

2024 SIDS SOLUTIONS FORUM

Transforming agrifood systems for our Blue Pacific Continent
through better production, better nutrition,
a better environment and a better life

5-8 November 2024 Nadi, Fiji



Overview of the Provisional Programme

Despite substantial natural resources and rich biodiversity, the Pacific Islands, are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters calling for targeted context specific solutions for transitioning to a sustainable and resilient agrifood system. The Forum builds on earlier forums organized in Fiji and Samoa in 2021 and 2022 serving as unique platform to showcase the impacts of concrete solutions and their scalability to accelerate the transformation to achieve the vision of the Blue Pacific Continent. The thematic areas in the “**Solutions Forum**” will showcase policy, regulatory, and investment solutions framed aimed at achieving Better Production, Better Nutrition, a Better Environment and a Better Life; starting with plenary sessions to set the stage and followed by breakout sessions showcasing specific solutions, their impacts and options for upscaling the demonstrated solutions.

Day One: Tuesday, 5 November	
Theme of the Day	Creative Partnerships for the Blue Pacific Continent
09:00 – 11:00: Official Opening of the 2024 Pacific SIDS Solutions Forum	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fijian traditional Kava welcome ceremony Opening remarks by Dr QU Dongyu, FAO Director-General Opening/Welcome remarks by H. E. Sitiveni Rabuka, Prime Minister of Fiji <p>All participants are invited.</p>	
11:00 – 11:15: Coffee and Tea break	
11:15 – 13:00: Partnerships for the Blue Pacific Continent’s Agrifood Systems Transformation (Plenary)	
<p>Townhall style interactive session hosted by FAO Director-General and Fiji Minister of Agriculture and Waterways for engaging with stakeholders including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil society partners (producer groups, youth, women) National convenors from Agrifood Systems Transformation Council of Regional Pacific Organizations (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Forum Fisheries Agency, Secretariat Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Pacific Community, University of the South Pacific, etc.) Global development partners (International Financial Institutions, United Nations Agencies, Alliance of Small Island States, etc.) <p>The engagement will lead to signing of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between FAO and partners</p>	
13:00 – 14:00: Lunch	
14:00 - 17:30: Catalyzing Agrifood Systems Transformation through the Hand in Hand Initiative (Plenary)	
<p>Interactive discussions led by the FAO Director-General engaging global and Pacific leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hand in Hand Initiative as an investment catalyst for the resilient transformation of agrifood systems Regional Pacific SIDS Investment Programme (designed by FAO and Pacific SIDS following APRC37) Solutions to addressing critical data gaps 	
19:00 – 21:00: FAO hosted Dinner	
<p>FAO DG to host a dinner reception for Fiji Prime Minister, Pacific and non-Pacific leaders and development stakeholders to reflect on progress in transitioning to resilient agrifood systems for the Blue Pacific Continent.</p>	

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Day Two: Wednesday, 6 November	
Theme of the Day	Building the Blue Continent through Better Production
09:00 - 09:15: Summary from day one of the Forum	
9:15 – 13:00: Better Production Recognizing the multi-faceted challenges to improving agricultural production and productivity in the SIDS, the session starts with an overview of the vision and Strategy for building the Blue Pacific Continent, followed by drawing on the learnings from the One Country One Product initiative as an example of developing specific commodity value chains. The focus of the breakout discussions is on identifying and upscaling innovative solutions for sustainable and resilient production systems.	
Plenary session 09:15 – 10:15: Building the Blue Pacific Continent through Better Production 10:15 - 11:15: Building the Blue Pacific Continent through the One Country One Priority Product Initiative	
11:15 – 11:30: Coffee Break	
11:30 – 13:00 Breakout Sessions	
Provisional topics for breakout sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovation for sustainable agriculture production, aquaculture and fishery, livestock, One Health • small-scale producers' equitable access to resources • the digitalization of agrifood systems • agribusiness and value chain development • data and financing mechanisms 	
13:00 – 14:00: Lunch	
14:00 – 17:30: Better Environment Climate change is an existential threat to the survival of the Blue Pacific Continent as climate change induced disasters are becoming more frequent affecting production, nutrition, health, the environment, education and other aspects of livelihoods. Plenary sessions focus on environmental challenges and increasing impact of climate change while emphasizing the role of agroforestry in building resilient agrifood systems, with breakout sessions emphasizing identifying and upscaling relevant solutions.	
Plenary Session 14:00 – 15:00: Building the Blue Pacific Continent through a Better Environment 15:00 – 16:00: From Canopy to Coast: Integrating Agroforestry for Resilient Pacific Agrifood Systems	
16:00 – 16:15: Coffee Break	
16:15 – 17:45: Breakout Sessions	
Provisional topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • covering climate change mitigating and adapted agrifood systems • bioeconomy for sustainable agrifood systems • biodiversity and ecosystem services for agrifood systems • agroforestry, invasive species • data and financing mechanisms 	
17:45 – 19:00: Free time, networking and transitions	
19:00 – 21: The Fiji Government invites participants to enjoy local cuisine during the gala dinner.	

