

# PWWA NEWSLETTER

03<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 01<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023



## NEW ELECTED BOARD DIRECTORS



### CHAIRPERSON

**Name:** Fuimaono Dominic Schwalger  
**Category Elected:** Pacific Utility Member  
**Organisation:** Managing Director  
Samoa Water Authority



### VICE CHAIRPERSON

**Name:** Mrs Elizabeth-Wright Koteka  
**Category Elected:** Pacific Utility, All Member  
**Organisation:** Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure  
Cook Islands



### BOARD DIRECTOR

**Name:** Mr Frank Kyota  
**Category Elected:** Pacific Utility Member  
**Organisation:** Chief Executive Officer  
Palau Public Utilities.



### BOARD DIRECTOR

**Name:** Mr Richard Ashley  
**Category Elected:** Allied Member  
**Organisation:** General Manager  
Moerk Water, Australia

At the 2023 AGM of the Association held during the Annual Conference on 30 August, three new Directors were elected on the Board of Directors, to replace Mr Ian Gooden, Papalii Ruth Ueselani & Parkop Kurua, who had resigned from their respective positions as CEOs of member utilities they represented. The three new Directors will serve the remainder of the current three-year term of the Board up to the AGM in 2025. The three Directors are Ms Elizabeth Wright-Koteka Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure Cook Islands: Mr Frank Kyota, CEO of Palau Public Utilities Corporation and Richard Ashley, General Manager of Moerk Water Australia.

Following elections, the Board unanimously voted Mr Fuimaono Dominic Schwalger as the new Chairperson who had taken up the role of Acting Chairman when Ian Gooden resigned in July. Other appointments include appointment of Ms Elizabeth Wright-Koteka to take up the Deputy Chairperson role vacated by Mr Schwalger; Mr Paul Cobbin to take up the Secretary role vacated by Papalii Ruth Ueselani. These three and the Treasurer - Mr Marc Mocellin, General Manager of Caledonniene des Eaux, constitute the PWWA Executive Board.

The new Directors join other Directors who were elected in November 2022 including members of the Executive mentioned; Dr Amit Chanan of Water Authority of Fiji, Mr Abraham Aremwa of Nauru Utilities Corporation, Mr Erickson Sammy Director of the Department of Water Resources Vanuatu, and Mr James Logan National Products Manager of Hygrade Water New Zealand.

***Congratulations again to you all!***

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## 14<sup>th</sup> PACIFIC WATER & WASTEWATER CONFERENCE & EXPO & 7<sup>th</sup> MINISTERIAL FORUM 2023



All photos credit: Mr. Singe Hideos

### OFFICIAL OPENING



On the week of August 28-September 1, 2023, PPU and the Pacific Water and Wastewater Association (PWWA) co-hosted the 14th Pacific Water and Wastewater Conference & Expo and the 7th Pacific Water and Wastewater Ministers Forum at the Ngarachamayong Cultural Centre. This year's conference with the theme ***“Water Resilience, Infrastructure and Climate Change”*** was the first PWWA conference to be held in the North Pacific Region.

Over 200 participants including high level Ministers, senior government officers, utility CEOs, allied members from various private companies as well as youth representatives from across the Pacific came together to share their experiences, challenges, and success stories regarding water resilience amid worsening climate crises.



The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Frank Kyota, management, and staff of Palau Public Utility Corporation have worked hard to ensure that the Republic of Palau hosted a successful conference for PWWA.



The conference began with an official opening ceremony with His Excellency President Surangel Whipps, Jr. delivering the keynote address. Minister Charles I. Obichang as the Chairman of the Ministers Forum officially welcomed the delegations and opened the Trade Exhibition.

***We thank all our sponsors for making this year's conference a success. The Government of Palau, Australian Water Partnership, Palau Public Utilities Corporation, Hydroflux (Australia), SM Flow Company***



*(Philippines), and the Government of Samoa. Your assistance is a true testament of collaboration and Pacific regionalism!*

*We particularly thank our major sponsor, the Asian Development Bank for this event every year. Without your continuous financial support, we will not have the Utilities CEOs and their Ministers participate.*

*Lastly, a special shoutout and MESULANG to our hardworking organizing committee chaired by Mr Tmetuchl Baules for a job well done!*

### GIFTS EXCHANGING

Following the opening was the exchange of Gifts, where each participating country and utilities presented a small gift from their country to the host.



