



# Pacific Sustainability

*An interactive problem-based workshop hosted by ECOPAS,  
European Consortium for Pacific Studies*

*Co-organized by: Centre for Pacific Studies &  
St Andrews Sustainability Institute*

Boardroom, The Gateway, University of St Andrews  
May 27<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup> 2013

## Programme

The peoples of the Pacific Islands have a long and distinguished history of meeting the peoples of other regions of the world in their own social and cultural terms, and of engaging with outsiders through their own economic and political interests. Consequently, as much as international cooperation to achieve development objectives in the Pacific is embedded in state-level structures and agreements, the possibilities for sustainability outcomes on the ground are shaped by the powerful mainstreamed presence of non-state actors – representing local communities and overseas finance in diverse contexts such as resource extraction and climate change.

Recent thinking on how responsible enterprise can be encouraged suggests that a focus on relations between non-state actors will reveal alternative leverage points - as much beyond as within the Pacific region. The important presence of non-state actors (and processes such as carbon markets) might create the opportunity for corporate activities to be scrutinized and shape such that development impacts in regions with less strong state governance regimes might be minimised. Three processes where influence might be exercised include: carbon markets; investor lead responsibility initiatives (such as the UN Principles of Responsible Investment); and private regulatory activities (such as the Equator Principles). The growing importance of these social dimensions to sustainability outcomes marks a wider 'cultural turn'.

The nature of the Pacific islands region also gives the effects of climate change, and the appropriate responses, a particular character. The continuing importance of subsistence in mixed economies means that people have first-hand experience of how climate changes and variability go hand-in-hand with wider changes, and have home-grown interpretations of the causes and effects in characteristically place-based terms. Whereas public opinion in Europe and America too often lags behind climate science, this is not the case in the Pacific: people are very well aware, and have been living with various impacts of climate change for decades.

**Pacific Sustainability** has two related aims: Firstly, describing the kinds of relations or connections made by Pacific peoples themselves so as to portray the aspirations, constraints and cultural terms that any development initiative has to deal with. Secondly, describing the non-state governance of financial, regulatory and investment structures that shape sustainability outcomes in the Pacific. The role of each as a lever on the other will be central to the task of identifying the themes that might inform future programmes.

## Day 1: Contexts, Issues and Non-State Actors

	9.00	<b>Coffee &amp; Welcome</b>
	9.30	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>Dr Tony Crook</b> <b>Prof. Jan Bebbington</b>		
	9.40	<b>Setting the Scene</b>
<b>HE Solo Mara</b> <b>Dr John Balavu</b>		
	10.10	<b>Session 1</b>
<b>Dr Tony Crook</b>		Intangible relations and the sustainability of life
<b>Dr Joeli Veitayaki</b>		Lessons in sustainability from Lomani Gau, Fiji
<b>Mr Simon Kenema</b>		Bougainville: Stories from an unsustainable mine
	10.55	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Prof. Ioan Fazey</b> <b>Prof. Christina Toren</b>		
	11.05	<b>Small Group Discussion &amp; Wrap-up</b>
	11.25	<b>Coffee</b>
	11.45	<b>Session 2</b>
<b>Ms Emilia Skrzypek</b>		Waiting for sustainability at Freida River, PNG
<b>Prof. Tim Bayliss-Smith</b>		Forest management in the Solomon Islands and Fiji
<b>Mr Nalau Bingeding</b>		Sustainable development in Papua New Guinea
	12.30	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Ms Fiona Hukula</b> <b>Prof. Jan Bebbington</b>		
	12.40	<b>Small Group Discussion &amp; Wrap-up</b>
	1.00	<b>Lunch</b>
	2.00	<b>Session 3</b>
<b>Prof. Edvard Hviding</b>		Challenges of environment and climate in the Pacific: Vernacular models and grass-roots movements
<b>Dr Philip Wiles</b> <b>Mr Francisco Ascui</b>		Adapting to a changing climate in Large Ocean Island States New frontiers in carbon accounting
	2.45	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Mr Nalau Bingeding</b> <b>Dr Roy Smith</b>		
	3.05	<b>Small Group Discussion &amp; Wrap-up</b>
	3.25	<b>Coffee</b>
	3.45	<b>Session 4</b>

**Prof. Jan Bebbington** Corporate Governance and Sustainable Development  
**Dr Robert Harding** The UN Principles of Responsible Investment  
**Dr Niamh O’Sullivan** The Equator Principles: An example of a private regulatory process  
 4.30 **Remarks**  
**Dr Stephen Dearden**  
**Prof. Sue Farran**  
 4.40 **Small Group Discussion & Wrap-up**  
 5.00 **Close**  
 6.30 **Drinks & Dinner**  
 Links Trust Clubhouse, West Sands Road, Tel: 01334 466666

## Day 2: Research-Policy Themes and Principles

9.30 **Introduction**  
**Dr Tony Crook**  
**Prof. Jan Bebbington**  
**Prof. Ioan Fazey**  
 9.45 **Re-presenting the Scene**  
**HE Solo Mara**  
**Dr John Balavu**  
**Ms Carmen Ruiz Serrano**  
 10.15 **Remarks**  
**Dr Stephen Dearden**  
**Dr Roy Smith**  
 10.25 **Open Form**  
 11.00 **Coffee**  
 11.20 **Group discussion & Reporting Back**  
 12.10 **Key Themes and Principles**  
 12.50 **Closing Remarks**  
**HE Solo Mara**  
**Dr John Balavu**  
**Ms Carmen Ruiz Serrano**  
 1.00 **Lunch**  
 2.00 **Close**

