



4TH CONFERENCE



PACIFIC ISLANDS UNIVERSITIES RESEARCH NETWORK [PIURN]

HOSTED BY
SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

“SHAPING OUR TOMORROW TODAY: RESEARCH,
INNOVATION AND PRACTICE IN THE PACIFIC”

22-23 NOVEMBER 2021
Solomon Islands & Virtually

Information and Registration :
<https://piurn.org>

PIURN Members Universities



PROGRAMME'S OVERVIEW



Day two – Tuesday, November 23 rd		
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Opening Speeches	
Theme: Climate change and biodiversity in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories		
9:05 AM - 10:35 AM	Panel 7: Climate change & Natural Hazards impacts for the Pacific communities	Panel 8: Pollution and contaminants in the Pacific
10:35 AM	Break	
Theme : Sustainable Technology and innovation in the Pacific		
11:05 AM - 12:35 PM	Panel 9 : Biodiversity conservation	Panel 10 : Applications of Innovative Technologies for Pacific Islands Countries and Territories' Sustainability
12:35 PM	Lunch Break	
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Plenary Session: Presentation of the FALAH (Family Farming, Lifestyle and Health) Project	
Theme: Good governance and innovative decision making for sustainability of Pacific Societies		
3:05 PM - 4:35 PM	Panel 11: Politics' governance in the Pacific	Panel 12: Pacific Economics
4: 45 PM	Closing Ceremony	
Activate V Go to Setting		

Day One – Monday, November 22 nd		
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Opening Ceremony	
Theme : Impact of Covid 19 in the Pacific		
9:05 AM - 10:35 AM	Panel 1: Health Impacts of Covid 19 in the Pacific	Panel 2: Learning and Teaching during the Pandemic in the Pacific
10:35 AM	Break	
Theme : Improving Health and Well Being in the Pacific communities		
11:05 AM - 12:35 PM	Panel 3: Food Security	Panel 4 : Health and Well-being in Times of Rapid Social Change
12:35 PM	Lunch Break	
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Plenary Session: Presentation of the ITN-SUDPAC Project	
Theme: Strengthening Pacific Culture and Identities		
3:05 PM - 4:35 PM	Panel 5: Indigenous Knowledges, Pacific identities and values	Panel 6: Indigenous Pacific Island Cultures in Times of Rapid Social Change
4: 45 PM	Closing Speech – Day one	

Solomon Islands' Time (UTC+11)

The programme is subject to change



8:00 AM Opening Ceremony

8:05 AM Opening Prayer
TBA

8:10 AM Opening Speeches
Acting Vice Chancellor Dr Jack Maebuta - Solomon Islands National University
President Catherine Ris - University of New Caledonia
Vice Chancellor Pal Ahluwalia- The University of the South Pacific

THEME: IMPACT OF COVID 19 IN THE PACIFIC

9: 00 AM Panel 1: Health Impacts of Covid 19 in the Pacific
Chair : Dr Hugo Bugoro - *Solomon Islands National University*

9:05 AM Impact of Covid 19 in the Pacific
Satish Nand & Rayneet Reddy - The University of Fiji

9:20 AM Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic In the Pacific; A Health Perspective
Dr Musarat Natasha Begg - The University of Fiji

9:35 AM The Impacts of Covid 19 at CWM Hospital Employees in Fiji Islands
Rejina Kumar & Monisha Dutt - The University of Fiji

9:50 AM Innovation in COVID Crisis: USP Students design and build a low cost Emergency Use Ventilator
Daniel Wood - The University of the South Pacific

10:05 AM Supporting Covid-19 vaccination awareness for adolescents in the Cook Islands
Dr Siobhan Tu'Akoi - The University of Auckland

10:20 AM Worsened by, or even without the COVID-19 crisis, ultra-processed food & sugar over-consumption is a rampant public health threat in the Pacific.
Pascal Michon - Nation University of Vanuatu



9: 00 AM

Panel 2: Learning and Teaching during the Pandemic in the Pacific

Chair : Pr Jito Vanualailai - *The University of the South Pacific*

9:05 AM

Where Pacific Ideas and Modern Technology Meet: A collaborative approach to student support delivery
Dr Shailesh Lal, Hilda Vukikomoala Kunau & Pratish Raj - The University of the South Pacific

9:20 AM

Transitioning to the new normal in the 2020 pandemic lockdown: the case of National University of Samoa
Dr Ioana Chan Mow & Sarai Faleupolu Tevita - National University of Samoa

9:35 AM

The experience of the 2020 lockdown among teacher training students from a gendered perspective in French Polynesia and New Caledonia
Séverine Ferrière & Rodica Ailincăi - University of New Caledonia

