



The University of the South Pacific



Serving the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

School of Economics
Faculty of Business and Economics
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FIRST NOTICE and CALL FOR PAPERS

Regional Conference on Institutions, Globalisation and their Impacts on Labour Markets in Pacific Island Countries

Dates: October 17th to 19th, 2006

Venue: University of the South Pacific

The conference will deal with labour market institutions and the impact of global economic integration on the Pacific Island countries (PICs). Policies to improve the equity and efficiency of labour markets are required to address the problems of unemployment and social exclusion. To design and evaluate these policies, academics, governments and the social partners need to undertake the necessary analysis, based on the collection of reliable and accurate labour market information. The objective of this conference is to enhance capacity of governments and the social partners to carry out this important task more effectively. The conference will also bring into focus contemporary issues affecting the labour market in the PICs with respect to changes in the global economic environment. As a tool to help constituents improve their collection and analysis of labour market information, a set of discussion papers, country reports on labour market and regional data based on labour market will also be tabled.

The School of Economics invites Senior Labour Ministry Officials, participants from regional and international organisations, ILO, UNDP, Forum, SPOCTU, UNIONS, academics, development researchers, policy analysts and policy makers, facilitators for governments, donors, and non-state-actors to submit abstracts (not more than 300 words) of papers to be presented in the following sessions:

Themes for Discussion - Regional Conference on Institutions, Globalisation and its Impacts on Labour Markets in Pacific Islands Countries

Day 1 (Tuesday 17th October, 2006): *Contemporary Issues in Pacific Labour Market*
(Session Chairs: Associate Prof. Biman Prasad (USP) and Dr Billy Manoka (UPNG))

- ☞☞ Country position papers on Labour Market
- ☞☞ Papers on Labour Legislations in PICs.
- ☞☞ Other commissioned papers on Labour Markets in the PICs

Day 2 (Wednesday 18th October, 2006): Competition Papers: Institutions, Globalisation and Labour Market
(Session Chairs: Associate Prof. Mahendra Reddy (USP) and Ms. Amalini Nakabea (USP))

- ⚡ Labour market productivity
- ⚡ Gender dimensions of PICs labour markets
- ⚡ Labour markets and the PIC Economies
- ⚡ Globalisation and Labour Markets
- ⚡ Smallness and Labour market
- ⚡ Remittances
- ⚡ Micro-finance
- ⚡ Labour market reforms
- ⚡ Land tenure, environment, and national resource management
- ⚡ Vulnerability of PICs labour markets
- ⚡ Migration policies and implication on PICs labour market.
- ⚡ Pacific Plan
- ⚡ Regionalism

Day 3 (Thursday 19th October, 2006): Governance, Industrial Relations and Human Capital
(Session Chairs: Prof. Bill Rao (USP) and Dr David Kavanamur (UPNG))

- ⚡ Infrastructure and Labour market
- ⚡ Human capital development
- ⚡ Capacity building
- ⚡ Informal sector and Labour markets
- ⚡ Squatter settlements and labour markets
- ⚡ Health and labour markets
- ⚡ Public Sector policies and labour markets
- ⚡ Information and communication
- ⚡ Industrial relations and labour market.

Financial assistance will be available for a limited number of researchers whose papers are of high quality.

Submission details:

Abstract details: The Abstract should be a minimum of 100 and no more than 300 words, including keywords, to be received by 15th April, **2006**. Abstracts have to include the proposed title for the paper, the full names, addresses and email addresses of all authors, and a telephone number for at least one contact author. Authors may also indicate the session in which they are submitting their abstract.

File type: Word for Windows.

Submission: By e-mail attachment to Mr Jone Lako at: lako_j@usp.ac.fj[JSP&D1]

Full paper: Only required after acceptance of abstract and not to be more than 5,000 words, including abstract, keywords and references. Submission date will be no later than 31st July, **2006**.

Important information:

The selection panel of the conference committee will consider all abstracts received by the submission deadline to ensure that the proposed paper is relevant to the Conference. The authors of abstracts that describe a relevant paper will receive a notification of abstract acceptance. All papers will be blind reviewed by members of the conference committee to ensure an adequate standard, that the outline described in their abstract has been followed, that the paper is of a suitable length, that the standard of English is adequate, and that the paper is appropriately referenced. Registration details will be posted on the School of Economics conference website by 31st May. All authors must register and present their paper at the Conference (see the registration section of the conference website for more information about registration).

Important dates:

Abstract submission deadline: 31st April, 2006
Notification of abstract acceptance: 15th May, 2006
Full Paper deadline: 31st July, 2006.

CONTACT DETAILS

Name: Dr Biman C. Prasad, Conference Convenor.
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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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Mr. Fakavae Taomia