



SEI API

Sustainable Energy

Since 2010

Inaugural Conference

Transitioning to Solar Energy in the Pacific Islands



Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva, Fiji

24-25 March 2026

Welcome to the first SEIAPI Solar Conference

The Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI) was formed in 2010 to create an enabling environment for the growth of sustainable energy businesses and sustainable energy equipment or energy services within the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).

Other industry associations organise annual conferences for their members and our Executive Committee decided that it was time for SEIAPI to provide a similar venue providing opportunities for members to network with each other, and with development agencies, government departments, power utilities and others with sustainable energy interests.

Our theme is *Transitioning to Solar Energy in the Pacific Islands* with sessions that address the theme.

At the urging of Bruce Clay, a pioneering Fiji solar entrepreneur in late 2009, SEIAPI was formed to support the development of a well-trained workforce to provide quality renewable energy systems and services. This year a long-term SEIAPI goal will be realised with the opening of the Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre at USP's Pacific Technical and Further Education (TAFE) campus in Suva. SEIAPI is proud of our key role in planning the centre and facilitating finance for construction and initial staffing from a philanthropic foundation. Victron Energy, Sungrow and Sunpower Australia have generously provided a range of equipment for the centre. We are also supporting national PIC TAFE-type centres in developing and improving their practical solar training.

For 15 years, SEIAPI has been managed by a voluntary Executive Committee supported by Global Sustainable Energy Solutions Pty Ltd (GSES) of Australia, which has provided secretariat services since 2012. SEIAPI has had a part-time Executive Officer since July 2022 supported by GSES and a part-time Technical Projects Officer since September 2025 through funding from Australia's Marketing Development Facility (MDF).

Demands for our services have grown beyond our capacity to respond. To be more effective, expand our services, respond to evolving needs within the region, and become increasingly financially sustainable we require additional resources, full time staff and a modest permanent office. SEIAPI has been exploring opportunities to expand our services with support from the Smart Energy Council and Global Solar Council, and are developing a strategic plan to prioritise our work. It will be launched this year.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the SEIAPI conference committee in making this conference possible: Rob Edwards, Sandip Kumar, Mosese Nabulivou, Tamara Smith, Geoff Stapleton and Sydel Whippy (conference organiser).

This booklet includes the program plus information on speakers and the conference sponsors. SEIAPI members have designed, provided equipment for and/or installed many systems throughout the Pacific Island countries. Throughout the booklet you find photos showcasing the work of the Pacific solar industry.

Finally, and importantly, on behalf of SEIAPI and the Executive Committee I would like to thank the 15 sponsors listed on the following page. Without their support it would have been difficult for SEIAPI to plan and organise this conference, and it would have been a lesser event.

Mr Peter Johnston
Chair of SEIAPI Executive Committee

SEIAPI would like to thank the following sponsors for supporting our first Solar Conference.



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS



SEIAPI AT A GLANCE

1. Established in 2010 as a regional industry association for promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in Pacific Island Countries.
2. Registered industry association in Fiji, partnering closely with the Pacific Power Association and the IRENA SIDS Lighthouse Initiative.
3. **50+ members** representing the renewable energy sector industry serving the Pacific region.



PURPOSE AND MISSION

- **Mission:** Create an enabling environment for the growth of sustainable energy businesses, technologies, and services.
- **Purpose:** Raise the profile of the sustainable energy industry while promoting widespread understanding.
- **Quality Standards:** Support the development of robust standards, quality training, and certification.



WHO SEIAPI CONNECTS

- Private Sector, Utilities, Education, Government, Partners.
- **Primary Focus:** Solar PV, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.



WHAT SEIAPI DELIVERS

- **Regional Technical Guidelines:** Co-development of PPA/SEIAPI guidelines.
- **Training & Capacity Building:** 19 PV training units accredited through EQAP.
- **Proven Impact:** Delivered workshops across at least 12 countries.
- **Accreditation:** Operating comprehensive regional programmes.



WHY SEIAPI IS A STRATEGIC PARTNER

- **Strategic Regional Platform:** Aligns standards to reduce risk.
- **Quality Assurance Framework:** Helps ensure systems meet recognized benchmarks.
- **Climate & Resilience Impact:** Contributes to climate action and energy access goals.

Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre USP Statham Campus, Suva (Fiji)



Since 2010, SEIAPI has been promoting the need for quality solar training throughout the PICTs for those designing, installing and maintaining solar energy systems. With the support of GSES, numerous ad-hoc courses have been conducted. However, there was a need to set-up fully fledged, industry standard, practice oriented and structured solar training for the PICTs.

In 2019, the German aid organisation Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), purchased a license for GSES resource material for in-person training courses. This allows all Pacific-based training centres free access to the resources (as long as the material is used only by the training centre). Agreements have been signed with the Solomon Islands National University; the College of Micronesia, Pohnpei; the Vanuatu Institute of Technology; the Kiribati Institute of Technology and Tonga National University.

In 2021, USP Pacific TAFE indicated they would like to conduct solar training but they do not have a suitable building available. In 2022, SEIAPI began discussions with an American philanthropic foundation resulting in an agreement to construct the Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre (PSETC) at USP's Pacific TAFE campus in Suva. The funding includes two trainers to be trained by SEIAPI and equipment for hands-on training.

In preparation for the PSETC to be established, in July 2022, GSES signed a partnership agreement with USP Pacific TAFE to offer the following three online courses: i) Grid Connected PV Systems - Design and Install; ii) Stand Alone Power Systems (Off-Grid) - Design and Install; and iii) Battery Storage Systems for Grid Connected PV System - Design and Install. About 90 trainees from 5 PICTs countries have undertaken, or are in the process of completing, at least one of the online training courses. Those who successfully complete the courses are eligible to apply for PPA/SEIAPI design accreditation.

In addition to conducting training in Fiji and other USP campuses in other PICTs, SEIAPI and the PSETC will work together to develop training resources which will be made available to other training centres. This meets the objectives of the Pacific Renewable Energy Training Initiative, a report that was co-written by Dr Herb Wade and Geoff Stapleton for the UNDP in 2005.

The PSETC will have an official opening Mid 2026.



SEI API CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Day 1 Tuesday 24 March 2026			
Time	Session	Session Title	Speakers
7:30 - 8:45am	Registration		
8:45 - 10:30am	Session 1	<i>Conference Opening and Keynote Speaker</i>	<p><i>Fijian Choir and Opening Prayer</i> <i>Welcome: Mr Peter Johnston -Chair of SEI API</i></p> <p><i>Opening of conference: Hon Ro Filipe Tuisawau</i> <i>Fiji's Minister of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport</i></p> <p><i>SEI API Now and the Future: Mr Geoff Stapleton AO-SEI API Executive Officer</i></p> <p><i>Keynote: Taking care of the most important asset in business - You!"</i> <i>Mr Rob Edwards OAM (Its Time Foundation)</i></p>
10:30 - 10:55am	Morning Tea		
11:00 – 11:10 am	Session 2 A	<i>How the Renewable Energy Council of Asia Pacific is supporting small associations like SEI API?</i>	<i>Mr John Grimes CEO of Smart Energy Council (Video)</i>
11:10am - 12:10pm	Session 2B	<i>Panel: Where are the \$ supporting the transition coming from?</i>	<p><i>Mr Nicholas Murphy: Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)</i></p> <p><i>Ms Roxanne Castelein: European Commission</i></p> <p><i>Mr Jonathan Pryke: Asian Development Bank</i></p> <p><i>Mr Vineil Narayan: United Nations Development Program</i></p>
12:10-12:25pm	Session 2B	<i>Perspective by SEI API Life Member on the energy transition</i>	<i>Mr Peter Johnston interview SEI API Life Member: Dr Herbert Wade</i>
12:25 -12:30pm	Session 2C	<i>Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre</i>	<i>Geoff Stepleton AO – SEI API Executive Officer</i>
12:30 – 1:25pm	Lunch		
1:30– 2:45pm	Session 3A	<i>Technical Solutions to Support the Transition</i>	<p><i>Battery protection: wiring and fusing: Ms Margreet Leeftink (Victron Energy)</i></p> <p><i>Wind loadings in the Pacific: (Puma Chave (Clenergy)</i></p> <p><i>Floating solar -challenges, opportunities and applications relevant for the Pacific islands - Francisco G. Vozza (Fred Olsen 1848)</i></p> <p><i>Software for designing commercial sized PV systems: Mr Brandon Cook (Mindaro)</i></p> <p><i>Pacific Commercial System presentations by SEI API members:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CBS Power Solutions (Fiji)</i> • <i>Clay Energy (Fiji)</i> • <i>Superfly (Solomon Islands)</i>
2:45 – 3:15 pm	Session 3B	<i>From Application to Approval: Solar Grid Licensing in Fiji</i>	<p><i>Vinitesh Kumar: Fiji Consumer and Competition Commission (FCCC)</i></p> <p><i>Rusiate Faivakibau; Energy Fiji Limited (EFL)</i></p>
3:15 - 3:40pm	Afternoon Tea		
3:45 - 4:00pm	Session 4A	<i>Land Art Generator Initiative (LAGI)</i>	<i>Ms Loma Mataika</i>

4:00- 5:15pm	Session 4B	Building Capacity in the Women's Industry	Women's in the Industry Its Time Foundation support of women in Fiji- Rob Edwards. OAM Learnings from Women In Construction and Trade Fiji. Julianne Verma Learnings from Australian Women in Solar Energy (AWISE) Lauren Hamilton Panel Session: Oliana Nayago (USP) Vasiti Talakubu (VESS) Fiona Dace-Lynn (Canberra Institute of Technology) Alana Wilson-Fusitu'a (Blue Planet Alliance) Loma Mataika (Atelier 153) Julianne Verma (WICAT) Lauren Hamilton (AWISE)
5:15 pm – 7:15pm	Networking Reception		

