



REGIONAL PROCESS SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

10TH WORLD WATER FORUM

Regional Session Code and Title:

RP10 - Strengthening Engagement in Water Security to Support Pacific Resilience.

Regional Session Coordinators (Name, Position, Organization, email, mobile number):

1. Dave Hebblethwaite, Water Security and Governance Coordinator, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). Email: daveh@spc.int. Mobile: +679 9983059. 2. Mary Alalo, Water Security Engagement Lead, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). Email: marya@spc.int. Mobile: +679 2350385.

Regional Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):

The resilience efforts of Pacific Small Island Development States (SIDS) have historically been hampered by generally low levels of engagement in water security compared to other sectoral issues, and inadequate consideration of water security issues in regional frameworks and decision-making processes. While the significant economic, health and environmental benefits of improved water and sanitation have been well demonstrated, the issue often doesn't receive the levels of attention proportionate to both the scale of the challenge and its critical role in supporting Pacific resilience. Similarly, while the issue is framed by the region's established high level regional policy frameworks, these are yet to realise their full potential in driving and monitoring the urgent water security action required across multiple sectors and stakeholders. In response to this challenge, Pacific water and resilience stakeholders have come together under the umbrella of the region's overarching *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific* (FRDP) and its associated *Pacific Resilience Partnership* (PRP) to develop a regional Engagement Strategy on water security as both a resilience issue and resilience solution.

This session will showcase the key findings of the Engagement Strategy and present recommended actions to strengthen the integration of water security considerations as a critical component of Pacific disaster and climate resilience. The integration of water security approaches into the disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation efforts is a global challenge, and this session will explore Pacific case studies and experiences that will likely be relevant to other regions. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with water security actors and stakeholders from the Pacific and examine the potential of new and strengthened water security partnerships to support Pacific resilience.

The **objectives** of the session are to: showcase key findings of the Engagement Strategy; share case studies on the integration of Pacific water security, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation efforts; and provide an opportunity for participants to connect with water security actors and stakeholders from Pacific Small Island Developing States and progress the potential of new partnerships for resilience. Expected **outcomes** include: increased engagement on water security as a key component of climate and disaster resilience in the Pacific; strengthened collaboration and partnerships between Pacific Island Countries and development partners on water security action for resilience; and strengthened understanding of the importance of water security engagement strategies to increase collaboration and partnership across multiple stakeholders and actors.



Detailed Regional Session Plan:

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
10 mins	Introduction of session objectives and keynote speakers.	Akmal Ali, Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO)	OK
15 mins	Water security engagement and Pacific frameworks for climate and disaster resilience	Mary Alalo, Pacific Community (SPC)	OK
10 mins	Strengthening multi-sectoral engagement in water security: Lessons from the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP)	Kencho Namygal, Chief WASH Officer, UNICEF Pacific and Co-chair of the PRP Water Security Technical Working Group.	OK
15 mins	Lessons from the Pacific Regional Water Security Engagement Strategy: From Strategy to Action.	Regina Souter, Griffith University and International Water Centre	OK
20 mins	Interactive Session on Q & A	Moderator (TBC)	TBC
10 mins	Session Outcomes and Policy Recommendations	Shirlee Rovou - Water Aid Papua New Guinea and alternate Co-Chair of the PRP Water Security Technical Working Group.	Ok
10 mins	Conclusions and closure	Akmal Ali, Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations (PIANGO)	TBC