



Pacific Calling Partnership Annual Report 2018

The Pacific Calling Partnership (PCP) came into being in response to Pacific Island calls for solidarity in the face of climate change. We are committed to collaborating with our island neighbours in communicating and amplifying their climate change messages to the world. PCP seeks out and provides opportunities for Pacific Islanders to tell their stories to promote understanding of the impacts of climate change on their homelands.

Leadership and climate advocacy training

(KATEP) the Kiribati Australia Tuvalu Exchange Program has been a key PCP program for 5 years now. It combines capacity building, leadership training and climate justice and emphasises the importance of learning exchange between them and us.

February to May, Australian Awards Fellowship Program (KATEP in Australia for mid-level Kiribati leaders): PCP organised this comprehensive program in partnership with KiriCAN and it was fully funded by DFAT. Two PCP team members conducted prep meetings in Kiribati before the program then eight experienced and motivated participants from the education sector and the climate advocacy sector travelled to Australia for a 6 week capacity building program. PCP then made a follow up visit to Kiribati to consolidate the course and hear about the results of their individual projects. (This also provided an opportunity for the PCP team to have important meetings with key people).

Australian Government funding meant that we were able to give each participant a daily living allowance and they were accommodated in 2 apartments in Parramatta. It was an integrated diverse and flexible program which included trips to Canberra to meet with politicians and Australian Council



for International Development (ACFID); to Newcastle to see the coal industry; to the Australian Museum, to Universities, schools and key NGOs. It also included opportunities to meet with local Pacific Island leaders and with the Kiribati community here.

At ACFID in Canberra.

L to R M Baraniko, R M Teumauma, O Tion, P Alofa, Development Economics Advisor - A Malhi, C Anterea, T Karotu, T Bunaua, K K Riawata,



AAF program ends in Kiribati - presenting individual project reports to school principals and Education leaders. Program coordinator, J Frawley in foreground.

November. Part 1 of in-country KATEP for young climate leaders, Tuvalu

This program was organised in partnership with TuCAN (Tuvalu Climate Action Network) and was funded by donations from congregation supporters. Twelve participants took part in the 3 day intensive course then, with the support of a mentor from TuCAN, planned a team project to work on before part 2 planned for 2019. While there the PCP team met with the Prime Minister, MPs and church leaders and discussions saw the emergence of an additional partner for 2019: EKT (the Tuvalu Christian



Church).

Team activities during workshop

Building broader Pacific Island links and amplifying the Pacific Voice

August, Climate Induced Migration Conference in Tuvalu:

At the invitation of TuCAN, a delegate from the PCP team attended this conference as an observer. It was an important opportunity for PCP to learn about this difficult issue from the perspective of Pacific Islands. It also deepened relationships and led to significant new contacts.



Speakers at Climate Induced Migration Conference: Anote Tong, Emele Duituturaga (PIANGO Exec Director), Enele Sapoaga (Tuvalu Prime Minister), Maina Talia (TuCAN)



October, PCP organised a 2 week speaking tour in Australia of former President of Kiribati, Anote Tong:

This strategic program succeeded beyond all expectations. Numerous partners collaborated with PCP to help make it happen.

In Melbourne, Tong spoke at the launch of the film, Anote’s Ark and at numerous other events organised in conjunction with OXFAM and other



partners. He took part in a round table with OXFAM, gave another public lecture, and met with former CEO of the ACF, Don Henry.

In Canberra, following a reunion meeting with Senator Patrick Dodson, he had constructive meetings with MPs: Tanya Plibersek, Anthony Albanese, Richard Marles, and with Senators: Penny Wong, Claire Moore, Fieravanti-Wells, Hanson-Young and James Paterson.

In Sydney, Tong made a moving visit to the Australian Museum where he was consulted by curators of the Kiribati exhibit. He met with APHEDA and Trade Unionists and with NSW politicians from a range of parties at NSW Parliament House (pictured below). He took part in meetings and celebrations with communities from low lying islands. He conducted a workshop at Sydney University followed by giving a public lecture for *Sydney Talks* (pictured opposite).



Finally, the *Inter-congregational Voice on Climate Change* organised a standing-room-only event in his honour hosted by the Good Samaritan Sisters.

Media response,



Peter Hannam from the Sydney Morning Herald interviewed him and numerous other media reported on his visit. This whole program strengthened PCP's relationship with the mainstream media.

