MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC
AND
PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT FORUM

PREAMBLE

The University of the South Pacific ("USP"), represented by the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development ("PaCE-SD") on the one part and the Pacific Islands Development Forum ("PIDF") on the other part, together called the "Parties";

ACKNOWLEDGE the contributions by USP to the establishment and the development of PIDF and the role that PIDF is able to play in the achievement of inclusive sustainable development through the advancement of a green-blue economy in the Pacific.

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE the leadership role of USP through its Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development programmes which have supported the creation of a Pacific regional green growth coalition of leaders as well as a number of other initiatives in PIDF member countries including Timor Leste, Solomon Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, and Fiji. The outcomes of these coalitions and activities contribute towards the PIDF strategic mission as they follow similar principles of inclusivity and multi-stakeholder governance with the participation of leaders from government, civil society and the private sector.

WHEREAS USP and PIDF are committed to the sustainable development of Pacific communities and recognise the potential for collaboration in areas that address urgent environment and sustainable development needs in the Pacific, including, but not limited to:

- Sustainable management of natural resources such as forestry, fisheries, mining and agriculture to ensure suitable environmental and conservation safeguards;
- Waste management and minimisation;
- Lifelong learning, capacity building, research and education;
- Appropriate response to disaster risk reduction, recovery and management;
- Appropriate response to climate change with the development of adaptation solutions to build resilience of communities affected by sea level rise, droughts, increased intensity of cyclones and acidification of coral reefs;

Initialled by Prof. Rajesh Chandra for USP:

Initialled by Feleti Penitala Teo OBE for PIDF:
- Weather, hydrological, ocean and climate services and modelling, forecasting and analysis; and
- Sustainable energy and transportation.

WHEREAS USP and PIDF are committed to working together to share resources and expertise towards supporting the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to manage their natural resources in a sustainable manner and assist them in transitioning their economies to a green-blue economy.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

I. OBJECTIVE

1. The primary objective of this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is to establish a closer partnership between USP and PIDF to jointly initiate actions towards the achievement of their respective mandate relative to sustainable development, the protection of the environment and the advancement of a green-blue economy in the Pacific region.

II. GENERAL UNDERTAKINGS

1. The Parties agree to the following general undertakings:

i) To maintain regular communication and contact, including an annual meeting with USP, Director of PaCE-SD and the PIDF Secretary General and their management teams to:
   a. identify appropriate opportunities for effective collaboration;
   b. review the effectiveness of existing collaborative activities; and
   c. exchange views on enhancing the collaborative relationship.

ii) To collaborate initially on the ten (10) key commitments of the Inaugural PIDF Summit of 2013 as set out in Annex 1 to this MOU.

iii) To collaboratively plan and implement activities, projects and programmes in areas of mutual concern.

iv) To collaborate and facilitate talanoa sessions on the key commitments of PIDF that would need a facilitated space to engage dialogue between the PIDF stakeholders of governments, civil society and private sector.

v) To enter into written agreements, as necessary, to define the terms and conditions upon which collaborative activities will be undertaken.

vi) To exchange information and to facilitate access to each organisation’s expertise and networks.

vii) To consult each other, as appropriate, on the development of policy and programmes of mutual concern.

viii) To extend a standing invitation to be represented, as a participant or an observer, at meetings of mutual interest.

ix) To inform their respective memberships of co-operative activities

Initialled by Prof. Rajesh Chandra for USP:

Initialled by Feleti Penitala Teo OBE for PIDF:
undertaken pursuant to this MOU.

x) Mutually pursue opportunities to consolidate the working relationships and relational framework agreements that would benefit both parties in the medium to longer term.

III. OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS

1. This MOU:
   a) is only an expression of a shared vision and objective;
   b) represents the intention of the Parties to collaborate on activities of mutual concern;
   c) does not create legally binding obligations and, in the absence of some further binding agreement, each party's actions shall be considered to be that Party's sole and separate action, for all purposes, including liability, and neither Party shall claim to be acting on behalf of, or as agent for the other party; and
   d) shall not influence the existing role or function of either Party.