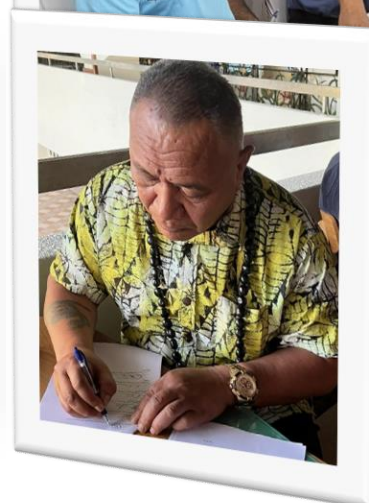


## MINISTERIAL FORUM

The Ministerial Forum held in conjunction with the conference provides a key mechanism for collaboration and partnerships amongst our member countries to boost and advocate for more support to the Pacific's water challenges. It provides a platform for advocacy on the priority that should be placed on water resilience in the face of climate change but also on the PWWA as a peak body for water and wastewater in the Pacific. The 7th PWWM Forum was attended by the Ministers from Nauru, Tokelau, Samoa, Palau, Vice Minister Papua New Guinea, as well as senior government representatives from Tonga, Vanuatu & Cook Islands.



## COMMUNIQUE SIGNING





## YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM 2023

A total of 22 young water professionals (YWPs) participated in this year’s program, which started online from July for 3 weeks. The program aimed to bring together YWPs from across the Pacific region to foster professional relationships, build networks, facilitate interactions with experienced water professionals including CEOs and equip participants with professional leadership, communications, and other skills. This important program is also a huge success to the work of PWWA and its donor partner – the Australian Water Program. It was a productive event with a great amount of positive feedback and energy on ideas to address the ongoing problems with water and wastewater resources in the Pacific.

A session with all utilities CEOs was part of their program and provided the opportunity to engage and gauge from these experienced water professionals their stories and advice of their journeys. The YWPs group had the opportunity to also present to the Ministers Forum and be provided feedback from Ministers.

### YWP Sessions 2023





**EXPOSITION 2023**

This year, there were 12 trade booths where exhibitors were able to participate in this year’s exhibition show to set up their displays.



The Expo gave private companies and agencies the opportunity to showcase their products and services. This is one of the most important part of our Conference, as this platform provided for members to showcase their products and emerging technologies to assist our water utilities improve their services to our Pacific people.



**LIST OF EXHIBITORS**

**C**  
CLA-VAL PACIFIC

**I**  
INSTRUMATICS

**J**  
JICA/PALAU

**M**  
MOERK WATER SOLUTIONS

**P**  
PACIFIC ENGINEERING PROJECTS LTD

**S**  
SM FLOW COPMANY

SOLO PLASTIC

SUSTAINABLE WATER SYSTEMS

**T**  
TUBEMAKERS



*Congratulations and thank you to all our exhibitors at the conference this year.*

## PWWA Water Professional of the Year 2023, Mr. Ian Gooden.



### **PWWA Water Professional of the Year 2023, Mr. Ian Gooden.**

A highlight of the acknowledgements made at the Gala Dinner to close the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Expo and 7<sup>th</sup> Water Ministerial Forum was the announcement of the **2023 recipient of the PWWA Water Professional of the Year Award.**

In his citation for the recipient of the award, the Chairman, Mr Fuimaono Dominic Schwalger had this to say:

*“The recipient of the 2023 PWWA Water Professional of the Year Award is a 200-mile an hour leader whose tenacity, honour and goodwill will remain as an unchallenged legacy, of the PWWA and SIWA, (the Solomon Islands Water Authority) for decades to come. In both organisations and in the wider Solomon Islands community he was a champion of action.*

*As an industry practitioner with military training, experience in roads departments across the region and over seven years of tenure at SIWA, Ian never rested and never gave up supporting the right cause. He was loved and respected by all who had the luxury of spending time with him in the sector.*

*In terms of action at SIWA Ian led the development of a 30-year strategy taking the organisation to a professional level directed with a long pathway to success set out for decades to come. On the back of the long-term strategic plan, he developed a parallel funding plan in the order of \$3.5 billion dollars. But as a man of action, he didn't stop there and secured first and second tranche funding worth \$100 million for infrastructure projects, the largest fund value in the history of SIWA.*

*In addition, Ian steamed head long into restructuring and improving the governance of the organisation, backing it up with a strong front line of hand-picked management team to ensure the long-term sustainability and transparency of the organisation.*

*As any of the CEOs here would know you can't just work on the organisation without having your Board and national politics on the side otherwise you be walking through mud and as we've already learnt, Ian will not shirk walking so as always Ian rolled up his sleeves to work with the legislature often challenging, always questioning and regularly workshopping national plans for the betterment of the utility and the communities it serves. This is a leader who not only talks the talk but walks the walk and I'm sure he has the scars to prove it.*

