means that support communities on the management of their natural resources and finance critical sustainable development initiatives.

5. **Rigor in implementation of key national and regional commitments**
   We must reform our regulatory, accountability (including monitoring and evaluation) and incentives systems to ensure that green economy initiatives and commitments are effective and sustained at national and regional levels.
6. Reform of financial system
We require reforms in our national, regional and global fiscal and financial systems as well as our resource allocation and expenditure (budgetary) processes to direct and redirect resources into ensuring ecological sustainability, social inclusion, and spiritual/cultural wellness.

7. Education and capacity building
We must integrate sustainability at all levels, starting with up-skilling teachers and a roll out to primary, secondary and tertiary institutions and curricula. Critical skills areas must be identified and targeted in education strategies to ensure our people’s awareness on sustainability is increased and that they are equipped with the knowledge and the passion to implement a people-centered green/blue economy.

8. Sustainable transport
We prioritize alternatives to existing petroleum driven land and sea transportation that significantly reduce fuel imports. Sustainable shipping approaches are to be promoted and adopted as an alternative to provide effective services for remote island communities.

9. Food security
We ensure food and nutrition security by prioritizing inclusive and sustainable agricultural and fisheries development to meet the needs of our people first, and, by ensuring that trade and significant new investment in resources for management play a supportive role in regards to this objective.

10. Re-Energizing the Pacific
Facilitate the economic transformation of our economies with renewable energy alternatives and significant improvements in energy efficiency through the effective implementation of national energy roadmaps and other initiatives such as Sustainable Energy 4 All (SE4All).

This is Our Forum, Our Development Path and Our Future.

THIS IS OUR OCEAN, THIS IS OUR JOURNEY.
11. The inaugural meeting of the Pacific Islands Development Forum was held in Nadi, Fiji from 5 to 7 August 2013 with the theme “Leadership, Innovation and Partnership for Green/Blue Economies.”


13. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji Commodore Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama delivered the Opening Remarks followed by the keynote address from the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste, His Excellency Xanana Gusmao.

Leaders and representatives of the participating countries:

From Rio to the Pacific

14. Recalling that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (Rio +20) endorsed green economy as a tool for sustainable development;

15. Recognizing that green economy can address the ecological
divide (environment degradation, resource depletion, climate change and natural disasters and ocean acidification), the social divide (poverty, inequalities, health and NCDs etc.), and the spiritual-cultural divide (suicides, violence against women etc.);

16. Recognizing that its critical to have strong, innovative and inclusive leadership that creates meaningful partnership to address the root causes and promote green growth;

17. Noting that many Pacific island countries and organizations including the Pacific Small Islands Developing States and the Melanesian Spearhead Group have endorsed the use of green economy and green growth as a key tool or paradigm for accelerating integrated and inclusive development; have or are planning green economy policies and roadmaps; and are already involved in implementing many green initiatives;

18. Recognizing that the Pacific is diverse and that there is a need to tailor initiatives to individual needs of countries and sub-regions and that the Pacific populations will double by 2050 providing additional pressures on resources;

19. Acknowledging that there are significant gaps and “divides” in the Pacific regarding sustainable development and the unfinished business of Millennium Development Goals and there is a need for a strong multi-stakeholder space where leaders of governments, private sector and civil society of the Pacific island countries and territories can dialogue and agree on green economy approaches and initiatives for inclusive and sustainable development;

20. Noting that there is increasing support and assistance that can be made available for coordinating, facilitating and supporting the shift or transition from brown economy to green economy including from all old, existing and new development partners;

21. Recognizing the establishment of the United Nations High Level Political Forum as the successor to the Commission on Sustainable Development to oversee the implementation of the post 2015 development agendas;

Therefore the Forum agreed that:

22. A body such as PIDF can advance the issues, approaches and initiatives recognized in the aforementioned paragraphs;
23. The PIDF provides a link to regional and global processes, including that of the United Nations, and CROP agencies that also link with existing national sustainable development consultation processes that include private sector, civil society/communities.

