



## Microfinance Pasifika Network News

### Microfinance Pasifika Secretariat Moves to Fiji

During September, the Microfinance Pasifika Network Secretariat relocated to Suva, Fiji and is hosted at the recently opened Foundation for Development Cooperation's (FDC) Pacific Regional office. An official opening is expected to take place in early 2009. FDC's new Pacific Regional Representative and Lead Network Coordinator is Ms Luse Kinivuwai the current Chair of the Microfinance Pasifika Network. Ms Kinivuwai will play an integral role in carrying the Network forward in the future.

The new contact details for the secretariat are, as follows:

**Microfinance Pasifika Network**

c/o The Foundation for Development Cooperation (Pacific) Ltd  
66 Mc Gregor Road,  
Suva, Fiji Islands  
Phone: +679 3544305

### Asia Microfinance Forum 2008

During August, two Microfinance Pasifika Members Mr Simionie Sefani from the Tonga Development Bank and Ms Josephine Smare from ADRA PNG attend the Asia Microfinance Forum 2008 in Hanoi, Vietnam. Their attendance at the event was funded by AusAID and organised in partnership with Results Australia.

This milestone event brought together over 500 leading microfinance practitioners, policymakers, financiers, academics and advocates from around the world and outlined their visions and priorities, and explored new ideas and opportunities. Further information about the event is available from: <http://bwtp.org/AMF-2008.html>.

### Asia-Pacific Microcredit Summit

The Chair of the Network, recently attend the Asia-Pacific Microcredit summit where she presented a case on the development of microfinance in the Pacific. The event was also attended by a selection of microfinance service providers in the Pacific (including six MFPN members) who were funded by AusAID, and organised in partnership with RESULTS Australia.

We would like to thank both AusAID and RESULTS Australia for working in partnership with the Network to provide opportunities for a selection of members to attend the events. [More...](#)

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## Microfinance Pasifika

### Microfinance Pasifika Member News

❖ **Credit Union Foundation Australia: Strong Turnout for the inaugural Pacific Credit Union Technical Congress**

NADI, Fiji—From developing credit union bylaws to conducting a successful credit union meeting, operational basics dominated the agenda for the inaugural Pacific Credit Union Technical Congress. [More...](#)



❖ **Microfinance Competence Centre: Training Update**

The Microfinance Competence Centre (MCC) in Port Moresby provides an updated on its recent training activities in PNG. MCC has now available all of their certificate modules on distance learning mode, with enrolments now currently open for 2009. [More...](#)



❖ **South Pacific Business Development Foundation**



Greg Casagrande, the Founder and President of South Pacific Business Development Foundation (SPBD) of Samoa is pleased to announce that Aaron Pili has joined SPBD as our General Manager. Aaron has replaced Rico Munoz who has returned to

his home country of the Philippines to lead up the Kiva organization there. Aaron, also from the Philippines, joins SPBD with a history of significant achievement in the microfinance sector there. The Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa, Misa Telefoni, held a special reception in the honor of both Rico and Aaron and presented SBPD with the Loto Nu'u award for exceptional community service (see photo).



The MF Pasifika Network is an initiative of [The Foundation for Development Cooperation](http://www.mf-pasifika.org)

If your organisation is interested in becoming joining the Microfinance Pasifika, information is available online at <http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/membership.html>.



If you have an announcement that you would like publicised in our newsletter or on our website, please contact us at: [info@microfinance-pasifika.org](mailto:info@microfinance-pasifika.org)



## Microfinance News

❖ **Citi-FT Financial Education Summit 2008**  
**China World Hotel, Beijing**  
**25-26 November**

This timely Summit – sub-titled **Reducing Financial Vulnerability: Innovation & Impact** – will be a unique forum to share best practices in developing, delivering and evaluation financial literacy initiatives from around the world. The Summit will showcase specific programmes targeting youth, mainstream consumers, marginalised communities, investors and other key segments. Building on the success of previous Summits in Hong Kong, Malaysia, South Korea and India, the fifth Financial Education Summit in Beijing will be one of the largest and most significant international gatherings of financial education experts and advocates ever held, with more than 300 representatives of financial institutions, government agencies, multilateral bodies, non-governmental organisations, educational groups and private business – from China, Asia Pacific and beyond.

*In recognition of your affiliation with FDC, which is a supporting partner of the event, you can benefit from a special delegate rate of US\$350, which is a saving of more than 25% off the regular delegate rate. To enjoy this rate, please quote 'FESFDC' on the registration form.*

**To register and for more information, please contact Jane Wu:**

Email: [jane.wu@ft.com](mailto:jane.wu@ft.com)

Tel: +852 2230 5851

Website: [www.FinancialEducationSummit.org](http://www.FinancialEducationSummit.org)

❖ **First Global Online Remittance Database**

The World Bank Group has published the first global database of remittance prices that is expected to benefit low-income migrant workers and households in developing countries. The database provides information on 120 remittance corridors. It aims to make pricing more transparent and put competitive pressure on remittance service providers to improve services and reduce prices. In 2007, recorded remittances flows worldwide were US\$337 billion, of which US\$251 billion went to developing countries. For many migrant workers, the cost of these transactions is high relative to their incomes and the amounts sent. [More...](#)

Please feel free to distribute the MF Pasifika E-newsletter among friends and colleagues.

If you want to **subscribe** to our E-newsletter, [click here](#).



# Microfinance Pasifika

❖ **Micro-Insurance Industry Leaders and UBmatrix Form Consortium to Improve Efficiency of Micro-Insurance Market**

During October, seven organizations including leading players in the micro-insurance industry launched the Micro-insurance Data and Workflow Standardization (MDWS) Consortium to explore the benefits of establishing a new XBRL-based taxonomy and information hub designed to streamline and standardize information exchange in the micro-insurance industry. [More...](#)

❖ **Microfinance and Water Infrastructure: A New Way of Funding**

A series of microcredit loans to a community, while offering a way out of poverty for those with ability and entrepreneurial skill, also has the potential to deliver many ancillary benefits. Usual among these are improved education facilities, medical benefits, agricultural advice, as well as clean water supply and improved wastewater infrastructure. Often the improved benefits are delivered as part of a package of services along with the community microfinance program. More....

## Contact Us

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**Website:** <http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org>