Day 2 Wednesday 25 March 2026

Time	Session	Session Title	Speakers
8:45 – 9:00am	Session 1A	Opening Prayer The Role of the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE)	Mr Solomon Fifita: Manager of PCREEE
9:00 - 9:15am	Session 1B	How the Global Solar Council is supporting small associations like SEIAPI?	Ms Sonia Dunlop: CEO Global Solar Council (Video) Mr Danny Kennedy: GSC Strategy Board Member
9:15 - 9:35am	Session 1C	Video Presentations: Where are the \$ supporting the transition coming from Part 2	World Bank Projects-Geoff Stapleton Mr Reuben Ross: Australia, Department of Climate Change Energy the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Ms Merinda Lee Hassall, (New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade MFAT)
9:35 - 9:50am	Session 1D	Pacific Infrastructure Data Base on Pacific Projects	Ms Jane Romero : Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility
9:50 – 10:05am	Session 1E	Quality in Donor Projects	Mr Ravinesh Nand: REnew Pacific
10:10 - 10:30am	Group Photo		
10:30 - 10:55am	Morning Tea		
11:00am - 12:30pm	Session 2	Implementing a Quality Framework for the Energy Transition	Overview of SEIAPI activities relevant to a quality framework: Mr Geoff Stapleton AO Executive Officer of SEIAPI Overview of the International Solar Alliance: Dr Ishan Purohit Regional solar QI framework and management system for Pacific community (SPC) : Mr Solomon Fifita Manager of (PCREEE) The Role of the Office of the Pacific Energy Regulatory Office: Mr Antony Garie (OPERA)

			<i>The Quality Framework for the Fiji Rural Energy Fund: Mr Deepak Chand Acting Director of Energy Department of Energy Fiji</i>
12:30 - 1:30pm	<i>Lunch</i>		
1:30 - 2:15pm	Session 3A:	<i>Initiatives to Achieve Energy Resilience in the Pacific</i>	<i>100% Renewable Energy for the Pacific Islands. Richard Neumann Senior Adviser Smart Energy Council</i> <i>Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP). Ngedikes Olai Uludong (SPC)</i>
2.15 - 3:00PM	Session 3B:	<i>Finance for the Energy Transition</i>	<i>Project Finance to support the transition: Paul Makumbe. Director Sunergise</i> <i>Unlocking Finance for Solar through Adoption of Standards</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Mosese Nabalivou- Project Officer. SEIAPI - Nicholas Wolf, Market Development Facility (MDF)
3:00 - 3:25pm	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>		
3:30 - 3:35am	Session 4A	<i>State of the market 2025 and outlook 2026</i>	<i>Mr Andrew Birch Co-Founder and CEO of Open Solar (Video)</i>
3:35 - 4:40pm	Session 4B	<i>How to address barriers faced by industry in the transition</i>	<i>Issues faced by Pacific Island Solar Companies in retaining technical staff. Mr Ajay Prasad. CBS Power Solutions (Fiji) Ltd</i> <i>The Pacific Power Association Strategic Plan Mr Gordon Chang Executive Director Pacific Power Association (PPA)</i> <i>Operation and Maintenance of Off Grid Solar Power Systems</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - O & M in the Fiji Rural Energy Fund. Mr Viniel Narayan. UNDP - O & M in solar schools in Fiji: Mr Rob Edwards OAM Founder Its Time Foundation
4:40 – 4:55pm	Session 4C	<i>Discussion on topics for the 2027 conference</i>	<i>Mr Peter Johnston Chair SEIAPI</i> <i>Mr Geoff Stapleton AO Executive Officer SEIAPI</i> <i>Mr Sandip Kumar Secretary SEIAPI</i>
4:55pm	<i>Close of Conference</i>		<i>Mr Peter Johnston Chair SEIAPI</i>
5:00 – 7:30PM	REnew Pacific Networking Reception		

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Meet Pat at the SEI-API Conference

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PAT BRADSHAW

Account Manager

AC SOLAR WAREHOUSE

Supporting Solar Businesses Across the Pacific



AC Solar Warehouse is looking forward to meeting attendees at the **SEI-API Conference on 24–25 March in Suva**. In addition to offering access to our extensive range of solar and energy storage equipment, we will be launching the world-leading ATMOCE Extra Low Voltage home energy storage and Microinverter solution.

As one of the largest and most trusted solar wholesalers in Australia and New Zealand, AC Solar Warehouse has been **working alongside Pacific installers for more than 14 years**. During that time, the company has supported projects ranging from small commercial systems to some of the region's most innovative solar installations, partnering with leading installers and retailers in countries across the Pacific including **New Caledonia, French Polynesia, the Cook Islands, Samoa and Fiji**.

AC Solar Warehouse offers more than just **product supply**. Installers benefit from fast access to quality solar equipment from trusted brands, backed by **technical and engineering support** covering system design, sizing assistance, compatibility guidance, bills of materials and drawings. The business also **designs and builds custom switchboards in-house**, tailored to project requirements and budgets, helping simplify complex installations.

Product training and compliance support are another key focus, including assistance with AUS/NZ standards such as AS/NZS 61439 for switchboards, as well as technology-focused training like Aiko ABC modules delivered through the Smart Energy Council Smart Installer Program — a free online learning portal for installers.

With extensive local stock held across eight warehouses in Australia and New Zealand, installers can source **inverters, microinverters, energy storage, solar panels, racking and switchboards** efficiently and reliably.

Attendees at SEI-API will have the opportunity to meet Pat Bradshaw, AC Solar Warehouse's dedicated international account manager. Pat brings deep industry knowledge and a relationship-driven approach built on honesty, transparency and integrity. He will be available to discuss upcoming projects of any scale and provide practical advice on product selection.

The ATMOCE team will also be present, introducing their low-voltage battery and microinverters, designed with safety and performance in mind, suitable for a wide range of installations, including those in Pacific Island conditions.



1MWp+1MWh BESS Taveuni



6MWp Tonga



225kWp Car Dealership Nadi



643kWp Denarau Resort

Systems installed by SEIAPI member: Clay Engineering Fiji

Day 1: Opening Session

Peter Johnston: Chair SEIAPI



Peter Johnston is a Fiji citizen with degrees in aerospace engineering (BE, Ohio State University), science and technology policy (MSc, Sussex University) and environmental management (MSc, University of London). He has been involved in national economic planning, sustainable energy and environmental issues in the Pacific, and to a lesser extent Southeast Asia since the 1970s. He taught at the University of the South Pacific (foundation physics), was Energy Adviser, Fiji's Ministry of Finance (Canadian IDRC, late 1970s), Chief Planning Officer (sectoral) in Fiji's Central Planning Office and was Fiji's first Director of Energy in 1981. He managed a UNDP-funded regional energy programme for the Pacific Islands in the 1980s, was chief technical adviser for a national environmental advisory programme in Cambodia in the 1990s, and has been a consultant with ADB, DFAT, MFAT, the EU, GIZ, GGGI, PRIF, SPC, SPREP, the World Bank, UNIDO and other regional and international organizations. He was lead consultant for ADB/PRIF and SPC for an external review of the 2010-2020 Pacific regional energy framework and for development of the subsequent 2021-2030 regional framework. He was also lead consultant for the Pacific Power Association's 2025-2029 strategic plan, with a strong focus on the transition to renewable energy.

Geoff Stapleton AO Executive Officer SEIAPI



Geoff Stapleton specialised in solar (PV) energy in the final year of his electrical engineering degree at UNSW in 1981. He joined BP Solar Australia on 1987. In 1989 he started his own company on the south coast of NSW, Australia where he designed, installed and maintained off grid power systems. In 1998 he was one of the co-founders of Global Sustainable Energy Solutions Pty Ltd (GSES). Geoff has undertaken projects in Australia, Africa, Asia and the Pacific islands and travels extensively. Geoff was a part-time senior lecturer at the UNSW School of PV and RE Engineering from 2003 to 2015. Geoff played an active role in the various Australian industry associations from 1991. In 2010 Geoff helped to form (SEIAPI) and in 2022 he stepped down as managing director of GSES to focus on being the executive officer of SEIAPI

Rob Edwards OAM. Founder Its' Time Foundation



With degrees in anatomy and physiology, Rob worked for five years in cardiac rehabilitation where he wrote the successful book "Better Blood Pressure". As a leader for 15 years in the health and well-being industry, his Workplace Health Appraisals Program engaged over 30,000 participants at all levels of business across Australia and NZ. As a conference speaker, his focus is simply to encourage people to take a brief time out to consider their most important asset - themselves. We can't look after other people unless we look after ourselves first. "It's All About You!" Rob received the Order of Australia Medal as founder and CEO of Its Time Foundation, that installs solar in remote Pacific Island schools, also his plastic free oceans projects and remote women's health initiatives. The week, before the SEIAPI conference, Its Time Foundation is delivering a remote school solar system installed by 15+ women - as part of its strategy to build women's capacity in the renewables industry.



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Superfly Team at Aola Health Center first 3ph job

Aruligo Fisheries 33kW Ground Mount



Systems installed by SEI API Member: Superfly Limited- Solomon Islands

Day 1: Session 2

How the Renewable Energy Council of Asia Pacific is supporting small associations like SEIAPI?



Mr John Grimes CEP Smart Energy Council (Australia)

John Grimes was appointed Chief Executive in 2008, and has grown the profile and influence of the Smart Energy Council since that time.

John is a bold advocate for the smart energy industry and sits on a number of expert reference committees and boards providing advice to several state governments and the energy sector.

John started his career as an officer in the Air Force and went on to found and grow a number of companies, including a startup company he took to a successful listing on the ASX with a market capitalisation in excess of \$30m.

His most recent company was in the environmental sector with operations in Australia, the US and the Middle East.

John has a passion for the solar, storage and the smart energy industry. He is regularly called upon by the media to provide relevant and independent comment in these areas.

Where are the \$ supporting the transition coming from?