**LEADERSHIP, PARTNERSHIP AND INNOVATION**

24. Recognising that Leadership, Innovation & Partnership are three components needed for sustainable development and poverty eradication;

25. Acknowledging that the shared notion of ownership refers to “where I belong and where I stand” with a deep sense of awareness of the environment that has been passed on to us, a legacy that we are custodians of, is a living gift, not mere commodity;

26. Recognising that in order to develop our countries in a sustainable manner we need to transform traditional economies into inclusive, people-centered green/blue economies that safeguard our terrestrial and marine biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. This transformation would build greater resilience of our Pacific Island countries towards the effects of Climate Change;

27. Noting the availability of services of the [Global Green Growth Institute](#) towards PICs to assist in the development of green growth strategies/plans as highlighted by PNG and Kiribati who are members of the institute;

*Political/Public Leadership for the Green/Blue Economy*

28. Noting the need for a collective political vision at a Pacific Regional level that cascades into individual political wills at national levels to successfully achieve overall sustainable development goals;

29. Reaffirming the importance of governments in taking a bold, transformative and adaptive leadership role in developing policies and strategies through fair, inclusive and transparent consultative processes in advancing the transition to a people-centered green/blue economy;

30. Acknowledging the need to assert a distinctive Pacific model of “green growth in blue economies” that is aligned to sustainable development principles and healthy oceans;
31. Recognizing the strategic role of the private sector as the engine of growth in the transition to people-centered green/blue economy and the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication through public-private partnerships;

32. Noting the need for Pacific leadership models that promote the respect for creation, deep listening and participation of all members of a community in decision-making and furthering action;

33. Recognising that green innovation often emerges at the margins of mainstream activities and may take the form of research projects, community initiatives, small business, innovation units of large companies, social enterprises, social movements amongst other sources;

34. Noting that innovation can shift at any point in the system of production and consumption, from more efficient industrial processes to shifts in consumption practices towards more sustainable lifestyles, and intervention at one leverage point can influence change across the system as a whole;

35. Noting that mining, as a regional economic growth sector requires the collective input of all stakeholders with very careful consideration for transparent decision making processes and under girded by the principle of prior and informed consent;

36. Recognizing the importance of partnership for action on people-centered green/blue economy to strengthen government capacity and other stakeholders to manage the transition to socially inclusive, resource efficient and low carbon economies;

Therefore the Forum agreed:

37. To encourage Pacific Leaders to be champions of Green Growth and sustainable development by adopting innovative and “outside of the box approaches”, revisiting traditional practices and improving existing mechanisms;

38. That Pacific public sector take appropriate steps to develop national consultative mechanisms that are aligned to the PIDF approach through genuine consultations to establish clear goals, together with all relevant sectors, as equal partners in the planning, development and implementation of initiatives on people-centered green/blue economies;
39. To recognize that a healthy and happy people are the basis for sustainable development and the need to implement “whole of society” approaches to ensure that our people adopt and engage in lifestyle practices that significantly reduce NCDs;

40. That the public sector provides a robust enabling environment in all sectors, including capacity building for both institutional and human resources between and amongst Pacific economies;

41. That the private sector partner with Public Sector to intensify the approach and implementation of green growth initiatives and provide an enabling environment for people-centered green/blue Pacific Island economies;

42. That the private sector of PIDF countries be encouraged to conform to appropriate national and international standards of sustainable development;

43. The proposal for more exchanges within and among the various sectors i.e. proposed Business Forum with a view to building partnerships towards sustainable development and understanding of cross-sectoral impacts;

44. That PIDF explore opportunities that recognize and award local innovation in environment and social development entrepreneurship;

45. That partnerships between the public sector, private sector, civil society/communities that are critical strategy to ensuring success in the sustainable implementation of projects and programmes;

46. That faith-based organisations are a powerful mediator to creating people-centered green/blue economies (Green Church model of the Anglican Diocese of Polynesia);

47. That the media plays a critical role in promoting people-centered green/blue economy in communities of the Pacific;

48. That education plays a key role in the promotion of sustainable development in the Pacific;

49. That appropriate innovative technologies are important tools for the transition towards people-centered green/blue economies;

50. To promote the greater involvement of community leaders, women, youth and children in the transition towards an inclusive, people-centered green/blue economy;
51. To promote the greater involvement of community leaders, women, youth and children in the transition towards a people-centered green/blue economy;

52. To explore ways to address the need for technical capacity and durable financial support towards the implementation of sustainable development priorities of Pacific Island countries.