9:50 AM

Fiji's Post-Covid-19 Tertiary Education Policy - A Blunder or a Sensible Adjustment?
Manpreet Kaur, Dr Sunil Kumar, Gyaneshwar Rao - The University of Fiji

10:05 AM

Education in Emergency: A case study of the Continuing Education in the Covid 19 period in the Solomon Islands -
John Fasi - Solomon Islands National University

10:35 AM

Break

THEME: IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELL BEING IN THE PACIFIC COMMUNITIES



11: 00 AM

Panel 3: Food Security

Chair : Dr Valérie Burtet-Sarramegna - *University of New Caledonia*

11:05 AM

"We used to get food from the garden". Understanding changing practices of local food production and consumption in small islands states

Viliamu Iese - The University of the South Pacific

11:20 AM

A pilot study into local production of supplementary food for malnourished children in PNG

Carlton Guwada - PNG University of Technology

11:35 AM

Impact of Climate Change on SMEs and Food Security in Fiji

Rohit Kishore- Fiji National University

11:50 AM

Shaping Tomorrow's Agriculture of Pacific Today: Integrating Livestock Production System with the Local Crop Products

Surendra Prasad - The University of the South Pacific

12:05 AM

Prevalence and Determinants of Overweight and Obesity in Fiji

Deevika Anjani- The University of Fiji

12:20 AM

Food Security and Diet Quality in the Rural Pacific; the case of St Cruz, Temotu Province, the Solomon Islands

Dr Alan Quartermain - University of Goroka



12:35 AM

Lunch Break

THEME: IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELL BEING IN THE PACIFIC COMMUNITIES



11: 00 AM	<p>Panel 4: Health and Well-being in Times of Rapid Social Change</p> <p><u>Chair</u> : Dr Olivier Galy - <i>University of New Caledonia</i></p>
11:05 AM	<p>"Talanoaga e uiga i soifua maloloina o Tina i Samoa - Producing a Pilot Podcast Series on Women's Health Issues</p> <p><i>Falelua Maua - National University of Samoa</i></p>
11:20 AM	<p>Breaking the cycle of NCDs within the Pacific Islands Communities</p> <p><i>Melenaite Tohi - University of Auckland</i></p>
11:35 AM	<p>Cannabis use, peri and post birth: should mothers who use cannabis absolutely abstain from breastfeeding?</p> <p><i>Dr Yann Barguil - Centre Hospitalier Territorial de Nouméa</i></p>
11:50 AM	<p>The Effects of Kava on Mental and Physical Health of Adults in Fiji</p> <p><i>Dr Ravindra Kumar Prajapati, Dr Neelam H. Zaidi, Dr Samuela Korovou, Chaya Chand & Ali Nikhat - The University of Fiji</i></p>
12:05 AM	<p>Maria elimination in Isabel province in the Solomon Islands</p> <p><i>Dr Hugo Bugoro- Solomon Islands National University</i></p>
12:20 AM	<p>The Role of plant based medicines in the prevention and management of Non-Communicable diseases in the Pacific Islands Countries</p> <p><i>Pr Prem Rai - Solomon Islands National University</i></p>
<hr/>	
12:35 AM	<p>Lunch Break</p>

2: 00 PM

Presentation of the ITN SUDPAC Project
*Valérie Burtet-Sarramegna, University of
New Caledonia*



THEME: STRENGHTENING PACIFIC CULTURES AND IDENTITIES

3:00 PM

**Panel 5: Indigenous Knowledges, Pacific Identities
and Values**

Chair : Dr. David Gegeo - *Solomon Islands National
University*

3:05 PM

**Music, identity and stereotypes in Hawaii and French Polynesia:
artistic syncretism and the building of an identity.**

Florent Atem - University of French Polynesia

3:20 PM

**Talanoa vā māfana: An indigenous Tongan method for
researching Tongan leadership**

*Dr Mele Katea Paea, Dr Linitā Manu'atu, Dr Halahingano
Rohorua Dr Fred Rohorua, Dr Sione Paea - The University of the
South Pacific*