Mr Nicholas Murphy Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)



Nicholas Murphy is an Investment Manager with the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP). With over 15 years experiences in international development and the Pacific, he is the current contract manager for AIFFP's five-year \$75 million REnew Pacific, off-grid renewable energy program. He also leads a team delivering the Palau Renewable Energy Integration Project and was Acting Director of the Grid-Scale Energy projects team for the last eight months. He has previously held roles as the Executive Officer for the Australian High Commissioner in Port Moresby and was Australia's Deputy High Commissioner in Nuku'alofa Tonga where he was also Counsellor Development during the COVID-19 pandemic. Other major infrastructure projects he has been involved with include the University of Papua New Guinea School of Business, and he was on the Steering Committee for the Tonga Parliament Building Project. His 20-year career with DFAT follows his former professional appointment as the Principal Clarinet of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra.

Roxanne Castelein Programme Manager Climate Change Mitigation and Energy at European Commission



Roxane Castelein has 15 years of experience working in energy and climate finance and lives in Suva since 2018. She is the focal point for climate change mitigation (energy and decarbonisation of transport) at the delegation of the European Union for the Pacific.

Prior to that she worked at the Global Green Growth Institute, based in Fiji as well, as regional investment lead for the Pacific.

Before moving to the Pacific, Roxane worked in Chile at the Ministry of Energy where she was managing a programme supporting local authorities defining and implementing their climate action plans.

Roxane holds a Msc in engineering in applied mathematics and a Msc in local economic development from the London School of Economics.

Jonathan Pryke: Principal Operations Specialist (Kiribati, Niue, Tonga and Tuvalu) South Pacific Subregional Office Asian Development Bank



Jonathan Pryke is a Principal Operation Specialist at the Asian Development Bank's Subregional Office in Suva where oversees ADB's economic analysis and project programming for four Pacific nations. Jonathan has a career in the Pacific spanning more than 15 years across the multilateral, bilateral and academic sectors. Prior to joining ADB Jonathan was Lead Economist for the Pacific for the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs for three years. He was Director of the Lowy Institute's Pacific Islands Program for seven years and began his career as a researcher at the Australian National University's Development Policy Centre.

Vineil Narayan: Programme Manager, United Nations Development Programme



Vineil Narayan is a Development Finance and Social Inclusion Specialist with over 10 years of experience in national economic planning, climate finance, and sustainable development across Fiji and the Pacific

He currently serves as project manager for UNDP's Blue Economy and renewable energy portfolio, where he has managed multi-million-dollar programmes advancing innovative public and private financing solutions to support marginalised and climate-vulnerable communities

*In addition to leading ocean finance initiatives, Vineil manages the UNDP Pacific Multi-Country Office's flagship renewable energy initiative — the **Fiji Rural Electrification Fund (FREF) Support Project** — implemented on behalf of the Government of Fiji. The project is rolling out integrated solar mini-grids across rural and maritime communities, strengthening energy security, enabling productive use of energy, and catalysing inclusive local economic development. Vineil has played a catalytic role in mobilising climate and blue finance, including supporting the issuance of Fiji's first sovereign green and blue bonds and securing substantial co-financing for sustainable private-sector-led initiatives. Previously, as Head of Climate Change and International Cooperation at Fiji's Ministry of Economy, he led national climate finance coordination, mobilised over US\$30 million in climate funding, and served as Fiji's lead technical negotiator at COP25 and COP26*

His work consistently integrates Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles into financing frameworks, renewable energy deployment, and policy design, advancing resilient and inclusive energy access across Pacific Island countries.

Interview with SEIAPI Lifetime Member; Dr Herbert Wade



Herbert A. Wade lived in Missouri from his birth late in 1939 until his move shortly after High School to the U.S Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

He graduated from Naval Academy with honors in 1961 and following his Naval Service he received his MBA in 1967

(University of Rhode Island) and his PhD in 2008 (Clermont School of Business).

His work over the years has been focused on solar energy-initially on its use in Asia and Africa for power distribution into isolated areas. In the more recent years, his interest has been largely focused on solar use for the power development of Islands in the Pacific and the integration of solar power into the grids of the islands.



SEIAPI

Sustainable Energy

Since 2010

Inaugural Conference

**Transitioning to Solar Energy
in the Pacific Islands**

Its Time Foundation delivers renewable power solutions for remote Pacific Island schools, transforming education outcomes and reducing carbon emissions.



Quality
certified equipment, long warranties, customer support and spares.



Electrification
new wiring to school and teachers' homes. All to AUS/NZ standards.



Connectivity
Networked Starlink for a modern education and eLearning.



Computers
with software and Smart TVs to make the learning package complete.



Quality control
with robust checking to AUS/NZ standards - before leaving site!



O & M Fund
FJD600K+ banked for 2026 projects already!
+ on-going contributions.



O & M Strategy
employed maintenance contractor at the ready to keep the lights on.



Relationships
15 years with MoE and from 2026 schools report each term - not forgotten.

So kids in off-grid schools get the opportunity of a modern education - for decades!



**It's a game changer for kids in remote off-grid schools
It's a great story that's scaling and welcoming funders**

itstime.org.au solarfund-fj.org rob.edwards@itstime.org.au +61 413 734 916



Fetukai Primary School, Tanna.

Includes 8 x 500W Trina Solar Panels (4kWp); 4 x BSL 170E Lithium Battery (35632Wh) and Victron EasySolarII 48/5000 Inverter Charger.



14 x 500W Trina Solar Panels (7kWp), 4 x BSL 170E Batteries (8908Wh ea, 35632Wh Total), Victron EasySolarII 48/5000

Systems installed by SEIAPI Member: PCS Solutions -Vanuatu

Day 1: Session 3

Technical Solutions to Support the Transition

Margreet Leeffink: Technical trainer/Sales Victron Energy



Margreet Leeffink is an electronics engineer and senior professional at Victron Energy with more than three decades of industry experience. She began her career with Victron in the early 1990s as a service engineer, before moving into purchasing, product administration and technical documentation. Her strong technical foundation led naturally into roles that required both precision and clarity in communication. After relocating to Australia, she took on responsibility for sales in the region, combining commercial accountability with deep product knowledge. She has worked extensively with distributors and installers, supporting system design, compliance and product integration across diverse markets.

Her current role focuses on technical training and sales for New Zealand and the Pacific. She develops and delivers structured training programmes, builds practical training systems, and ensures that partners understand how to design and integrate Victron systems correctly. Her work sits at the intersection of engineering, education and commercial strategy.

Purna Chava Clenergy



Purna Sai Rama Krishna (Purna) Chava is a Sales Engineer at Clenergy, supporting customers across Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania, New Zealand, and the Asia-Pacific region. He holds a Master's degree in Structural Engineering and has several years of hands-on experience delivering structural assessments and wind compliance reviews for solar PV installations.

He has worked across both rooftop and ground-mount applications, giving him practical insight into how design standards and product detailing translate into real-world constructability, safety, and long-term performance.

At the SEI API Conference 2026, he will present on "Wind Standards and Key Design Considerations for PV Mounting Systems", with a focus on interpreting AS/NZS 1170.2:2021 and the key site parameters that drive basic wind pressures, the critical first step in a safe and robust PV design for Pacific conditions.

Francisco G. Vozza Director of Business Development, Floating Solar- Fred Olsen 1848



Francisco G. Vozza is an Argentine-Italian economist with two decades of experience across the global energy sector. He has held senior commercial and strategic roles at Equinor, Scatec, and SolarDuck, spanning oil and gas, renewables, and floating solar (FPV). His career has focused on business development, corporate strategy, and new market entry for clean energy solutions worldwide. Operating at the intersection of technology, capital, and market design, he has consistently translated strategic ambition into scalable, executable growth platforms. He is currently Director of Business Development, Floating Solar at Fred. Olsen 1848, based in Oslo (Norway). He leads global market development for nearshore FPV, shaping commercial strategy, partnerships, and project origination. His focus is on deploying bankable solutions in island, port, and coastal markets, where nearshore FPV can deliver affordable, reliable and sustainable power.

Brandon Cook Mindaro (Part of GSES Group)



Brandon Cook is Operations Manager at Mindaro, a NSW-based engineering consultancy specialising in utility-scale solar, battery energy storage systems (BESS) and EV infrastructure. After seven years as a design engineer, he moved into operations leadership, where he now oversees project delivery systems, resourcing and engineering quality across the business.

At Mindaro, Brandon leads the engineering team responsible for delivering detailed design and IFC documentation across projects ranging from 100kW commercial and industrial systems to large utility scale projects up to 300 MW. His remit focuses on team performance, technical standards and delivery consistency across utility-scale solar, grid-connected BESS and complex C&I deployments. He combines hands-on technical expertise with a disciplined focus on process, performance and scalability, strengthening engineering outputs in a rapidly expanding renewable energy market.

From Application to Approval: Solar Grid Licensing in Fiji

Vinitesh Kumar Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC)



Mr Vinitesh Kumar (MCom, PGDip Gov, PGDip PM, BCom, Dip MEL, pursuing MA in Governance) is a corporate governance and consumer protection specialist with over 13 years of experience. Currently, General Manager People, Culture and Corporate Services at the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC), he also oversees the Technical Regulations Unit issuing generation, transmission, and supply licences in the electricity sector.

Vinitesh has spearheaded initiatives including developing the Fiji Renewable Energy Framework (FREF) licensing framework, introduction of Online Licensing System, and integration of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) practices strengthening regulatory oversight and performance tracking. His expertise includes grant management, donor financial management, and project management.

In addition to strategic human resource management, financial management, and regulatory compliance, he contributes to ESG and sustainability initiatives and played a key role in FCCC receiving multiple recognitions, including the Fiji Business Excellence Awards, HR Awards, Quality Management recognitions, and President's Award.