**PIDF INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT**

The Forum agreed to:

53. Provide an effective mechanism directly linking with the Pacific Small Islands Developing States (PSIDS) Grouping in NY, the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, Alliance Of Small Island States (AOSIS), G7+, G77 & China, and other UN processes at the global level;

54. Provide direct linkages with developing or existing national sustainable development processes in Pacific Island Countries as well as with ongoing programmes of the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies;

55. Establish a Secretariat which in the interim to be funded by Fiji and staffed by selected persons, through secondments and attachments, from the PIDF region; modeled on inclusive and sustainable principles and operated on the “principle of less is more and more for less”; 

56. Finalize and circulate a Work Programme of the secretariat to PIDF countries for endorsement;

57. Establish a Working Group with representatives drawn from all sectors of society to consult, assess and propose options of a Terms of Reference for a long term institutional arrangement of the PIDF for consideration at the 2nd PIDF in 2014;

58. Make a strong commitment to collaborate on training and capacity building in areas of people-centered green/blue economy;

59. Align policies to support national development planning processes, recommendations and assistance in mobilizing funding to ensure the people will benefit from this initiative; and

60. Re-direct investments to create opportunities, especially for the marginalized communities.
OUTCOMES OF SECTORAL DISCUSSIONS

61. The PIDF discussed a selection of various strategic thematic areas of importance to the rebalancing of sustainable development pillars. The outcomes of these group discussions will be a part of a more developed work plan for the Secretariat. These issues are attached as Annex 1.

NEXT MEETING

62. The Forum endorsed to hold the second PIDF in 2014.

Denarau, Nadi, Fiji
7 August 2013
OUTCOMES OF SECTORAL DISCUSSIONS

Track A : Extractive 1 – Mining and Energy

Recognising that the growing number of consumers and the emerging economies are both leading an unprecedented demand and competition for minerals and energy, the extractive industries, by their nature, are long-term ventures and require long term healthy relationships with communities, the public sector and other relevant stakeholders;

This sectoral discussion recommends:

1. The development of formal innovative partnerships with key triangular relationships between government, private sector and communities inclusive of other stakeholders i.e. women, youth and children. Negotiations for such key triangular relationships should take place at an early stage, have longevity as a prerequisite and be genuine in the consultative processes hence leading to the empowerment of Communities and NGOs.

2. The promotion of traditional land ownership as the primordial owners of natural resources. This valuation of land should not be changed without a thorough and transparent consultative process.

3. The revisiting and refined of existing sustainable development indicators that track progress in nation building.

4. The region should look at capacity building projects in science skills linked to mineral and energy development to enable the region to maximize opportunities for sustainable people-centered green/blue economies.

5. Policy and law should be developed focusing on the concepts of fairness and reasonableness with respect to natural resource wealth benefits. Added parameters could include supporting green innovation from mineral and energy generated wealth and using legal and fiscal instruments to encourage energy efficient methodologies and environmental technologies.

Track B: Extractive 2 – Fisheries and Forestry

Recognising the challenges Pacific Island Countries face due to unsustainable extraction of forest and fisheries resources and the lack of enforcement capacity, resources and a subsequent commitment to invest in these sectors.
This sectoral discussion recommends:

1. To develop new commitment to the **effective implementation** of existing national, regional and international plans and agreements.

2. To take action and create and engage in relevant programmes at the national level which would promote sustainable development such as plant a million trees or the expansion of the network of Locally Managed Marine Areas, such as the Phoenix Island Protected Area.

3. Noting that these sectors generate substantial revenue in many countries that is not being re-invested - to ensure sufficient resourcing to ensure effective implementation and management of national commitments and investments in this sector.

**Track C : Tourism**

Tourism planning and input into respective public sector policies will lead the integration of Green Growth principles into the sectoral development plans and subsequently the implementation of a people-centered green/blue economy.