2. The termination of this MOU shall not affect the validity or duration of any ongoing project initiated under this MOU, prior to any termination.

3. Progress towards the objectives and activities, projects and programmes envisaged in this MOU shall be reviewed annually by the Parties through a process to be agreed between them.

4. Neither party will incur any financial obligations relating to activities carried out in relation to this MOU, as a result of their execution of this MOU.

IV. CONFIDENTIALITY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

1. The Parties shall not disclose or distribute any confidential information, documents, data received or supplied to the other in the course of the implementation of this MOU to any third party unless authorised by both Parties in writing to do so.

2. The Parties further agree to recognise each other's intellectual rights in relation to the performance of the responsibilities of each party under this MOU.

V. ANNEXES

1. The Parties will enter into written agreements, as necessary, to define the terms and conditions upon which collaborative activities will be undertaken and may be annexed to this MOU by mutual agreement of the Parties.

2. Any Annex to this MOU shall form an integral part of this MOU and, unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to this MOU constitutes a reference to the MOU and any annex to it.

3. Financial provisions relating to any co-operative activity between the Parties shall be included in the relevant Annex, or in any complementary agreement relating to that activity.

Initialled by Prof. Rajesh Chandra for USP:

Initialled by Feleti Penitala Teo OBE for PIDF:
VI. DURATION, ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION

1. The duration of this MOU will be for the initial term of five years, renewable for such further period and on such terms as may be agreed between the Parties.

2. This MOU shall enter into force on the last date of signature of the Parties.

3. This MOU may be amended by mutually agreed exchange of letters between the Parties.

4. Either party may propose amendments to any Annex to this MOU. These amendments will enter into force as mutually agreed by both Parties.

5. Any Party may terminate this MOU by giving three months written notice to the other Party.
For and on behalf of The University of the South Pacific (USP)

Signature

Professor Rajesh Chandra
Vice-Chancellor and President

Date: 13 June 2014

Place: Suva, Fiji

Witnessed by:

[Full Name and Title]
Jandira Karain
Director, Development, Marketing & Communications

Signed: ..............
Date: 13 June 2014

For and on behalf of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)

Signature

Feleti Penitala Teo OBE
Interim Secretary General

Date: 20 June 2014

Place: Nadi, Fiji

Witnessed by:

[Full Name and Title]
Asiluka Turagama
Personal Assistant
PIDF

Signed: ..............
Date: 20 June 2014
Annex 1 - Areas of collaboration.

USP and PIDF will collaborate to implement activities that contribute towards the achievement of the “10 things we must do” that leaders endorsed in the 2013 Inaugural PIDF Summit.

1. The promotion of inclusive leadership with stewardship qualities to drive the transition to green-blue economies.

2. The promotion of a ‘whole of society’ approach for a healthy and happy Pacific people by supporting the implementation of significant action on the prevention and control of NCDs, promotion of maternal, child and adolescent health and the creation of public-private sector partnerships.

3. The development of appropriate, contextual development indicators that reflect and measure progress in the areas of inclusive and sustainable development.

4. The implementation of 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. The support to regulatory reforms that promote accountability and provide incentives to green-blue economic initiatives and commitments.

6. The support to national, regional and global fiscal and financial reforms as well as resource allocation and expenditure processes to direct resources to ecological sustainability, social inclusion and spiritual/cultural wellness.

7. The support to integrate sustainability in education and capacity building to ensure Pacific people are equipped with the knowledge and the passion to implement people-centered green-blue economies.

8. The development of alternatives to existing petroleum driven land and sea transportation that significantly reduce fuel imports; and the promotion and adoption of sustainable sea transport in the provision of effective services for remote island communities.

9. The implementation of food and nutrition security mechanisms that prioritise inclusive and sustainable agriculture and fisheries that meet the needs of Pacific people and ensure that investments in these areas contribute to the development needs of Pacific Island Countries.

10. The development of sustainable energy in the form of renewable energy alternatives and energy efficiency through the effective implementation of national energy road maps and other initiatives.