Seini Taumoepeau from ABC Pacific Mornings interviewed Vincent Sicari about the visit. Fran Kelly interviewed Anote Tong twice on Radio National. Jo Lauder from ABC Triple J and Rachelle Hunt from ABC Radio Afternoons interviewed him. He appeared on TV with Stan Grant on *Matter of Fact*, recorded an interview style documentary with *Climates*, (pictured opp) a church group of young leaders, and took part in a Facebook-live event with Caritas (pictured below)



Community Outreach in Australia

June, PCP began to establish the **Coconut Palm Space** within ERC for the use of people from the minority Pacific Islands: Kiribati, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands, Nauru and Tokelau. We are still exploring the best way for this to proceed. Anote Tong officially launched the Space when he visited Australia in October and his speech provided the Pacific communities with a clear update on how climate change is affecting low-lying islands.



The communities are using it for a range of meetings and ERC has provided coaching support to three university students. PCP has taken the opportunity of this deeper connection with these communities to extend the research it was conducting into attitudes of the low-lying Pacific diaspora to climate change. As in other years, PCP members were invited to attend the Kiribati Independence *celebrations* at Dapto in July

Monthly, The **Inter-Congregational Voice on Climate Change** is a separate unit attached to PCP. The group has expanded to 22 congregations including interstate representatives who come to monthly meetings when in Sydney.

It is now in its 4th year and during 2018 it contributed a significant **submission to the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Inquiry into the Strategic Effectiveness and Outcomes of Australia's Aid Program.**



Following the submission, the Parliamentary Committee invited the Inter-Congregational Voice to send a delegation to meet with them. It commended them on the submission and urged them to share their stories with more politicians by sending regular delegations to Canberra.

L to R Ms Sharon Claydon MP Sr Lynne Crilley pbvm Senator Alex Gallachor (Deputy Chair), Maria Timon-Chi-Fang, Sr Janice Ruff smsm, Senator Claire Moore, Mr Chris Crewther MP (Chair)

Workshops and Presentations

PCP conducted 23 workshops for schools, universities and communities. Eg in May, PCP spoke and ran a workshop for a weekend event put on by the Adamstown Uniting Church. PCP also extended assistance to international and local researchers.

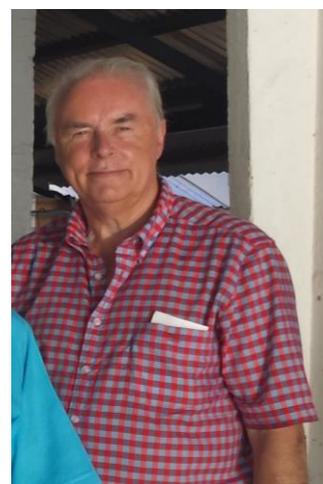
Interns and temporary volunteers.

These provided help to PCP's work and in turn PCP provided them with education and leadership development. Two from the US, four from Australia, one from Kiribati and one from Tuvalu worked with PCP for periods of from 2 – 6 months.

Universities: we had connections with: UTS, Macquarie University, Sydney University, ANU and UNSW.

NGO Partnerships: OXFAM, Caritas, Climate Council, TuCAN, KiriCAN and PICAN, Hearts above the Sea,

Patrons: PCP sadly noted the death in November of our long-term patron, Mrs Mabo. We are grateful for the support of our new patrons (1 to R) Meredith Burgmann (former President of ACFID), Cardinal Ribat from Rabaul, PNG and Richard O'Brien (former Irish ambassador to Australia).



Video: in partnership with CARITAS *A Message from young leaders of Kiribati and Tuvalu to the Australian Community.*

Information sheets: PCP has now prepared 9 Information Sheets which are available on the website.

Media

PCP newsletter: this is emailed regularly to 731 people.

PCP Facebook: Pacific Calling Partnership Group: 1185 members, Pacific Calling Partnership page: 1,200

Media Releases:

- July:** *'Climate change must be at the heart of any new Pacific agreement'*
- August:** *'Proposed NEG will lead to a loss of Australia's credibility in the Pacific'*
- August:** *'Australia's commitment to the Pacific? No way to treat family'*
- September:** *'World set to miss most important Paris target as leading international climate advocate visits Australia'*
- October:** *'Visit to Australia by former President of Kiribati, Anote Tong'*
- October:** *'Pacific voices slam Australia's inaction on emissions'*

October: *'Why Island Nation's isolation on climate change must end'*

November: *'Because of her, we can – a tribute to Mrs Mabo*

Funding: PCP can only do its work because of the generous support provided by all those who contribute so generously. Thankyou