This would mean the following:

A. **Leadership**
   
   a. Development and support of Infrastructure conducive towards the development of the Tourism sector in the rural and urban areas;

   b. Bridging the digital divide in promoting more accessible Information, Communication and Telecommunications technologies;

   c. Providing incentives to assist and support the integration of Green Growth principles into this sector;

   d. Providing business incentives and training for young local tourism entrepreneurs;

B. **Partnerships**

   a. Building and consolidating public-private and private-private partnerships are critical;

   b. Promoting community awareness and community participation adds greater value to the quality of service in the Tourism industry;
c. Sharing of best practices will only improve the standard and quality of service in this particular sector;

d. A critical Focus on the development of eco-tourism in the Pacific region will enhance the sustainability of this particular sector in the medium to long term;

e. Emphasizing the inter-linkages between Tourism and Agriculture, Fisheries will only contribute towards a sustainable and holistic development policy framework for the Pacific.

C. Innovation

The following innovative measures in the Tourism sector are more conducive towards the implementation or the realisation of sustainable development:

a. Managing the impacts of extreme weather patterns;

b. Managing waste;

c. Managing Water and sanitation;

d. Promoting Renewable Energy;

e. Highlighting the region’s rich Biodiversity and Ecosystems; and

f. Preserving Traditional and Cultural practices and values.

Track D: Agriculture

This sectoral discussion recommends:

1. Strategic Partnerships
   - With other players that can address priorities and basic needs of farmers, communities;
   - With traditional leaders to address roles of traditional leaders/CSOs/Youth/Women;
   - With Value Chain players: Private sector (e.g. processors, transporters, packers, exporters etc)

2. Niche marketing
   - By using value adding to access niche high value markets;
- By promoting certification for organics;
- By promoting value adding/processed products to overcome trade Biosecurity barriers;

3. Integration of Agriculture in Education into curriculum at an early age:
- By teaching right attitude and culture to appreciate value of agriculture;
- By early earning of income through farming activities can influence attitude;

4. Establishing GREEN VILLAGES/GREEN CENTERS in communities.
- Including vocational training centers in these Green Centers;
- Providing inputs /models for agricultural practices and technologies;

5. Take appropriate steps to ensure effective land use management.

**Track E: Manufacturing & Trade**

Recognising the need for genuine Regional Cooperation in terms of the following:

1. Pooling of resources i.e. regional airline;
2. Regional institutions;
3. Bulk procurement;
4. Harmonised Biosecurity measures;
5. Adoption of PSIDS Standards – for products and processes;
6. Promoting industries (manufacturing) that provides sustainable livelihoods and sustainable employment;
7. Planning strategic education plan to focus on science, entrepreneurship and engineering;
8. Taking ownership of regulatory framework for business for sustainable development;
9. Support the creation and promotion of a single window concept for trade facilitation;
**Track F: Transport & Infrastructure**

This sectoral discussion recommends:

1. That PIDF identifies opportunities for a sub-regional transportation arrangements, including air services, that would explore and expand strengths of existing arrangements;

2. That PIDF sustains and supports the development of appropriate hydrography charts; and

3. That PIDF promotes Infrastructure standards and designs compatible with the principles of a people-centered green/blue economy.

**Track G: Health & Disaster Prevention**

This sectoral discussion recommends:

1. The repositioning of Health in the sustainable development discussion as a resource for as well as the end result of inclusive people centered green economy rather than an afterthought;

2. Innovative financing through reforming of allocative process in finance and sin-tax measures with funds directed to implementation of health programs with recognition and use of existing resources such as volunteers;

3. Encouraging gender equity in the pursuit of an inclusive people-centered green/blue economy by increasing involvement of women, youth and people with disabilities in development discussions and programs;

4. Encouraging the greater use of green systems in health facilities such as solar power and rainwater tanks, acknowledging that many of these green initiatives not only help mitigate climate change effects but also provide co-benefits that increase the overall disaster resilience of these facilities;

5. Creating public-private sector partnership that includes provision of tertiary care services, the use of mobile and internet telecommunication for cheap and readily available online health care, the use of social media for behavior change programs and ICT for improved care amongst other things to address the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) crisis and maternal, child and adolescent health.