SEIAPI would like to thank the following for making this conference a success:

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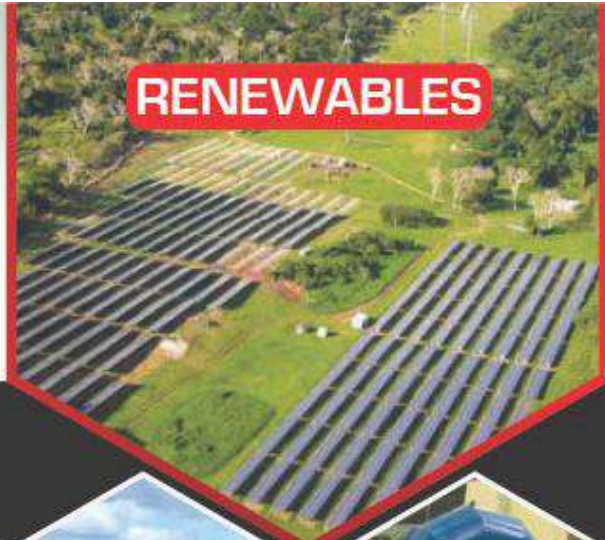
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- Pulp and Paper ● Environmental ● Wastewater
- Water



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Nauru	Guam	Kiribati	Niue	New Caledonia
Republic of Marshall Islands	Republic of Palau	Vanuatu	Papua New Guinea	Samoa
Tokelau	Tonga	Tuvalu	Solomon Islands	Timor Leste

Health, Safety, Environment,
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"ENTRUST IT TO US — WE WILL DELIVER"



Tonga



Tuvalu

Systems installed by SEI-API member CBS Power Solutions Fiji

Day 1: Session 4

Land Art Generator Initiative (LAGI)



Ms Loma Mataika

Master of Engineering Architecture, Nagoya Institute of Technology. Owner Atelier 153, an architecture and art-driven studio based in Suva with an extensive portfolio spanning the country, including the outer islands.

With two decades of industry experience and academic training in architecture and sustainable building design across Japan, Australia, Germany, Portugal, and Fiji, the business has refined its approach and lead clients through a journey of discovery, from unconventional concepts to beautifully unexpected outcomes.

Loma is the Founder and Director of Women In Sports Hub (WISH) Fiji. Also, Chair and Board Member of the Solar Fund (Fiji)

Building Women's Capacity in the Industry

Lauren Hamilton Head of Marketing & Partnerships at Smart Commercial Energy



Lauren Hamilton is Head of Marketing & Partnerships at Smart Commercial Energy, where she runs a full-service B2B program including content marketing, PR, design and digital communications. With more than 20 years in marketing, including a decade running her own digital agency, she holds a BA in Communication Studies, with expertise in business-to-business growth strategies.

Lauren is a passionate environmentalist and has worked in clean energy since 2022. She is a board member of AWISE (Australian Women in Solar Energy) and an in-demand speaker, presenting at industry events including Solar & Storage Live, the Smart Energy Expo and AWISE's Recharge Your Spark.

Through Smart, Lauren has been proud to support the One Sun initiative, which delivers renewable energy projects to communities across Pacific Island nations to support energy equity.

Julianne Verma Managing Director Toorak Central Hospitality



Julianne is a seasoned executive with over two decades of experience in Fiji and the Pacific Islands. She holds Diplomas in Project Management and Land Use Planning/Development from The University of The South Pacific.

In recent years a leader in the properties and construction sectors – property management, project and construction management – she has grown a significant properties portfolio from scratch. From pre-purchase, due diligence to conveyance work to post settlement renovations, tenancing, all aspects of project and operations management. These roles have further developed and honed the management and leadership skills required for the industry.

Julianne is Founder and Chairwoman of Women In Construction and Trade Fiji.

Oliana Nayago- Industry and Community Liaison Officer at the University of the South Pacific (USP)



Mrs. Oliana Nayago holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of the South Pacific, majoring in Computing Science and Mathematics. She currently serves as the Industry and Community Liaison Officer at the University of the South Pacific. In this role, she works closely with students, faculty, and industry partners to strengthen pathways between academia and the workforce, particularly in technology, engineering, and innovation.

Over the years, she has had the privilege of leading and facilitating several impactful initiatives, including the FJ STEAM Princess Project, which empowers young women in Fiji and Tonga through technology and innovation bootcamps. Through funding from the US Embassy Suva, FJ STEAM Princess conducted bootcamps in Fiji and Tonga to ignite, create awareness of, and re-invent an interest in STEAM subjects and careers in young girls in the Pacific in a fun and creative way – exposing our princesses to a series of workshop sessions, guest lectures, and hands-on science activities.

Vasiti Talakubu

The Solar Fund’s Retained Maintenance Contractor



At the Training and Productivity Authority at Narere Campus Vasiti completed the Electrical Trades Certificate and Class 3 Trades and recent the Electrical Inspectors Course with Global Sustainable Energy Solutions.

Two years experience as Electrician and Maintenance for Total service stations. Five years with CBS Power Solutions installing and maintaining solar systems across most regions of Fiji, including for remote marine communities and extensive community wiring works. Also, working on high voltage commercial projects on the Fiji mainland. Prior to being invited to this current position at The Solar Fund Fiji, she was the lead Electrician at Vomo Resort.

As well as technical capability, Vasiti brings a passion for increasing women’s representation in the electrical and solar industry and is exploring the creation of Fiji Women in Solar.

Alana Wilson Fusitu’a Pacific Director for Blue Planet Alliance,



Alana Wilson Fusitu’a is a Native Hawaiian serving as Pacific Director for Blue Planet Alliance, a global nonprofit dedicated to helping islands, states, and countries achieve 100% renewable energy by 2045 while building thriving, resilient communities in harmony with people and nature. In this role, she advances renewable energy transitions, climate finance strategies, and collaborative solutions across Hawai’i and the Pacific Islands.

She holds a self-designed Master’s degree in Pacific Islands Studies with a concentration in Climate Finance from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Smith College and Hawai’i Pacific University. A graduate of Kamehameha Schools, she was the first Gates Millennium Scholar from Kaua’i to receive full funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Her professional experience includes roles with AAPI Women Lead under EPIC, Hawai’i State Energy Office, serving as the youngest steering committee member for the first Indigenous Geothermal Rising Symposium and contributing to the HAVEN initiative presented at FESTPAC. Alana is deeply committed to uplifting Indigenous women and girls, particularly in STEM, renewable energy, and climate leadership.

**Fiona Dace-Lynn College Director, Trade Skills
Canberra Institute of Technology**



Fiona is a senior vocational education leader driving Australia’s clean energy workforce transition. As Director of Trade Skills at one of Australia’s leading technology and training institutes, she leads large-scale portfolios across renewables, EV technologies, construction and emerging industries — aligning training systems with the skills demands of a net zero economy.

Fiona works at the intersection of industry, policy and education, building partnerships that translate innovation into real employment pathways. A passionate advocate for women in male-dominated trades, she champions inclusive workforce strategies that attract, retain and elevate women in construction, energy and technical fields — seeing the renewable transition as a catalyst for cultural and structural change.

With international experience spanning India and the UK, Fiona brings a global perspective to skills reform and workforce development. She is committed to ensuring Australia’s clean energy future is powered by a skilled, diverse and industry-connected workforce.



SEI API
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Inaugural Conference

**Transitioning to Solar Energy
in the Pacific Islands**



GSES leads Australia in education and training in the Renewable Energy Innovation and Technology Sector. In addition to being a nationally recognised Registered Training Organisation, **GSES offers the following services:**



- **Off-Grid Independent Owner's Engineer Services** - Fully independent engineering oversight across every stage of a renewable energy project with no ties to equipment suppliers or contractors
- **Quality, Compliance & Performance Assessment** - GSES conducts thorough compliance audits, infrared imaging, IV curve tracing, and performance assessments for solar PV and battery storage systems
- **Expert Consultancy & Asset Management** - From representing client interests as Owner's Engineer during design and commissioning, to providing ongoing portfolio-level asset management intelligence with real-time performance monitoring and reporting, GSES protects your investment at every stage



- **Real-Time Solar Monitoring** - Powered by machine learning and advanced analytics to continuously track your solar assets' performance, detecting issues before they impact your bottom line
- **Independent Expert Oversight** - A team of fully independent engineers regularly reviews your portfolio's health and delivers tailored recommendations, giving you confidence that your investment is always optimised
- **Built for Reliability at Scale** - Engineered for precision diagnostics and faster fault resolution, Diagno reduces maintenance time and downtime across solar installations of any size



- **Complete Design Packages for C&I Projects** - Mindaro delivers full engineering packages for solar, battery, and EV charger systems at commercial and industrial scale (30kW to megawatt)
- **A Full Suite of Renewable Energy Services** - From PV and battery storage design to EV charging infrastructure, DNSP network applications, power system studies, and system optimisation
- **Scalable Solutions for Single Sites and Multi-Site Rollouts** - Mindaro provides tailored design and consultancy services to keep your project on scope and on time whether it's a standalone commercial installation or a large-scale multi-site deployment



Global Sustainable Energy Solutions (GSES) is proud to have been a supporter of SEIAPI since its inception. At the request of solar companies in Fiji, GSES sourced funding in 2010 to form SEIAPI. GSES has acted as secretariat of SEIAPI since 2012 and the salaries of two key workers within SEIAPI, Geoff Stapleton AO and Sandip Kumar, are paid for by GSES. This support of SEIAPI has continued the philosophy of the founders of GSES, who were all key supporters of the various Australian solar associations in the 1990's and early 2000's. These founders believed that, to have a successful solar industry, it required an effective industry association. GSES is also proud to have supported the Pacific Islands countries and territories in the area of solar training. Though GSES has conducted training in the Pacific for 20 years, it always believed that sustainability requires the building of training capacity. This first started with hiring Sandip Kumar in 2018, a Fijian local who had been teaching renewable energy for several years at Fiji National University. In 2019, with funding support from GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) GSES signed a license agreement with Pacific Power Association to be able to provide any training facility within the Pacific Countries and Territories with GSES's face-to-face training material. GSES has since worked with training facilities in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Tonga to establish solar training. In 2002, GSES signed a partnership agreement with the University of South Pacific (USP) and Pacific TAFE (Technical and further Education) to offer online training courses throughout the Pacific. In 2003, GSES director Geoff Stapleton AO, in his role as executive officer of SEIAPI, helped USP Pacific TAFE secure funding to establish the Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre (PSETC) which will open in the coming months.