3:35 PM

Strengthening Pacific Culture and Identities

Claire Bartolome - The University of the South Pacific

3:50 PM

4:05 PM

Mathematics and the number 153 in the Bible

Pr Jito Vanualailai -The University of the South Pacific

4:20 PM

**Xupina : creations to reinforce the plurilingual and pluricultural
repertoires of Oceanian students at University**

*Suzie Bearune, Stéphanie Geneix-Rabault - University of New
Caledonia*

4:45 PM

Closing Speeches



3:00 PM	Panel 6: Indigenous Pacific Island Cultures in Times of Rapid Social Change <u>Chair</u> : Dr Anne-Laure Dotte - <i>University of New Caledonia</i>
3:05 PM	Strife in Gender Balance: An Indo-Fijian Perspective <i>Vandana Vikashni Nath, Dip Maharaj - The University of Fiji</i>
3:20 PM	Transmitting French literary classics in order to face the pandemic-induced trauma together: the challenges of sharing literature in times of crisis in post-colonial context <i>Carole Atem - University of French Polynesia</i>
3:35 PM	Gender, Development and Creative Expression: A Case Study of Women's Space in Fijian Literature. <i>Sangeeta Ram - The University of the South Pacific</i>
3:50 PM	Women's Responses To Domestic Violence and Services Use: A Case Study in Malekula Island, Vanuatu <i>Donna Jella Tagaro - The University of the South Pacific</i>
4:05 PM	Stereotypes and the stereotyped: perspectives of Indo-Fijian women in a rural agricultural community <i>Raveena Goundar - The University of the South Pacific</i>
4:20 PM	Fatherhood in Urban Fiji. "Between two worlds" <i>Pryam Maharaj- University of the South Pacific</i>
4:45 PM	<hr/> Closing Speeches



8:30 AM

Opening Speeches

*Dr Jack Maebuta, Acting Vice Chancellor -
Solomon Islands National University*

THEME: CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

9:00 AM

**Panel 7: Climate change & Natural Hazards
impacts for the Pacific communities**

Chair : Pr Sushil Kumar - The University of the South Pacific

9:05 AM

**An integrated combined power and cooling strategy for small
islands**

Dr Moslem Yousefzadeh - University of Sydney

9:20 AM

**Global Navigation Satellite System and its Application to Space
Weather Natural Hazards Event**

Pr Sushil Kumar - The University of the South Pacific

9:35 AM

**Farmers' Perception of Natural Hazards and Coping Methods in
Rural Agricultural Communities on Viti Levu, Fiji**

*Samroy Liligeto & Dr Naohiro Nakamura - The University of the
South Pacific*

9:50 AM

**Litter Decomposition of Mangrove Species in Marovo Lagoon,
Solomon Islands**

Mary Tahu Paia - Solomon Islands National University

10:05 AM

**Exploring the extraction of banana fiber for sustainable product
development in the Pacific**

*Jone Mataitoga & Apisalome Nabaro - The University of the South
Pacific*

10:20 AM

**Tools and systems for sharing and disseminating scientific data:
examples of implementation**

*Guillaume Wattelez, Ass. Pr Touraïvane, Pr Michel Allenbach -
University of New Caledonia*

THEME: CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES



9:00 AM	<p>Panel 8: Pollution and contaminants in the Pacific</p> <p><u>Chair</u> : Dr Valérie Burtet-Sarramegna - <i>University of New Caledonia</i></p>
9:05 AM	<p>Acquaculture Development in PICTs, a livelihood paradigm: the impact, challenges and food security</p> <p><i>Collin Rudolf Nobbs Gereniu, Kofi Otumawu-Apreku, Jim Hyacinth Damusaru & Kezyiah Saepioh - Solomon Islands National University</i></p>
9:20 AM	<p>Trace metals distribution in mangrove soils and roots downstream an abandoned open-cast Ni mine (New Caledonia)</p> <p><i>Sarah Robin- University of New Caledonia</i></p>
9:35 AM	<p>An assessment of heavy metals contamination in marine sediments and fish in Honiara Harbor, Solomon Islands</p> <p><i>Dickson Boboria- Solomon Islands National University</i></p>
9:50 AM	<p>Isolation of endophytic plant growth-promoting microbes associated with the roots of halophytes: a promising tool for the heavy metals phytoremediation of the new Caledonian polluted salt marshes</p> <p><i>Pauline Bonaventure - University of New Caledonia</i></p>
10:05 AM	<p>Using natural pozzolanic rocks to partially replace cement in backfilling - a case study using pitchstone fines</p> <p><i>Gideon Yowa - PNG University of Technology</i></p>
10:20 AM	<p>Halophyte Species cultivation in Shrimp ponds as a promising agri-aquaculture system for shrimp ponds remediation</p> <p><i>Marie Colette- University of New Caledonia</i></p>
10:35 AM	<hr/> <p>Break</p>



11: 00 AM

Panel 9: Biodiversity Conservation

Chair : Dr John Fasi - *Solomon Islands National University*

11:05 AM

Biodiversity Preservation in the Pacific

Aezeden Mohamed - PNG University of Technology

11:20 AM

Traditional Ecological Knowledge and practices associated with the Raggiana Bird of Paradise in Koiari, Central Province, Papua New Guinea

Challis Pulotu- Pacific Adventist University

11:35 AM

First report on the reproductive features of Shadow drift fish *Cubiceps whiteleggii* (Perciformes Nomeidae)