*In the words of SIWA's Chief Operating Officer Scavin Tongi ..... “Solomon Water is now a pillar of the public service and the country and in a much better state than it was when he joined in 2015.”*

*I could keep listing achievement after achievement but let's leave the Solomons with one of his largest legacies.*

*In his private time Ian and his wife ..... also adopted the job of resurrecting a school for the disabled; when they arrived, it was a hall of shame and when they finished rebuilding the school, the environment, and the people it can only be described in human terms as starting in a state of depression and ending in a state of joy and teachers actually smiling every day.*

*So let me now turn to his role on the board of the PWWA.*

*Ian was nominated to the board in 2017 and if reforming strategy in SIWA wasn't enough he turned to creating a new strategic plan for the PWWA from the ground up.*

*Ian was the driving force behind board members undergoing director training and a champion of active participation. For any of you who have sat here in this chair I can testify that joining the board now means commitment and taking action thanks to Ian's endeavours.*

*Sorry new board members we forgot to give you the heads up.*

*But I can see by those appointed that Ian's legacy of action will live on for many tenures to come.*

*Ian was passionate about organising and pushing for capacity building of utilities and was instrumental in securing funding for a Learning and Development Needs Analysis of PWWA utilities and the PRIF diagnostic study of utilities which identified the capacity gaps in utilities for achieving universal access to water and sanitation.*

*He was a constant mentor of the Young Water Professionals Program, and it didn't stop there. Ian would always find funding in his SIWA budget to bring half a dozen young engineers and staff to every conference to increase their exposure and elevate their careers.*

*I think we need to add selfless to his attributes.*

*On top of providing opportunity, he also personally mentored young professionals on Leadership; Gender equality; Social inclusiveness; Women on boards; and governance across the Pacific.*

*Like his activities in SIWA, I could continue but clearly Ian Gooden was a man of action, a man of honour and integrity who had vision and was intent on leaving a legacy of change and let's not forget the 200 mile an hour Duracell bunny approach to life.*

*Ian has left SIWA and his post as Chairman of the PWWA and in true Ian fashion is now cruising the bush lands of Australia in a 4WD campervan to recharge and reset before no doubt leaving another incredible legacy.*

*In Ian's absence we ask Scravin Tongi of Solomon Island Water Authority to receive the award on Ian's behalf."*

(Fuimaono Dominic Schwalger)  
PWWA Board Chairman





**PWWA AWARDS NIGHT - 2023 WINNERS**

**The Awards Night** paid tribute to all who worked hard to make the annual conference a success, from those who worked behind the scenes, the daily facilitators, coordinators, speakers and presenters, the host utility, government and country to the exhibitors, and all sponsors big and small.

A major part of this acknowledgement is the presentation of the utility benchmarking awards. The winners of the different categories were determined from data collected for the year 2022.

**1. BEST COVERAGE:**

- Group 1 – Caledonienne des Eaux, New Caledonia
- Group 2 – Palau Public Utilities Corporation, Palau
- Group 3 – Independent Water Schemes, Samoa



**2. COST RECOVERY**

- Group 1 – Caledonienne des Eaux, New Caledonia
- Group 2 – UNELCO, Vanuatu
- Group 3 – To Tatou Vai Ltd, Cook Islands



**3. BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE**

- Group 1 – Guam Waterworks Authority
- Group 2 – Chuuk Public Utilities Corporation, FSM
- Group 3 – Public Utilities Board Kiribati



**4. BEST TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE**

- Group 1 – Caledonienne des Eaux, New Caledonia
- Group 2 – Palau Public Utilities Corporation, Palau
- Group 3 – Independent Water Schemes, Samoa



**5. MOST IMPROVED UTILITY**

- Group 1 – American Samoa Power Authority
- Group 2 – Palau Public Utilities Corporation
- Group 3 – To Tatou Vai Ltd, Cook Islands





### 6. BEST UTILITY IN 2023

Group 1 – Caledonienne des Eaux, New Caledonia  
Group 2 – Palau Public Utilities Corporation, Palau  
Group 3 – To Tatou Vai Ltd, Cook Islands



### 7. 2023 EXEMPLARY ENGAGEMENT AWARD, awarded to Caledonienne des Eaux, New Caledonia



### SPECIAL AWARDS:

1. **GENDER BALANCE** - Chuuk Public Corporation, FSM
2. **WOMEN ENGINEERS** – Polynésienne des Eaux, French Polynesia
3. **EQUITY IN PAY** – Tonga Water Board, Tonga



### BEST BOOTH EXHIBIT 2023 EXPO (popular by vote)

#### BEST BOOTH EXHIBIT 2023:

Tubemakers from Fiji



#### RUNNER UP: PPUC/JICA





**PWWA YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONAL AWARD  
2023**



**PWWA 2023 Young Water Professional of the Year  
David Bai, Palau Public Utilities Corporation**

The recipient of the Young Water Professional Award for 2023 is David Bai from Palau Public Utilities Corporation (PPUC). David Bai is the Environmental Safeguard Officer of the Project Planning and Implementation Department of PPUC.