GSES congratulates SEIAPI in holding its first Solar Conference.

Chris Martell
Managing Director
GSES



*3MWp Solar Farm Vanuatu
Systems installed by SEI-API member Pacific Engineering Projects Fiji*

Day 2: Session 1

Overview of the Pacific centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency



Solomone Fifita, Manager

Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE)

Mr Solomone Fifita is currently the Manager of the Pacific Community's Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency or PCREEE. He is the former Energy Planner for the Kingdom of Tonga. He has served as Chief Technical Adviser, Project Manager and Team Leader for major regional energy and climate change projects for the Pacific Islands. He was the head of the Regional Energy Programme, housed at the Pacific Community in Suva, Fiji.

Solomone was a lead author in the IPCC's Special Report on Renewable Energy, the IPCC's special report on the 1.5°C Mitigation Pathway and the IPCC's 5th & 6th Assessment Reports.

Solomone was a Lead Reviewer of Annex 1 Parties' National Communications under the UNFCCC.

Solomone has more than 30 years of working experience in the energy sector of the Pacific Islands and holds a Master of Science in Energy Planning and Policy.

How the Global Solar Council is supporting small associations like SEIAPI?

Sonia Dunlop

CEO Global Solar Council



Sonia Dunlop is CEO of the Global Solar Council, where she represents the world's solar PV industry with respect to policy-makers, other sectors and the media. She previously worked for SolarPower Europe, Solar Energy UK and the RE-Source Platform. Previously she was for five years part of the senior management team of global climate politics think tank Third Generation Environmentalism (E3G) and worked for the COP26 Glasgow organising team in the UK government. She also spent five years in the European Parliament in Brussels working on renewables policy. She has expertise in solar PV, development finance, renewables, digitalisation of energy, Multilateral Development Banks climate finance and corporate Power Purchase Agreements. Sonia speaks fluent English, French and Italian as well as basic Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese, has two children and is based in London.

Danny Kennedy Chief Energy Officer New Energy Nexus

Danny Kennedy works as a Senior Adviser to the Sunrise Project, Wollemi Capital and various startups and sits on the Board of the Global Solar Council amongst others.

He was the founding CEO of New Energy Nexus, a global platform organization for funds and incubators, with chapters in a dozen countries from 2015-2024. He continues as a Venture Partner with the New Energy Nexus' Catalyst Fund. His focus has moved from innovating new climate solutions to building the ones we've got while continuing to make SFUN*. The time value of carbon means we can take no more expensive solutions nor pre-commercial tools. It's time to deploy! Kennedy co-founded Sungevity in 2007, the company that created remote solar design, and Powerhouse, an innovation firm in Oakland, California. He was the first backer of Mosaic in 2011, the multi-billion solar loan provider, and remains on the Board of Powerhive, a solar mini-utility in Kenya. He was a founding Director of Sunergise, the solar-as-a-service business out of Fiji and the EnergyLab Australia. He helped build SolarPhilippines and is currently creating a communications platform called FutureKeepers.

Kennedy authored "Rooftop Revolution: How Solar Power Can Save Our Economy – and Our Planet – from Dirty Energy" in 2012. In 2022 and 2023 he and Cate Blanchett hosted Audible's 2 award-winning podcast series called "Climate of Change". Prior to being an entrepreneur and investor he worked at Greenpeace, Project Underground and other NGOs on climate & energy issues since 1989.



*SFUN is solar for universal need!

Where are the \$ supporting the transition coming from?

Videos

Reuben Ross: Acting Director Pacific Energy Partnerships

Department of Climate Change Energy the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)



Reuben Ross is the Director of Pacific Energy Partnerships in the Australian Government's International Climate Negotiations Division, where he leads delivery of the \$50 million Australia-Pacific Partnership for Energy Transition (APPET). His work focuses on advancing practical renewable energy outcomes across the Pacific through bilateral partnerships, regional institutions, and flagship initiatives that strengthen regulatory capability, workforce development, and long-term energy system reform.

Reuben plays a key role in shaping Australia's climate and energy diplomacy in the Pacific, including support for COP31 priorities, and regularly advises Ministers and senior officials on international energy transition issues. He has worked closely with Pacific governments, regulators, multilateral development banks, and regional organisations to deliver ambitious, partner-led solutions that respond to local needs and priorities.

Merinda-Lee Hassall - Lead Adviser, Energy, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



Merinda-Lee is an energy policy specialist with experience across government and the private sector including one of New Zealand's largest electricity generators. Merinda-Lee currently works on international energy policy and supports the delivery of renewable energy projects across the Pacific, helping to accelerate the transition to clean energy and meet national renewable targets.

Pacific Infrastructure Projects Data Base

Jane Romero Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF)



Jane Romero works as Technical Assistance Officer at the Pacific Region Infrastructure facility (PRIF). She has an engineering background and over 20 years of research, coordination and practical experience in infrastructure development. Prior to joining PRIF, she worked with various donors and governments in Asia on climate policy, sustainable transport, climate financing and renewable energy

Maintaining Quality in Donor Projects

Mr Ravinesh Nand: REnew Pacific



Ravinesh brings over 2 decades of experience working in the sustainable energy sector, particularly championing renewable energy uptake across Fiji and around Pacific Island Countries, including supporting implementation of solar projects across many countries in Asia and Africa. Ravinesh has worked across Academia, Governments, Private Sector and International Development & Cooperation Agencies in various capacities. Some notable roles he held includes Lecturer in Renewable Energy Engineering at Fiji National University, Assistant Director of Fiji Department of Energy, Senior Energy Advisor at German International Cooperation Agency, Senior Advisor Renewable Energy Business Development at TotalEnergies and Solar Programme Specialist for Asia-Pacific region at the International Solar Alliance. From 2024, he started managing DFAT funded pilot Program for Off-Grid Renewables in the Pacific and is currently the Partnerships and Portfolio Lead of REnew Pacific program, a Australian Government funded 75M AUD program for the Pacific and Timor Leste, focusing on off-grid renewable energy.



Since 2010

THE PACIFIC CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY (PCREEE)

Established in 2017 at Nuku'alofa, Tonga, PCREEE operates under the Geoscience Energy and Maritime Division of the Pacific Community (SPC). The Centre serves as a regional platform dedicated to accelerating renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) development across Pacific Island Countries and Territories. PCREEE places strong focus on the private sector and industry, investment and business promotion while supporting targeted RE & EE programs that enhance the productivity, sustainability, and energy security in SPC Member countries.

Key areas of support under the [PCREEE Business Plan](https://www.pcreee.org/document/pcreee-business-plan) (<https://www.pcreee.org/document/pcreee-business-plan>) to SPC member countries include:

RE&EE Business Start-Up and Entrepreneurship Support

- Support to the establishment and operation of national energy industry associations
- Training on Power Purchase Agreements
- Drafting and delivery of national qualifications on sustainable energy
- Regional Energy Investment Forum: PNG 27-29 April 2026

RE and EE for Sustainable Mobility

- Review of policy and legislative barriers to e-mobility in Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Is
- Draft of regional Electric Vehicle standard for the Pacific Islands
- Training workshop on electric vehicles charging, Cook Is: 20-24 April 2026

RE Mini-grids

- Support to the CLEARPICS pilot projects in PNG, Solomon Is and Vanuatu
- Support to the Oceania Renewable Power Summit, NZ: 7-8 October 2026

Energy Efficiency Investment

- Refresher training on the MEPSL for Vanuatu in June 2025, and for Tuvalu in 2026 (date is yet to be confirmed)

PCREEE is a founding member of the Global Network of Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), a network of 10 operational centres serving 113 countries worldwide. The GN-SEC serves 41 out of the 46 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and 35 out of 39 Small Island Developing States (SIDS), positively influencing approximately 1.7 billion energy consumers.

Further information: <https://www.pcreee.org>

Contact: info@pcreee.org





DRUA Home Base



Orion



Orion



EY Building

Systems installed by SEIAPI member: Island Solar Fiji

Day 2: Session 2

Implementing a Quality Framework for the Energy Transition



Geoff Stapleton AO Executive Officer SEIAPI

Geoff Stapleton specialised in solar (PV) energy in the final year of his electrical engineering degree at UNSW in 1981. He joined BP Solar Australia in 1987. In 1989 he started his own company on the south coast of NSW, Australia where he designed, installed and maintained off grid power systems.

In 1998 he was one of the co-founders of Global Sustainable Energy Solutions Pty Ltd (GSES). Geoff has undertaken projects in Australia, Africa, Asia and the Pacific islands and travels extensively. Geoff was a part-time senior lecturer at the UNSW School of PV and RE Engineering from 2003 to 2015.

Geoff played an active role in the various Australian industry associations from 1991. In 2010 Geoff helped to form (SEIAPI and in 2022 he stepped down as managing director of GSES to focus on being the executive officer of SEIAPI

Dr Ishan Purohit International Solar Alliance

Ishan Purohit is a Program Specialist for the Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR-C) initiative at the International Solar Alliance (ISA), India. STAR-C currently operates in 11 countries and is on track to expand to 20 centres by 2026 toward a goal of 50 centres by 2030.

He brings over nine years of experience as a Senior Energy Specialist at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group, where he led renewable energy initiatives across South and East Asia. His work spans utility-scale solar PV, CSP, wind power, battery energy storage systems, and off-grid solutions. He has supervised multiple IFC investment and advisory projects ranging from 100 MW to 1000 MW, including IFC's first 180 MW/360 MWh BESS project commissioned in 2025.

