



LISTENING TO THE PACIFIC

FRAMEWORK FOR PACIFIC REGIONALISM REGIONAL INITIATIVE SUBMISSION TEMPLATE 2016

The Framework for Pacific Regionalism

The Framework for Pacific Regionalism represents a high-level commitment to pursuing deeper regionalism and establishes a process for developing and prioritising regional public policy. It articulates the vision, values and objectives of an enhanced Pacific regionalism. It also sets out an inclusive process by which anyone can propose ideas for regional initiatives to address key challenges facing the Pacific. For more information, [click here](#).

Regional Issues and Guidance

When preparing your submission, think carefully about why this is an issue of regional significance and why it should be placed before the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum. For further information on the process and types of submissions being sought, please refer to the guideline below.

To Submit a Regional Initiative

1. Complete the below regional initiative template below.
2. Submit initiative to the Forum Secretariat by deadline: **5pm, Fiji time, Sunday 10 April 2016**.
3. Initiatives should be submitted to the Forum Secretariat, through one of the following ways:



Email

FPR@forumsec.org



Post

C/O Pacific Regionalism Adviser
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Private Mail Bag
Suva, Fiji



Hand Delivery

Reception
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Ratu Sukuna Road
Suva, Fiji



Fax

+679 322 0215 Attention: Pacific Regionalism Adviser

Please note that all submissions must be made using this template.

For more information contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat:
Email: FPR@forumsec.org | Phone: +679 322 0327

Feedback

Any feedback on this template or process: Email FPR@forumsec.org



FRAMEWORK FOR PACIFIC REGIONALISM – REGIONAL INITIATIVE TEMPLATE

Please complete each section below.

1. Contact Details

Please provide the following contact details:

Name of individual or group submitting initiative

West Papua Project, Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, The University of Sydney

Name and position of primary contact

Camellia Webb-Gannon, Coordinator, West Papua Project.

Email address

Phone number

Fax number

Mailing address

2. Name of Initiative

Truth and Reconciliation Tribunal for West Papua



3. What is the common regional issue or challenge that this regional initiative aims to address?

You may also want to address the following: What are the causes of this issue? Are there links to national, regional or international goals/policies?

Please limit your response to no more than 750 words.

The primary issue that this initiative seeks to address is the ongoing impunity of crimes against humanity and other human rights violations committed by Indonesian security forces in West Papua. West Papuans frequently assert that they cannot move forward without having their history of occupation and violations addressed by the Indonesian government, by perpetrators (where possible), and by complicit states in the international community. This is a regional issue because the international community has a responsibility to protect populations suffering from egregious human rights violations when the government of those populations is unable or unwilling to do so. The West Papua Project is aware of serious, mass violations against West Papuans who were either involved in peaceful protest for self-determination or who just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. We have a large volume of evidence to table to the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) on one such incident, the Biak Massacre in 1998, which was collected and collated from The University of Sydney's Biak Massacre Tribunal in 2013 and presented to Australian Parliament in 2015. The Project is also aware of targeted political assassinations and of torture performed on West Papuans presumed to be 'separatists' because of their ethnicity (all crimes, in any case, regardless of whether or not the victims supported independence). We present analysis of these developed from Indonesian security apparatus dossiers that were leaked to us in 2011 and which have yet to be investigated by the Indonesian state. Finally, through acts of settler and exploitation colonialism, West Papuans have become a minority within West Papua and are facing extinction of their customs, languages, traditional livelihoods, and customary lands. We present statistical analysis to demonstrate the rate at which this 'minoritisation' of the West Papuan population is occurring. Colonialism is a state crime, but companies such as Freeport McMoRan are also responsible for environmental and business crimes. We propose, in keeping with the 2001 Special Autonomy Law that included legislation for a human rights court and truth and reconciliation commission to be established, that these mechanisms be set up in West Papua under the oversight of the Pacific Islands Forum.

4. Briefly describe this regional initiative

You may also want to address the following in this section:

How would this initiative contribute to a positive change to the region?

Who are the main beneficiaries?

How would the initiative contribute to the vision, values and objectives of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism?

Has the initiative been carried out previously?

What are the key risks in implementing this initiative?

Are there any complementary projects and programmes that are currently active?

Please limit your response to no more than 750 words.



West Papuans keep their memories of gross historical wrongs alive, and pass these down to posterity, through their *memoria passionis*, a recitation of the deep hurts suffered as a result of Indonesian occupation and the spiritual, emotional and physical diminishment they experience as a result. Their *memoria passionis* will not be forgotten. It is how West Papuans remember who they are, who they were, and where they want to go. A truth and reconciliation commission will help West Papuans share the burden of *memoria passionis*, to face their oppressors, and to begin to heal. There is no way for conflict transformation to take place in West Papua without having past crimes acknowledged, even if not prosecuted. A truth and reconciliation commission would be a first and large step in the direction of bringing peace with justice to one of the most troubled territories and long-suffering people in the region. West Papuans will be the main beneficiaries, but Indonesia will also benefit with regard to its current reputation as a less-than-democratic regional player. Papua New Guinea will also be a beneficiary to an easing of conflict in the territory with which it shares a border and has received refugees.