Jun Ohtomi, Kaito Hirowatari, Yasuji Masuda, Md. Mosaddequr Rahman, Lindon Havimana - Kagoshima University, Solomon Islands National University

11:50 AM

The effect of altitudinal gradient on the epiphytic ferns, *asplenium cymbifolium* and *asplenium australasicum*, and their macroinfauna, on choruchoru pass, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands

Kevin Sese - Solomon Islands National University

12:05 PM

Consistency in diversity and abundance of Fiji's endemic bird community among forest but not grassland sites across years

Alivereti Naikatini - The University of the South Pacific

12:20 PM

Species diversity and abundance on intertidal zone of East and West Honiara, Solomon Islands

John Rofeta - Solomon Islands National University

12:35 PM

Lunch Break



11: 00 AM

Panel 10: Applications of Innovative Technologies for Pacific Islands Countries and Territories' Sustainability

Chair : Dr Timothy Hiele - *Solomon Islands National University*

11:05 AM

Vanuatu, vers l'émergence d'une université nationale bilingue
Jean-Pierre Nirua & Anne-Sophie Vivier - National University of Vanuatu

11:20 AM

Presenting and communicating academic identity across personal networks and disciplines in Papua New Guinea
Peter Nasale - Divine Word University

11:35 AM

Teaching Virtually in the Pacific Islands : the emergence of new professional practices in New Caledonia
Jean-François Loisel - University of New Caledonia

11:50 AM

In search of Principles of Second Language Acquisition in the Design and Unpacking of Fiji's English Syllabus
Evangeline Narayan - The University of the South Pacific

12:05 PM

Diagnostics of low severity stator inter-turn faults in Induction Machines
Sukhde Harishkumar Joshi & Krish Kumar Raj - The University of the South Pacific

12:20 PM

Comparative Analysis of Maternity Leave in Pacific Island Countries (PICs)
Pr Anand Chand, Namrata Reddy - The University of the South Pacific

12:35 PM

Lunch Break



THEME: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND INNOVATIVE DECISION MAKING FOR SUSTAINABILITY OF PACIFIC SOCIETIES

3:00 PM

Panel 11: Politics' governance in the Pacific

Chair : Dr David Gegeo - Solomon Islands National University

3:05 PM

The Oceania we want and the Political Thinking that will drive it.
Jeshua Hope, Lilieta Soakai, Ozayr Akbar & Ratu Manoa Rokotavaga - The University of the South Pacific

3:20 PM

The Governors and the Governed- Living up to the will of the people
Shivani - The University of Fiji

3:35 PM

New-Caledonia : what paths to reconciliation?
Clara Filippi - Research & Development Institute New Caledonia

3:50 PM

Pacific Islanders to farm traditional food crops in large scale production
Raphael Semel- National University of Samoa

4:05 PM

Barriers to Female Leadership in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) for Existing Staff at Selected Pacific Island Universities
Gilianne Brodie-The University of the South Pacific

4:20 PM

The Improvement of Synchronization Method with Low Overhead for Multi-hop Wireless Network Emulation and Parallel Processing Environment
Timothy Girry Kale - Solomon Islands National University

THEME: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND INNOVATIVE DECISION MAKING FOR SUSTAINABILITY OF PACIFIC SOCIETIES



3:00 PM

Panel 12: Pacific Economies

Chair : Dr Samuel Gorohouna - *University of New Caledonia*

3:05 PM

Women in Higher Education: Compromising Study with Expectations of Male Counterpart- A Tok Stori on the Experiences of Home Economics Students at Solomon Islands National University
Grace Zimateko Rohoana - Solomon Islands National University

3:20 PM

RAMSI and Economic Growth: A Cointegration Test for the Solomon Islands
Lekima Nalaukai - The University of the South Pacific

3:35 PM

The Pacific Premium - A Survey of Shipping Rates
Andrew Irvin & Lili Zay- The University of the South Pacific & University of North Carolina

3:50 PM

Knowledge Exchange and Inequality in Fisheries Resource Use: Evidence from a small-scale fishery, Solomon Islands
Kofi Otumawu-Apreku- Solomon Islands National University

4:05 PM

Impact of School to Transportation System
Study Case for Florence Young School and St. Nicholas School
Cyril Bernard Rachman - Solomon Islands National University

4:20 PM

Assessment of Science and Technology publication output across PICs during 2015-2020
Dr Ranasinghe Amaradasa - The University of Fiji

4:35 PM

What are the effects of the law on local employment in New Caledonia?
Amélie O'Ona Chung, Alban Cornier, Samuel Gorohouna, Catherine Ris, Kathleen Wright- University of New Caledonia

5:00 PM

Closing Speeches: TBA