



PACIFIC DISABILITY FORUM

**"A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANIZATIONS
OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"**



**Gender, Youth, Disabilities
and Human Security**

**Setareki Macanawai
CEO – Pacific Disability Forum
Third Pacific Islands Development Forum Leaders' Summit
3 September 2015
Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva, Fiji**



PDF Membership

- PDF Membership – 58 organisations in 19 countries and territories (Australia, Cook Is, East Timor, FSM, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Is, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu)
- 30 Full Members – DPOs (Australia – 4, New Zealand – 4, PICs – 22)
- 28 Associate Members with 10 Individuals, 18 Organisations

“A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES”



The Reality

The UN General Assembly has highlighted that it is impossible to achieve development agendas such as the MDGs without incorporating the rights, well-being and perspective of persons with disabilities in development efforts at all levels.

"A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"



The Reality

In global, regional and national debates, persons with disabilities are often addressed as requiring support rather than being right holders contributing to development.

It will involve a change of attitudes and mind-set to ensure the active inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in planning, implementation and monitoring of climate change adaptation.

"A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"



What Can We Do?

- People centered, non-discriminatory and rights based climate change framework and policies

The policies and framework have to build upon the lived experiences, concerns and solutions of those at risk. For persons with disabilities, a people centered approach must align with principles protected within the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) already signed and ratified by 13 Pacific Island countries.

CRPD Article 11 (on situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies) calls upon States Parties to take “all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies, and the occurrence of natural disasters.”

“A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES”



What Can We Do?

- Active contribution and meaningful participation of all

An important consideration for persons with disabilities is improving accessibility and overcoming physical, information and attitudinal barriers. Inclusive risk reduction strategies and efforts reduce vulnerability, mitigate the impact of disasters and loss of life as well as build up resilience by enhancing the capacities of individuals, communities and institutions.

"A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"



What Can We Do?

- Inclusion and voice

Persons with disabilities are among the poorest of the poor within a community and typically do not have access to education or other resources and are often left out of decisions affecting their lives. Including persons with disabilities and their representative organisations in community interventions for climate change adaptation could enhance their livelihood and quality of life.

"A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"



Thank you!

PACIFIC DISABILITY FORUM

P O Box 18458, Suva, Fiji Islands

Ground Floor, Kadavu House, Victoria Parade, Suva,
Fiji.

Phone: (679) 331 2008

Fax: (679) 331 0469

Email: pdfsec@unwired.com.fj

Website: www.pacificdisability.org

"A PARTNERSHIP OF PACIFIC ORGANISATIONS OF AND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"