The vision of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism states that the Pacific should be a “region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, and prosperity, so that *all* Pacific people can lead *free*, healthy and productive lives” (emphasis added). This initiative supports each and every Framework value as well as its objectives for increasing good governance and security. This initiative has not been implemented, despite it being legislated for within West Papua’s Special Autonomy Law in 2001. Key risks in implementing this initiative include noncooperation by Indonesian security forces and profiteers operating within West Papua. Overseas models, including that of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission established in 1995, could be looked to for direction. We recommend that the Pacific Islands Forum refer the case of West Papuan self-determination to the United Nations, which could also be an effective administrator for the truth and reconciliation commission.

Indonesian President Joko Widodo should be congratulated on his many statements expressing his desire to address the serious conflict in West Papua, however such statements have produced little change on the ground. A Truth and Reconciliation Tribunal would be a concrete step forward in dealing with past human rights abuses and developing protocol to prevent future human rights abuses, as defined under Indonesian law. This can only add to the successful economic development of West Papua and the prosperity and wellbeing of people not just in West Papua but the whole Pacific region. It will also enhance relations between Indonesia and the Pacific countries and add to regional security.



5. Why does this initiative require the attention of the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum?

Please consider whether this initiative requires the attention and consideration of the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum in order to be implemented and outline why this is the case. Could it not be overseen or implemented at the level of Ministers, officials or by a regional agency?

Please limit your response to no more than 750 words.

This initiative requires the attention and backing of PIF leaders because of the lack of will to implement such an initiative at the Indonesian state level, and because of the stalemate that could occur within the Melanesian Spearhead Group over implementation with members such as Papua New Guinea and Fiji being lobbied by Indonesia to treat West Papua as an internal 'Indonesian' issue rather than a Pacific one. This is problematic because, as stated before, Indonesia is the party protecting those committing the human rights violations and thus is either not able or willing to look after the interests of West Papuans. As such, higher level Pacific leadership is needed to guarantee that this issue is treated seriously and not swept under the carpet.

It is beholden on PIF leaders to address the worst and worsening human rights situation in the Pacific Region. Only with external pressure can the situation in West Papua be properly addressed and the Indonesian authorities be forced to act within international norms and afford their Melanesian citizens in West Papua their basic human rights under Indonesian law.

6. Attachments

Please attach additional information in support of this initiative.

Please attach no more than 3 pages.

7. Uploading initiatives to the Forum Secretariat website

In line with the process outlined in the [Framework for Pacific Regionalism](#), all submitted initiatives, inclusive of all attachments, will be publicly available via the Forum Secretariat website.

8. Guidelines and Contact Details

For further information on completing this template, consult the submissions guideline below or contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat: Email: FPR@forumsec.org | Phone: +679 322 0327



Submission Guidelines

These guidelines are designed to assist those submitting regional initiatives through the Framework for Pacific Regionalism. For more information contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat:

Email: FPR@forumsec.org | Phone: +679 322 0327

1. About the Framework for Pacific Regionalism

The Framework for Pacific Regionalism represents a high-level commitment to pursuing deeper regionalism and establishes a process for developing and prioritising regional public policy. It articulates the vision, values and objectives of an enhanced Pacific regionalism. It also sets out an inclusive process by which anyone can propose ideas for regional initiatives to address key challenges facing the Pacific. For more information, [click here](#).

2. How do I submit a regional initiative?

To submit a regional initiative, complete all sections of the submission template and submit to the Forum Secretariat by no later **5pm, Fiji time, Sunday 10 April 2016**.

Submissions must be made on this template. Submissions made directly via email, letter or other format will not be considered.

Delivery of submissions can be made via one of the following



Email

FPR@forumsec.org



Post

Pacific Regionalism Adviser
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Private Mail Bag
Suva, Fiji



Hand Delivery

Reception
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Ratu Sukuna Road
Suva, Fiji



Fax

+679 322 0215 Attn: Pacific Regionalism Adviser



3. Who can submit an initiative?

Any interested stakeholder can submit a regional initiative. This may include individuals, or groups of individuals or organisations, including government, civil society (including church or religious organisations), the private sector, community groups, multilateral agencies and CROP agencies.

4. What information is required?

In completing the regional initiative template, you should:

- a. Identify and seek to respond to issues and challenges that are common to the Pacific region and that could be best addressed through a regional response.
- b. Demonstrate that a high level political decision needs to be made.

This is not a process for seeking endorsement of existing projects or activities. No standing fund exists in which to allocate funds to initiatives that are endorsed. Submissions that consist of projects or initiatives that may be ordinarily carried out under the governance arrangements or work-plan of the submitting organisation are unlikely to be successful.

