



## **PACNEWS DIGEST: International Peace Day to be commemorated across the Pacific**



By Online Editor  
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As the world prepares to observe International Peace Day on 21 September, the Strengthening Capacities for Peace and Development (CPAD) project will also commemorate the day through various activities across the Pacific.

CPAD is a Pacific Peace Community made up of governments and civil society from four Pacific island countries, as well as various CROP agencies. It is facilitated and supported by UNDP.

In the Solomon Islands, the Ministry of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace with assistance from UNDP-Pacific Centre's Crisis Prevention and Recovery Unit and the Pacific Centre for Peacebuilding, will hold a three day dialogue for National Peace Stakeholders to map the countries peace efforts and discuss the National Peace Policy. A special ceremony will mark International Peace Day on the morning of 21 September.

In Bougainville, UNDP in collaboration with the Autonomous Government of Bougainville and Leitana Negan Women's Development Agency will facilitate with the Pacific Centre for Peacebuilding a one-day Reflection on the Peace Process in Bougainville. It will be held with

national stakeholders from government and civil society.

UNDP's interns from the University of the South Pacific have produced short video clips for YouTube from pictures and footage taken at the 'Paint for Peace Party' during the Hibiscus Festival held in August this year in Suva.

Members of the CPAD project will also hold a number of events in Fiji and the Pacific, they include: FemLINK PACIFIC, Citizens Constitutional Forum (CCF) and Ecumenical Centre for Research, Education & Advocacy (ECREA).

In Fiji, participants at the three day Dialogue Fiji National Conference have discussed that an effective way forward for Fiji is through inclusive and honest dialogue.

The opportunity for civil society and government to engage in a dialogue on critical issues was enabled through the efforts of Dialogue Fiji at the Anchorage Beach Resort in Vuda.

Representatives from the four divisions and senior government representatives engaged on critical issues contributing to nation building. Community leaders were able to clarify policies and processes while government representatives had the opportunity to gather feedback on the impact of policies.

Committee member of Dialogue Fiji, Suliana Siwatibau says, "This conference has progressed the coming together of government and civil society organisations for common understanding on different view points for the development of our country and of the need to work together for the common goal and dream we have for our nation."

"East-West Management Institute Inc. is thrilled with the success of the event", says Nikita Umnov, a representative of the New York based NGO which provided funding for the Dialogue Conference.

Dialogue Fiji hopes to continue creating inclusive spaces for all stakeholders to address important national issues.....For more information, please contact Sandra Fong on 976 7968 or email [dialoguefiji@gmail.com](mailto:dialoguefiji@gmail.com).

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SOURCE: UNDP/PACNEWS