Before IFC, Ishan served as Group General Manager–Renewables at Lahmeyer International (now Tractebel Engineering) and earlier worked at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) on national and international renewable energy projects. A prolific contributor to the sector, he has authored over 150 research publications and frequently delivers expert lectures on renewable energy technologies and project development.

Solomone Fifita, Manager

Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE)

Mr Solomone Fifita is currently the Manager of the Pacific Community's Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency or PCREEE. He is the former Energy Planner for the Kingdom of Tonga. He has served as Chief Technical Adviser, Project Manager and Team Leader for major regional energy and climate change projects for the Pacific Islands. He was the head of the Regional Energy Programme, housed at the Pacific Community in Suva, Fiji.

Solomone was a lead author in the IPCC's Special Report on Renewable Energy, the IPCC's special report on the 1.5°C Mitigation Pathway and the IPCC's 5th & 6th Assessment Reports.

Solomone was a Lead Reviewer of Annex 1 Parties' National Communications under the UNFCCC.

Solomone has more than 30 years of working experience in the energy sector of the Pacific Islands and holds a Master of Science in Energy Planning and Policy.

Antony Garie: Co-ordinator

Office of Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA).

Antony Garae recently joined OPERA as its first-ever Coordinator in August 2025. Prior to this, he served as Director of the Department of Energy, Vanuatu, a role he held from 2017, having earlier worked as Principal Scientific Energy Officer (On-Grid). He brings over 11 years of public sector experience in the energy sector. Antony is a graduate Electrical Engineer and holds a Master's degree in Power and Energy Systems Engineering from Auckland University of Technology (AUT), New Zealand. He began his career in the private sector, working with Telecom/Vodafone Vanuatu and Digicel Vanuatu Ltd as a GSM Engineer and ICT Field Engineer, respectively. He has represented Vanuatu as its Mitigation Lead and previously served as the Pacific Small Island Developing



States (PSIDS) Just Transition Lead under AOSIS during COP negotiations. During his tenure as Director, Antony led numerous policy, legislative, and regulatory reforms, and oversaw the implementation of energy development projects spanning electrification, renewable energy, energy security, and energy efficiency, working closely with donors and development partners.



Deepak Chand: Acting Director of Energy Fiji

I'm an energy professional with more than 20 years of experience in renewable energy, rural electrification, project management, and energy related policy development. I currently serve as the Acting Director of Energy at the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services, Fiji. I hold a Master of Engineering Science (Emerging Power Systems) from Curtin University, Australia along with a Post-Graduate Diploma in Renewable Energy and a Bachelor of Science from the University of the South Pacific.

I have worked in the areas of Grid extension projects, different types of solar projects, Wind, Ocean Energy, Biomass, and energy-efficiency initiatives across Fiji. I have expertise in policy advisory work, Project development, project lifecycle management, technical evaluations, and stakeholder coordination with development partners. I represented Fiji in numerous international forums, including COP meetings, international assemblies, and regional energy conferences. I'm also coauthor for few Energy related Articles, Policies and strategic planning documents.

I'm also a certified regional trainer in solar hybrid power systems and my professional interests include research in Renewable Energy technologies and applications, policy development, sustainability, energy laws and economic.



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Power and Communication Solutions



Proudly Located in Vanuatu



Pic: Part Ground Mount Array, Wintua & Lorlow Minigrid, South West Bay, Malekula



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Maewo Island



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Jacks Nadi 59kW System

Systems installed by SEIAPI member: Vision Energy Fiji

Day 2: Session 3

Initiatives to Achieve Energy Resilience in the Pacific



Richard Neumann: Smart Energy Council

Richard Neumann is Chair of the Smart Energy Council's Pacific Working Group and is a member of the Franco-Australian Centre for Energy Transition Advisory Council. He is a former diplomat who served overseas in Beijing, Seoul and Taipei, and was Director of the Climate Mitigation and Investment Section in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade from 2019 to 2024. He has been Australia's Senior Official to the Forum for Latin America and East Asia Cooperation and represented Australia at the G20 Energy Working Group and the Asia Development Bank's Asia Clean Energy Forum. He co-designed a Grid Integration of Renewable Energy Course with the Australian National University, managed the Australia-Germany Hydrogen from Renewable Energy Supply Chain Feasibility Study with the University of New South Wales and contributed to "Lighting the Way: A pathway for a 100% Renewable Blue Pacific" report



Ngedikes Olai Uludong Pacific Community (SPC)

Ms. Ngedikes Olai Uludong is an experienced Pacific leader with a distinguished career spanning public service, diplomacy, resource mobilization, and environmental issues, including climate change, oceans, energy, and foreign policy. Known affectionately as "Olai," she is a proud island woman often recognized by her signature flower.

A former Palauan diplomat, she served as Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Palau's first Ambassador to the European Union, Ambassador on Climate Change, Ambassador to the EU-ACP, and Permanent Representative to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. She also served as Palau's first non-resident Ambassador to Cuba and Portugal and led the organization of the 2017 Palau Energy Summit.

Olai has co-facilitated major international processes, including the UN Ocean Conference declaration and negotiations on the High Seas Treaty (BBNJ). She has worked extensively on SIDS energy transitions, climate finance, and UNFCCC negotiations, and was recognized in SPC's 70 Inspiring Pacific Women campaign.

Finance for the Energy Transition



Paul Makumbe, Director, Sunergise

Paul Makumbe is the Founder and CEO of [Sunergise](#), Oceania's leading commercial and industrial solar energy companies. With more than 25 years of experience across asset finance, telecommunications, and renewable energy, he combines strong financial and operational expertise to deliver scalable clean energy solutions. Over the past 13 years, Paul has grown Sunergise into a vertically integrated, multi-market platform serving listed companies, major corporates, and development agencies across New Zealand and the Pacific. The group operates in New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, and the Cook Islands through multiple subsidiaries, including its EPC division under the Powersmart and Clay Energy brands, as well as its asset financing and owning division. Together, the business has delivered more than 170 solar installations across the region.

Paul holds a Master's degree in Finance and is a board member at Inviol. He previously served as Director at Camco Pacific, helping establish the Pacific's first blended finance fund to accelerate clean energy investment.



Nicholas Wolf, Market Development Facility (MDF)

Nick Wolf is the Regional Director (Pacific) at the Market Development Facility (MDF), an Australian-Government funded program implemented by Palladium. Based in Fiji for the past four years, Nick leads MDF's activities in Samoa, Vanuatu, Tonga and regionally.

MDF's objectives include sustainable economic development, increased incomes and jobs, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. MDF works closely with businesses, governments and other organisations to support new business models and innovations that improve investment, trade, and generate economic benefits for individuals and households.

MDF works in a diverse range of sectors including agriculture, tourism, financial services and renewable energy. It utilises a market systems development approach which emphasises collaborating with local partners, flexible support, commercial sustainability and achieving results at scale.

Nick has extensive experience working at the intersection of economic development, private sector engagement, market-based approaches, agriculture, infrastructure and development finance. Prior to his time in Fiji, he has worked in Timor-Leste, Cambodia, Austria, Kenya, Nigeria and Australia.



Mr Mosese Nabulivou - Project Officer. SEIAPI

Mosese Nabulivou is a climate finance and resilience specialist with over 10 years of experience delivering renewable energy, climate adaptation, and water infrastructure projects across the Pacific. He currently serves as Project Technical Officer with the Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI), supporting strategic planning, climate finance mobilisation, and development of bankable renewable energy proposals.

Mosese has worked with governments and development partners including UNDP, UNEP, ADB, EU, MFAT, SPC, and the Adaptation Fund, contributing to projects ranging from community-led adaptation initiatives to multi-million-dollar climate finance proposals. His expertise spans off-grid solar systems, donor-funded program management, environmental and social safeguards, and infrastructure oversight.

With a background in environmental management and postgraduate studies in climate change adaptation, Mosese combines technical engineering experience with climate finance expertise to advance sustainable, resilient development outcomes across Pacific Island countries.



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3 cheers and congratulations to SEIAPI for hosting its 1st conference!

Without the guardrails laid by SEIAPI, and without the lessons from industry giants such as Bruce Clay, Superfly would not have the audacity to take on the projects that we now meet in a sure-footed manner. From our 1 panel, 1 battery systems; to large kW mini-grid solutions; the prescriptive design and installation standards outlined by SEIAPI are the north-star that rules Superfly's supply chain, tooling and work approaches.

It is without doubt that the presence of SEIAPI makes it easier for large donors and investors to commit to the challenge of powering our island communities. These funds offer a critical lifeline for communities who lack access to the funding support needed to build vital infrastructure. Superfly are grateful to SEIAPI for the role it plays in building trust and giving confidence to funding partners to participate in our sector.

Solar and Battery solutions will continue to grow, and new applications such as EVs will also play an increasing role in meeting the energy needs of our region. We at Superfly ask all industry partners to continue to back SEIAPI, as it shepherds the growth of our industry.

Thanks again, and congratulations to Geoff, Sandip and the SEIAPI committee, and, please keep Superfly in mind, when you're looking for a partner for solar energy projects in Solomon Islands!

E: superflysolomons@gmail.com W: www.superflysolomons.com Fb: www.facebook.com/superflyltd





10kW off-grid system

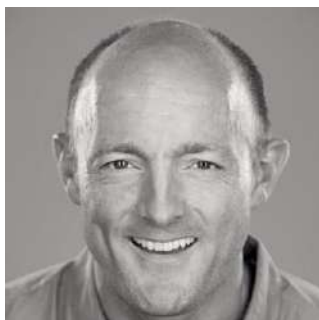


15kW PV System and 10kWh Battery system on grid

Systems installed by SEIAPI member: SOS Palau

Day 2: Session 4

State of the market 2025 and outlook 2026



Andrew Birch CEO Open Solar

Andrew Birch (“Birchy”) is Cofounder and CEO of OpenSolar, and a 25-year veteran of the solar industry. Birchy has a MEngTech in Photovoltaics from UNSW, Sydney. As BP Solar’s head of Business Development, he led the early Australia policy work and secured the country’s first residential Australian solar market.