- c. Demonstrate how the initiative would contribute to one or more of the objectives of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism.

5. What assistance will the Forum Secretariat provide through this process

The Forum Secretariat will provide general advice and suggestions to those making submissions. This advice will include clarifying the information set out in this guideline, such as how initiatives can be completed and submitted; the type and level of information sought; the assessment process; and clarification of the overall process.

6. Assessment process

- Step 1** The Forum Secretariat will collate all submitted initiatives and check them for completeness.
- Step 2** The Forum Secretariat will, in collaboration with CROP agency officials and other experts as required, conduct a first round of assessment of all submitted initiatives using the tests for regional action (see Table 1 below).
- Step 3** The Forum Secretariat will provide all assessed initiatives to the Specialist Sub-Committee on Regionalism (SSCR), which will assess initiatives against the vision, values and objectives set out in the Framework (see Table 2 below). Reports on current regional initiatives under the Framework for Pacific Regionalism that are in progress will also be considered by the SSCR when they assess initiatives.
- Step 4** Based on its assessment of all submissions, the SSCR may recommend a limited number of initiatives to Forum Leaders. Those initiatives recommended to Leaders will be first sent to the Forum Officials



Committee for commentary and incorporation on the Leaders' annual meeting agenda. Forum Leaders will then receive the final recommendations of the SSCR and make decisions on these at the annual Forum Leaders Meeting. In 2016 this meeting will take place in the Federated States of Micronesia

Proponents whose initiatives have been selected for Leaders' consideration will be informed of this selection within two weeks of the SSCR's decision. All proponents will be informed in due course of the outcome of their submissions.

7. Leaders' decisions on initiatives

Forum Leaders' decisions on initiatives will be publicly announced through the Forum Leaders' Communique that is issued at the conclusion of the Leaders' meeting. As directed by Leaders, the Forum Secretariat will initiate implementation of the decisions in consultation with the proponent, the proposed implementing agencies, funding partners, and other relevant organisations or stakeholders.

8. Further help and feedback

For further information or guidance or to provide feedback on the process, contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat: Email: FPR@forumsec.org | Phone: +679 322 0327



Table 1 – Tests for Regionalism

TEST	CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION
Market test	The initiative should not involve a service that markets can provide well.
Sovereignty test	The initiative should maintain the degree of effective sovereignty held by national governments (countries, not regional bodies, should decide priorities).
Regionalism test	<p>The initiative should meet one of the following criteria at a sub-regional or regional level, in support of national priorities and objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ establish a shared norm or standard▪ establish a common position on an issue▪ deliver a public or quasi-public good which is regional (or sub-regional) in its scope realise economies of scale▪ overcome national capacity constraints▪ complement national governments where they lack capacity to provide national public goods like security or the rule of law▪ facilitate economic or political integration▪ Where benefits accrue sub-regionally, the contribution to broader regionalism should be clear.
Benefit test	<p>The initiative should bring substantial net benefits, as demonstrated by a cost-benefit analysis. The distribution of benefits across countries and across stakeholders within the region should also be considered—particularly with respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The relative costs and benefits for smaller island states (an “SIS test”)▪ How inclusive the proposal is of all stakeholders who might benefit from regionalism.
Political oversight test	The initiative should require the Leaders’ attention and input (as opposed to being within the mandate of Ministers or other governing bodies).
Risk and sustainability test	The initiative should demonstrate a robust risk and sustainability evaluation, be based on a sound implementation plan, be supported by some identified funding, and demonstrate available capacity and experience for successful implementation.
Duplication test	The initiative should not be currently under progress by another organisation or process, and there should be no duplication of effort.



Table 2 – Vision, Values and Objectives of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism

Vision:

Our Pacific Vision is for a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, and prosperity, so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy, and productive lives

Values:

- We value and depend upon the integrity of our vast ocean and our island resources.
- We treasure the diversity and heritage of the Pacific and seek an inclusive future in which cultures, traditions and religious beliefs are valued, honoured and developed.
- We embrace good governance, the full observance of democratic values, the rule of law, the defence and promotion of all human rights, gender equality, and commitment to just societies.
- We seek peaceful, safe, and stable communities and countries, ensuring full security and wellbeing for the peoples of the Pacific.
- We support full inclusivity, equity and equality for all people of the Pacific.
- We strive for effective, open and honest relationships and inclusive and enduring partnerships—based on mutual accountability and respect—with each other, within our sub-regions, within our region, and beyond.

These Pacific regional values will guide all our policy-making and implementation.

Principal Objectives:

- Sustainable development that combines economic social, and cultural development in ways that improve livelihoods and well-being and use the environment sustainably;
- Economic growth that is inclusive and equitable;
- Strengthened governance, legal, financial, and administrative systems; and
- Security that ensures stable and safe human, environmental and political conditions for all.