

PRP Webinar Series 8

Pacific Regional Food Security Assessments, Projects and their Local Outcomes

1.00pm - 2.00pm Fiji Time, 30th March 2021.

Panel Profile



Karen Mapusua (**Moderator**) is the Director of the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Pacific Community, based in Suva. The Land Resources Division provides technical and scientific support to 22 Pacific Countries and Territories on all aspects of agriculture and forestry from genetic resources to markets. She is leading the development of an integrated programme to strengthen Pacific food systems for improved health, nutrition and resilience outcomes.

Currently she is Vice President of the IFOAM Organics International World Board and has previously served on the Board of Directors of Fairtrade Australia New Zealand, she is a national of Samoa and Australia.



Pouniu Stephen David Hazelman is currently the Organic Systems Extension Officer with the Pacific Organic & Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) which represents the Pacific Regions Organic movement. Stephen was instrumental in getting a Pacific Seat at the United Nations World Committee on Food Security through its Civil Society Mechanism (CSM). He currently is the convener representing Pacific Organic Farmers to the Inter-continental Network of Organic Farmers Association (INOFO). Stephen has established Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) in Fiji, Vanuatu, Cook

Islands, Solomon Islands, Samoa with a growing demand for the guarantee system of organics. Stephen is working hard to ensure not only economic gains are realised with POETCom's work but to include environmental and social responsibility is maintained and sustained. **Stephen will discuss the promotion of Organic Agriculture through the use of the Pacific Organic Standard, including the preservation and revitalization of Traditional Farming Methods which has resulted in tangible shifts towards increased biodiversity leading to improved food security.**



Gibson Susumu, originally from FSM, is the Programme Leader for Sustainable Agriculture within the SPC Land Resources Division (LRD). In this role, he oversees crop production and farming systems, climate smart agriculture, seed systems, animal health and production, pests and disease management and extension support services. Prior to this role, Gibson was the food security officer for LRD where he was involved in the development of a climate change and food security framework which has supported the development of some of the programmes currently being implemented within LRD such as Pacific Seeds for Life. Gibson holds a Master of Science in Agriculture from the National

Pingtung University Science and Technology, Taiwan (NPUST). **Gibson will discuss participatory community-based approach to building resilient agriculture in the Pacific.**



Jessica E. Raneri is a Senior Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Advisor to both the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and, the Agricultural Development and Food Security Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia. Jessica is a nutrition and food system specialist with experience spanning from leading research-for-development projects and programmes, to advising large development projects and decision makers on best-bet intervention and entry points for improved nutrition by applying evidence-based recommendations and policy. **Jessica will present on the assessment of nutrition transitions and diet quality by comparing three geographically unique rural and urban indigenous Solomon Islands populations and exploring opportunities to leverage traditional knowledge.**



Lau Viliamu lese (Vili) is a research fellow for Climate Change, Food Security and Disaster Risk Management at the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development at the University of the South Pacific (USP). He has 22 years of experience in research on food security and resilience. He coordinates three postgraduate courses on food security and climate change, disaster risk reduction for resilience and disaster response and recovery in USP. **Viliamu will share outcomes of a study on the impacts of COVID-19 mitigation measures and interventions on food systems and diets in 13 communities from Fiji and Solomon Islands.**



Angela Birch is the Program Manager and M&E for the Pacific Farmer Organisations (PIFON). Responsible for ensuring that the impact of activities conducted by PIFON's members is reported to reflect the great work FOs are doing. Angela came from a background in tourism before venturing into an 'exciting new chapter' in agriculture. **Angela will share PIFON activity areas that aim at increasing food and nutritional security through value chain work.**



Andre C. Martinez is the Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping officer at the World Food Programme, where he works to enable data-driven coordination and decision-making. Andre led the scale up of remote monitoring through the mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping initiative, or mVAM, in the Pacific. This initiative collects key food security indicators in 5 countries, tracking the situation of households over time. Andre led the development of a national disaster risk management system at WFP Cambodia, with the overall goal of improving the National Disaster Management Office's ability for anticipatory action. Andre holds a Master of Public Administration from New York University, where he focused on the intersection of program design, applied statistics, and evaluation. **Andre will present on Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping efforts will highlight the role of remote assessments in food security monitoring, its value to coordination, and the potential to improve our understanding of food security through rapid and flexible subnational assessments.**