How to address barriers faced by the industry in the transition



Ajay Prasad. Managing Director CBS Power Solutions

Ajay Prasad is the Founder and Managing Director of CBS Power Solutions Fiji, a company he built from a two-person startup in 2006 into one of the Pacific’s leading providers of solar and hybrid power systems. With more than 40 years of experience in the electrical industry, Ajay’s commitment to renewable energy was sparked during a visit to a remote Fijian village where families relied on kerosene lanterns. That moment inspired his mission to deliver clean, reliable power to underserved communities. Today, CBS delivers megawatt-scale projects across the region, specialising in resilient hybrid solutions for remote and challenging environments. Ajay is recognised for his practical leadership, community-driven approach, and long-standing contribution to sustainable energy development in the Pacific



Gordon Chang, Executive Director, Pacific Power Association (PPA)

Gordon Chang is the current Executive Director for the Pacific Power Association (PPA) since 2023. Gordon Chang joined the PPA from the Forum Secretariat (PIFS) where he was the Finance & Administrative Team Leader for the EU Projects where his experience reflects a good working relationship with the Pacific Island Utilities. Before joining PIFS Gordon Chang worked with USAID in Suva as their Chief Accountant responsible for the financial maintenance of all their projects. From 1999 Gordon joined the Pacific Power Association and was their deputy Executive Director until his appointment as Executive Director. Gordon Chang holds a BA degree in Finance and a Masters degree in Business Administration from George Washington University in Washington D.C.



Rob Edwards OAM. Founder Its' Time Foundation

With degrees in anatomy and physiology, Rob worked for five years in cardiac rehabilitation where he wrote the successful book “Better Blood Pressure”. As a leader for 15 years in the health and well-being industry, his Workplace Health Appraisals Program engaged over 30,000 participants at all levels of business across Australia and NZ.

As a conference speaker, his focus is simply to encourage people to take a brief time out to consider their most important asset - themselves. We can’t look after other people unless we look after ourselves first. “It’s All About You!”

Rob received the Order of Australia Medal as founder and CEO of Its Time Foundation, that installs solar in remote Pacific Island schools, also his plastic free oceans projects and remote women’s health initiatives.

The week, before the SEI API conference, Its Time Foundation is delivering a remote school solar system installed by 15+ women - as part of its strategy to build women’s capacity in the renewables industry.

Vineil Narayan: Programme Manager, United Nations Development Programme

Vineil Narayan is a Development Finance and Social Inclusion Specialist with over 10 years of experience in national economic planning, climate finance, and sustainable development across Fiji and the Pacific

He currently serves as project manager for UNDP's Blue Economy and renewable energy portfolio, where he has managed multi-million-dollar programmes advancing innovative public and private financing solutions to support marginalised and climate-vulnerable communities

*In addition to leading ocean finance initiatives, Vineil manages the UNDP Pacific Multi-Country Office's flagship renewable energy initiative — the **Fiji Rural Electrification Fund (FREF) Support Project** — implemented on behalf of the Government of Fiji. The project is rolling out integrated solar mini-grids across rural and maritime communities, strengthening energy security, enabling productive use of energy, and catalysing inclusive local economic development.*

Vineil has played a catalytic role in mobilising climate and blue finance, including supporting the issuance of Fiji's first sovereign green and blue bonds and securing substantial co-financing for sustainable private-sector-led initiatives

Previously, as Head of Climate Change and International Cooperation at Fiji's Ministry of Economy, he led national climate finance coordination, mobilised over US\$30 million in climate funding, and served as Fiji's lead technical negotiator at COP25 and COP26

His work consistently integrates Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles into financing frameworks, renewable energy deployment, and policy design, advancing resilient and inclusive energy access across Pacific Island countries.



SEI API

Sustainable Energy

Since 2010

Inaugural Conference

**Transitioning to Solar Energy
in the Pacific Islands**



"Education is the the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world" Nelson Mandela



Solar Systems for Schools in Fiji - Installed by SEI-API Member Its Time Foundation



Power Your Paradise, Resiliently & Affordably.

The Ultimate Solar Energy Solution for Pacific Islands.



EP2000

20kW - 60kW | Three Phase
14.7kWh - 154.8kWh | IP65

EP760

7.6 kW | 9.9 kWh - 29.76 kWh |
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www.solarfiji.org
Email: au@bluetti.com

Add:

Suva - 41-42 Piling Rd, Nasinu
Nadi - Lot 14 Khan Jan Drive, Weikamu
Savusavu - Office 10 - Lot 3 & 4 Navaria Balanga Road



Narseys 90kW System



Grace Road 60kW system



Dannys Cold Storage 245kW PV Array, 10kW Wind turbine



Narhari HQ 50kW PV array with 100kWh battery system



Palas Auto 40kW P array with 60kWh battery system



Roopesh Gift Shop 38 kW PV array with 60kWh battery



CATD 20 kW system

Systems installed by SEI-API member: Narhari Fiji



SEIAPI Member Green Technology in Solomon Islands is a company that has been involved with Community Projects. The owner wasn't to incorporate solar onto their community projects. One of their current projects is the To'okina Rural Training Centre (photos above) which is currently being completed. The owner is hoping to incorporate solar training for rural technicians in the training centre.



Australian Government

Australian Trade and Investment Commission



Renewable Energy Council
ASIA-PACIFIC

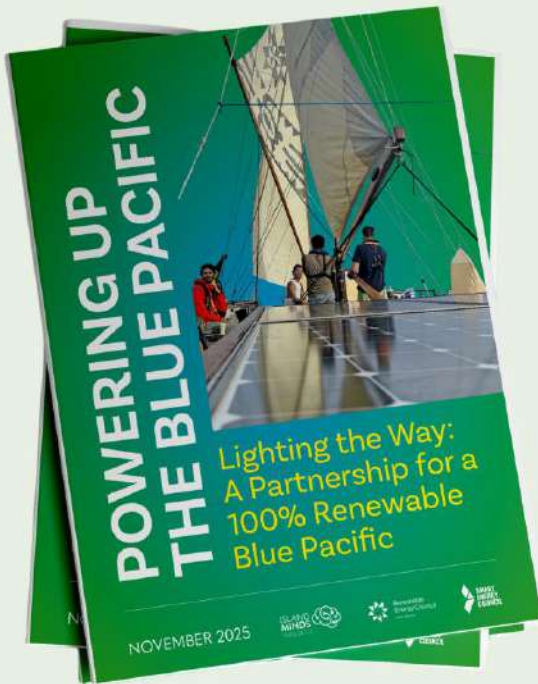


SEIAPI

MARCH 2026

SOLAR CONFERENCE

Theme: Transitioning to Solar Energy in the Pacific Islands



The Smart Energy Council (SEC) and the Renewable Energy Council Asia-Pacific (RECAP) are delighted to support the Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI)'s inaugural conference by sponsoring the event and bringing a small delegation.

SEC is the peak body representing over 1200 renewable energy industry companies and training institutions covering the full spectrum of the industry and has recently been appointed as part of Austrade's Trade Diversification Network

Launched in 2024 at COP29, RECAP is the umbrella body for the renewable energy industry in Asia and the Pacific. Its goal is to support national and regional peak bodies like SEIAPI.

The SEC has convened a Pacific Working Group since 2022 with over 50 participants including the companies and institutions participating in the delegation:

- **Canberra Institute of Technology**
- **GSES** - a renewable energy training provider
- **Mindaro** - an engineering design firm
- **Selectronic** - a bi-directional inverter manufacturer
- **Tindo Solar** - a solar panel manufacturer
- **University of New South Wales (UNSW)**

The SEC, RECAP and SEC members are committed to working with the Blue Pacific Family to be the first region to achieve 100% renewable energy through the provision of high quality training, engineering design and technology appropriate for the region.