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Day Three: Thursday, 7 November	
Theme of the Day	Building the Blue Pacific Continent through Better Nutrition and a Better Environment
09:00 – 09:15: A summary of day two	
09:15-13:00: Better Nutrition In the Pacific region, NCDs are a major cause of death and morbidity, and the list of the world's top 15 obese countries includes many Pacific SIDS. Discussions will focus on the increasing rates of obesity and NCDs, barriers to adopting healthy diets and the situation of Food Safety, with breakout sessions focusing on potential solutions to be upscaled to address the challenges.	
Plenary Session 09:15 – 10:15: Implementing Solutions for Better Nutrition through Healthy Diets: Making Healthy Diets an Easier Choice in the Blue Pacific Continent 10:15 – 11:15: Preliminary results of the Pacific Overview of Nutrition and Food Security (2023-2024).	
11:15 -11:30: Coffee Break	
11:30 – 13:00 Breakout Sessions	
Provisional topics for breakout sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to healthy and nutritious diets for all • nutrition education • safe food for all • reducing food loss and waste • transparent markets and trade • data and financing mechanisms 	
13:00 – 17: 45: Knowledge Sharing through Field visit	
Field visit to sites around Nadi adopting innovative agrifood systems solutions including initiatives by Government of Fiji, development partners, local entrepreneurs, innovators and producer groups	
17:45 – 19:00: Free time, networking and transitions	
19:00 – 21: 00: United Nations Rome Based Agencies (RBAs) hosted dinner The UN RBAs will showcase creative partnerships to achieve the Blue Pacific Continent.	
Day Four: Friday, 8 November	
Theme of the Day	Building the Blue Continent through A Better Life
09:00 – 09:15: A summary of day three	
09:15 – 13:00: Better Life Achieving a better life for the Blue Pacific Continent is challenged by several interconnected issues ranging from policy development and implementation on gender, investment, climate change, and many more. Plenary discussions will emphasize the challenges with breakout groups focusing on identifying specific solutions with potential for upscaling.	
Plenary Session 09:15 – 10:15: Showcasing successful solutions for Building the Blue Pacific Continent through A Better Life 10:15 – 11:15: Showcasing results of the Digital Village Initiative in the Blue Pacific Continent	
11:15 – 11:30: Coffee Break	
11:30 – 13:00: Breakout Sessions	

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Provisional topics for breakout groups:

- gender equality and rural women's empowerment
- Inclusive rural transformation
- resilient agri-food systems for emergencies
- labour mobility, innovation, youth, indigenous knowledge and practice
- data and financing mechanisms

13:00 – 14:00: Lunch

Conclusions

Plenary Session

14:00 – 16:00: Official closing of the 2024 Pacific SIDS Solutions Forum

14:00 – 14:30: Summary of technical deliberations on solutions from all sessions

14:30 – 15:30: Endorsement of Follow up Actions to Scale up Solutions

15:30 – 16:00: Official Closing Statements (Fiji Agriculture Minister and FAO)

16:00

END