



Responding to climate change in partnership with our Pacific Island neighbours

Patrons: Mrs Bonita Mabo and Most Rev Bishop Peter Ingham

Pacific Calling Partnership Delegation to Kiribati



The PCP is delighted to inform our stakeholders of our latest delegation to Kiribati. The delegation is being led by Phil Glendenning, the Director of the Edmund Rice Centre, who is accompanied by:

- Dr Simon Bradshaw (Climate Change Advocacy Coordinator Oxfam)
- Mrs Ula Majewksi (GROW Campaign Lead at Oxfam Australia)
- Mike Bowers (senior Australian Photographer and Journalist)
- Dr Usha Harris from Macquarie University;
- and Aso loapo, Program Officer for Peace and Justice with the Congregational Church of Tuvalu

During their stay from 27 July - 3 August, the delegation is hoping to meet with President Taneti Mamau and discuss PCPs ongoing relationship with Kiribati, especially in view of the upcoming COP23 in Bonn in which Fiji will be playing a major role as co-chair. COP 23 will also be an important opportunity for all Pacific Island nations to have their voices heard. An important topic for discussion will be ongoing funding for adaptation and disaster preparedness from the Green Climate Fund.

In addition, the delegation will meet the Australian High Commissioner, Mr Bruce Cowled, Mr Choi Troy Yeeting, National Climate Change Co-ordinator in Tarawa, Kiribati and Mr Tukabu Teburoro, Director Phoenix Island Protection Area (PIPA). The delegation will be hosted, while in Kiribati, by Claire Anterea of KiriCAN (Kiribati Climate Action Network) with whom PCP has close relations and who is PCPs partner in the highly successful Kiribati Australia Tuvalu Exchange Program (KATEP).

KiriCAN will be taking the delegation members to the Island of Abaiang and specifically to the village of Tebunginako to see first-hand the areas already affected by the increasing severity of storms surges. Usha Harris, from Macquarie University, will be conducting a workshop for Kiribati Youth. There will be a meeting with Opposition Parliamentarians including Mr England Iuta and the Hon. Anote Tong, former President of Kiribati, who is also currently serving on the Board of Conservation International.

PCP is delighted that the delegation includes Mr Aso Iapo, from Tuvalu, who is a recent graduate of PCPs KATEP. Aso will be representing the Tuvalu Climate Action Network (TuCAN) and will thereby be strengthening the links between TuCan, PCP and KiriCAN.

The Pacific Calling Partnership and the Edmund Rice Centre have for many years been committed to raising awareness about Kiribati and the needs of its people in the face of climate change. With Kiribati being a front-line most vulnerable state, it is our belief that as Pacific neighbours, Australians have an obligation to ensure that people all over the world understand the challenges Kiribati faces and be encouraged to respond accordingly.

We are deeply grateful to Oxfam and Caritas, two of the foremost charities working in Australia, for coming to Kiribati with us and thereby gaining first hand knowledge of the plight of our Pacific neighbours who are already experiencing the impacts of climate change.

Community Climate Petition

Deadline 4th August: There is still time for you to sign or collect signatures for the Community Climate Petition.

The petition is an initiative of Caritas Australia, Uniting World, Micah Australia, Franciscan Friars, CLRINSW, TEAR Fund, Common Grace, Catholic Earthcare, Australian Religious Response to Climate Change and the PCP.

The petition calls on the Australian Government to:

- take stronger action to reduce Australia's emissions,
- make a faster transition to zero-net emissions, and to
- make more substantial support to communities affected by climate change.

The PCP actively supports this state-wide petition and encourages you to sign it. Please email jillf@erc.org.au for a copy of the petition or click on one of the links below.

[We need to make our voices for climate justice heard.](#)

**Be part of the
campaign**

If you can collect signatures from your church or local community, [please let us know.](#)

The Edmund Rice Centre is turning 21



Friday 8 September 2017

The Edmund Rice Centre turns 21 in 2017. Join us on Friday 8 September for an evening of celebration and inspiration with special guest speaker, the Father of Reconciliation, Yawuru man and former Royal Commissioner into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, Senator Patrick Dodson.

Over the past 20 years, we have worked to defend, protect and promote human rights and the rights of the earth - from the Sea of Hands, our international and national immersions, climate change advocacy in Kiribati and Tuvalu and our advocacy with and for refugees and people seeking asylum.

Tickets are \$80 or a table of 10 for \$750. Book your place today at www.erc.org.au/erc21 or for more information, contact Dominic on dominico@erc.org.au.

Gala Dinner details

Friday 8 September 2017, 6:30pm for 7pm
Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL
20-26 Canterbury Road, Hurlstone Park, Sydney

Afternoon Tea of Appreciation

As part of our 21st celebrations, Religious Congregation donors and supporters are invited to join us for an *Afternoon Tea of Appreciation* at the Edmund Rice Centre, Friday August 4th, 2.00pm. Contact Marisa on marisab@erc.org.au



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

The 2017 UN Climate Change Conference (COP 23) will take place from 6 to 17 November in Bonn, Germany and the PCP will be there!

COP 23 will be convened under the Presidency of Fiji, which means Fiji will provide political leadership of the Conference while Germany will host the Conference. PCP is sending delegates, including emerging leaders from Kiribati and Tuvalu. With Fiji as host we look forward to COP 23 having a strong Pacific focus and we are working to help ensure the “Pacific COP” delivers the strongest possible climate change outcomes for Pacific island countries and communities.

If you have any ideas for fundraising to help us attend COP 23, please email Jill on jillf@erc.org.au



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