National Bank of Tuvalu



Out of the Blue Resort Fiji: 17.1 kW off-grid system



Yanuany Food Production off-grid system

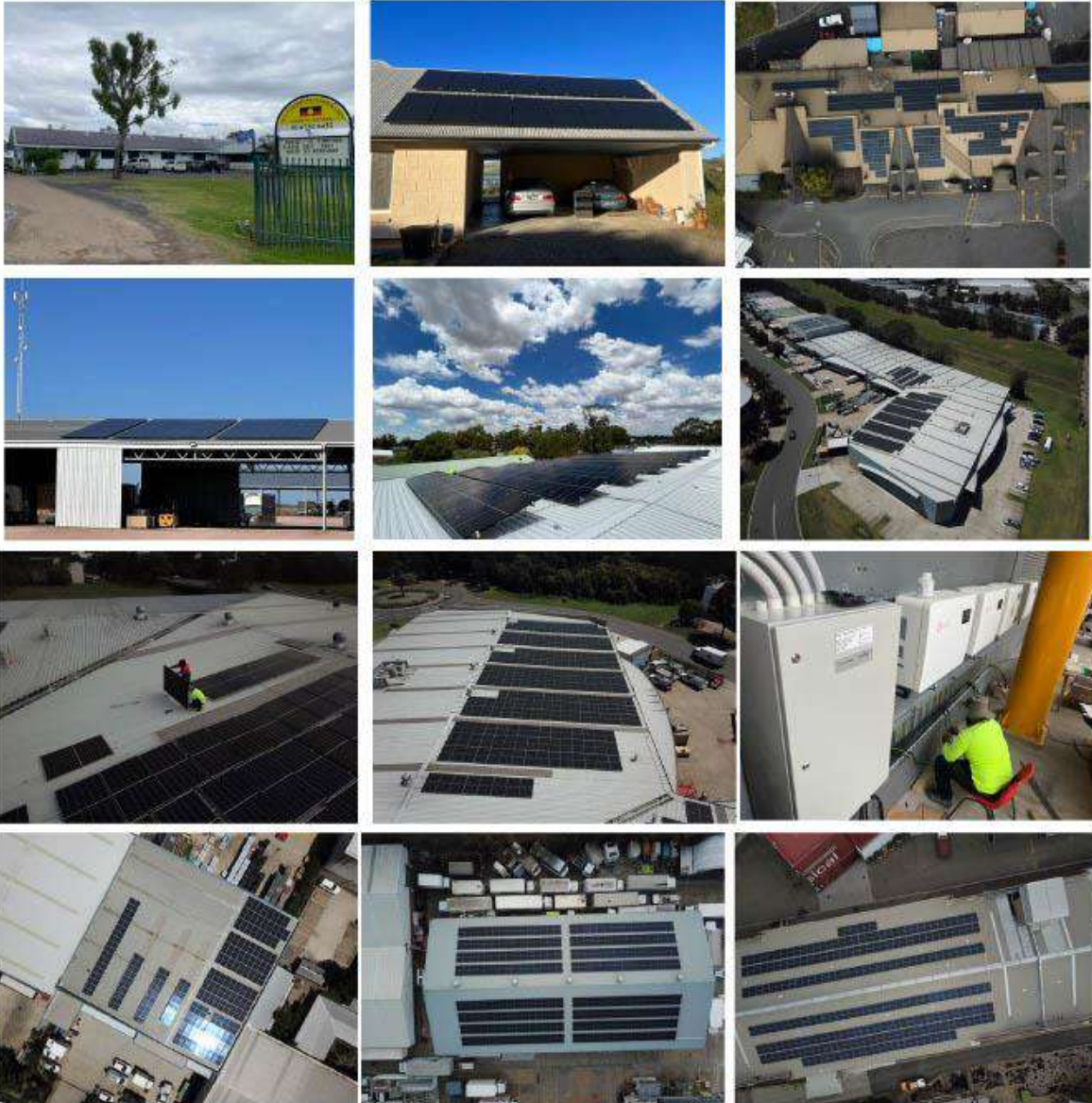


3.96kW Residential Solar System



Systems installed by SEIAPI member: Solar Fiji Fiji

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150kW PV system at Extra Labasa



80kW PV system at Lautoka Police Station



30kW PV system at Bluegas Vuda



30kWp PV System Damadar City Labasa



88kW PV system-Warwick-Hotel

Systems installed by SEIAPI member: Techno Fiji



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Australian Renewables Expertise Meets Pacific Ambition

EPC RENEWABLES INTERNATIONAL

With over 100 years of combined executive and engineering expertise and more than 2,000 renewable energy installations delivered across Australia and the Pacific, EPC Renewables International is a proven Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) EPC provider. Australian owned and operated, the company delivers fully integrated Engineering, Procurement and Construction services, from feasibility modelling and financial analysis through to detailed design, construction, grid integration, commissioning and long term operations & maintenance.

Our portfolio includes utility scale solar farms exceeding 30MW, commercial and industrial rooftop systems from 1MW to 20MW, battery storage systems up to 22MWh, solar carparks, hybrid microgrids and EV charging infrastructure. Projects delivered for institutions such as the CSIRO, National Archives of Australia, McDonald's, NRMA, NBN Co, Toyota, BAI Communications, the British High Commission and Australian Government departments demonstrate capability in high compliance, performance critical environments.

As Fiji advances toward greater energy independence, renewable infrastructure must be engineered for commercial return, grid stability, and durability in tropical island conditions. EPC Renewables International applies disciplined governance, international procurement strength and structured engineering processes that protect capital investment and ensure assets perform over decades.

OFSC Accredited and **ISO Triple Certified** (ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001), the company operates to internationally benchmarked standards. Now based at Level 4A, Tappoo City, Suva, EPC Renewables International delivers MW-scale solar and battery systems designed to reduce operating costs, strengthen energy security, and support Fiji's long term economic growth.



Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)



Utility-scale solar farm project

"We are bringing industry-best renewable energy solutions to the Pacific, supporting the region's transition to clean, sustainable power."

— EPC Renewables International



Fiji Office: Level 4A, Tappoo City, Suva • Head Office: 3/2 Dacre St, Mitchell ACT 2911, Australia

epcsolar.com.au | sales@epcsolar.com.au | +679 222 1275



20kWp System Suva



128kWp System Nadi



310 kWp system Vanua

Systems installed by SEI API member: Dawn Solar Fiji

STAR-C Validation Workshop – Auckland, New Zealand

Scinergy’s role as a trusted partner in Pacific energy transformation was recently highlighted by our co-facilitation of the STAR-C Validation Workshop in Auckland. Working alongside the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE), Scinergy led critical dialogues to harmonize regional standards for energy education and quality infrastructure, ensuring that solar interventions across the Pacific are backed by a certified, world-class workforce



Participants collaborating during the STAR-C Validation Workshop in Auckland, New Zealand, advancing regional dialogue on sustainable energy solutions.

CLEARPICS Project – Site Assessment, Tabalia Brotherhood, Solomon Islands

As the Pacific transition toward a low-carbon future accelerates, the gap between "installed capacity" and "operational resilience" remains a critical challenge. Scinergy provides specialized technical auditing and strategic scoping services designed to ensure that rural electrification investments deliver long-term socio-economic value



CLEARPICS project team conducting a site assessment at Tabalia Brotherhood in the Solomon Islands, exploring productive use of energy initiatives to strengthen community livelihoods.

Pohnpei Hydro & Solar Farm Site Visit – Federated States of Micronesia

A grid is only as strong as its source. Our assessment begins at the powerhouse, evaluating the synergy between renewable generation and energy storage. We don’t just look at nameplate capacity; we measure real-world performance against peak tropical loads



Field visit to the Pohnpei Hydro & Solar Farm in the Federated States of Micronesia, assessing grid readiness for utility-scale renewable energy integration.

SEIAPI member Scinergy is a Pacific based consultancy business. Above is a selection of projects they have undertaken

Now supporting Pacific Islands' energy transition.



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DPA supplies robust energy storage and power systems for island and remote applications across the Pacific. From resorts and commercial facilities to schools and off-grid infrastructure, we support practical system selection and supply solutions engineered to perform in demanding environments.

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Anywhere.**



PV System Naidus Medical Nadi



Neovolt off-grid system



*Western Eggs 15kW and 14.4kWh battery system
Systems installed by SEIAPI member : Starbright- Fiji*



WHO WE ARE



Nidal Z. Zayed
CEO & President
(Corporate Operations)



Abhyash Chand
CEO, Pernix (Fiji) Pte Limited
(PacRim Power Operations)

PERNIX is a leading US-based construction company delivery highly specialized, global projects with integrity and exceptional quality. Our agile team is committed to client satisfaction-managing a diverse portfolio with unparalleled quality, customization, and collaboration. From sourcing one-of-a-kind materials to partnering with skilled local craftspeople, our multinational teams integrate into locations around the world to transform our client’s most advanced, breakthrough concepts into reality.

Pernix (Fiji) Limited, established in 2000 and based in Nasinu, is a subsidiary of [Pernix Group Inc.](#) providing specialized power generation, construction, and infrastructure services in the Pacific region. PFL is known for operating and maintaining the Kinoya and Vuda power plants for the [Energy Fiji Limited \(EFL\)](#).

Kinoya & Vuda Power Plants
(O&M Contract)
Suva, Fiji

Our team has a long and successful tenure in the Fijian power industry, including the management of the expansion, upgrade, and ongoing operations of the two largest power plants in Fiji. Pernix currently operates and maintains the power plants with 108 MW of base load generation capacity under long-term contracts running through 2028.

Pernix’s subsidiary, Pernix (Fiji) Ltd., has a 25-year contract with the Fiji Electricity Authority (FEA) to operate and maintain diesel-fired power generation plants located in Suva and Vuda, Fiji and to sell electrical energy produced, on a wholesale level, at a contractually determined rate, without risk of fuel price fluctuation. The contract for this project expires in 2028.

In 1999, FEA awarded Pernix the contract to expand the Kinoya Power Plant to 12 MW. The power plant, situated near Suva, the capital of Fiji, is part of the FEA grid and is the largest diesel-based power plant in Fiji. Due to high energy demand, low installed capacity and rolling power outages, FEA modified the contract to move the 12 MW machines to Vuda Power Plant, which is the second largest diesel-based power plant in Fiji, and to add 20 MW machines to the Kinoya Power Plant.

Both the Kinoya & Vuda Power Plants are fully compliant with the environmental regulations of Fiji, World Bank Guidelines, and engineering practice recommendations for ground level exhaust emissions.



Photovoltaic Pilot
Luganville, Espiritu Santo Island, Vanuatu

Pernix served as the program manager and owner’s engineer for the 40 kWdc Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic Project. This initiative is part of our commitment to advancing renewable energy solutions in remote regions, enhancing energy security, and reducing reliance on diesel generation.

The system was installed using 240-watt high-efficiency solar modules paired with SMA Sunny Tripower inverters, ensuring reliable conversion from DC to AC power. Additionally, the SMA Sunny Webbox system enables real-time remote monitoring and control from the central power plant, optimizing performance and maintenance.

This project not only supports sustainable energy goals but also demonstrates our technical expertise in integrating renewable energy into existing grids. By reducing fuel consumption and minimizing carbon emissions, it sets a benchmark for future renewable projects in Vanuatu and other remote locations.





Air Terminal Services Building - Nadi Airport - 175kW Grid Connect system with Winaico and Enphase Microinverters



Coralview Island Resort - 50kW Off Grid using Winaico and Selectronic



Jodie's Retreat - Savu Savu - 2kW Off Grid with Winaico

Systems installed by SEIAPI member: MV Solar - Fiji

Thank you to