The Young Water Professionals (YWPs) Program aims to foster and promote the values of teamwork, collaboration, respect, and leadership while facilitating further professional development and acknowledging challenges faced and overcome. This year's group of YWPs have all displayed these characteristics which made selecting this year's nominee quite challenging.

“This year's recipient has been very supportive of his fellow program participants, has constantly engaged in the program, including the eight-week online sessions as well as here in Palau. What has been impressive about this young water professional is his quiet commitment to learning, participation, thoughtful contribution to the conference sessions and making himself available to ensure we get the most of our time together in Palau. David Bai represents what we have come to learn are the hallmarks of the Palauan culture of generosity and friendliness.”



***Congratulations Mr Bai and all the Winners!!***

AUSTRALIAN  
WATER  
ASSOCIATION

## Australian Water Association

(source Australian Water Association)

### Partnerships that work: Australian and Pacific water utilities find common ground building climate resilience.

In August 28<sup>th</sup> – 01<sup>st</sup> September 2023, key stakeholders from the Pacific water sector gathered for the [Pacific Water and Wastewater Association \(PWWA\) Annual Conference & 7th Ministerial Meeting of Water Ministers in Palau](#), under the theme of ‘Water Resilience, Infrastructure, and Climate Change’.

The Australian Water Association (AWA), supported by [Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#) via the [Australian Water Partnership](#) joined the program to co-present with [Solomon Water](#) and [Tonga Water Board](#), on the theme of ‘partnerships that work’. The article below is an abridged version of this presentation, presented by Scravin Tongi of Solomon Water, Paulino Lakei Fifita of Tonga Water Board, and Zac Rudge of AWA.

#### A need for collective action

To mitigate the impacts of climate change on water resources, infrastructure, and vulnerable communities in the Asia-Pacific region, there is an urgent need for collective action. By uniting efforts, through transformative partnerships between key stakeholders we can accelerate progress towards climate resilience, adaptive water management, and sustainable development.

#### Partnering for collective impact

AWA is partnering for collective impact with peak water associations and their members in Vietnam, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, and Tonga to achieve Sustainable Development Goals in clean water and sanitation, gender equity, and climate action, through the ‘Partnerships for a Resilient and Climate Smart Water Sector’ Program.

As part of this Program, AWA is partnering with the Pacific Water and Wastewater Association (PWWA) to support localised projects with Tonga Water Board and Solomon Water, who are ‘twinned’ with two Australian utilities: Unitywater, from Queensland, and Goulburn Valley Water, from Victoria.

### Supporting strategic organisational goals

These partnerships are locally led, prioritising equitable decision-making, capacity building, and knowledge exchange. They aspire to be transformational, supporting strategic organisational goals by:

- Building local leadership – centering local decision making in the partnerships, with support from international partners from Goulburn Valley Water and Unitywater
- Providing opportunities to try different approaches – the partnerships provide a safe setting for innovation, creativity, and to take informed risks.
- Improving core and critical business capacities – the business is to provide safe water 24/7, but the job never changes. It is how utilities do the job that can change for the better



Co-presenters Zac Rudge of AWA, Scravin Tongi of Solomon Water, and Paulino Lakei Fifita of Tonga Water Board at the PWWA conference in Palau.



- Increasing collective impact – climate change is a global issue, and it needs a united, global response

*“By building strong international partnerships, we are extending our disaster resilience and response teams beyond our national sovereignty. With more, and stronger networks, utilities are better able to mobilise resources when necessary, and we are better able to look after our global family”. - Scavin Tongi of Solomon Water*

Through these partnerships, we are more able to create change across the region on the big issues of climate change and access to clean water.

## The Partnerships

### **Solomon Water and Goulburn Valley Water Twinning Partnership: From Spring to Cash**

Through the partnership, Solomon Water and Goulburn Valley Water have created project teams to work on each of the following action areas:

- Finding solutions for rising sea levels: reducing saltwater ingress at Noro water source on New Georgia Island
- Reducing non-revenue water (NRW) in Honiara with a pilot in three district metered areas (DMAs)
- Strengthening the meter to cash process – mapping and identifying areas for development in the process, focusing on the same DMAs piloted in the NRW project

### **Unitywater and Tonga Water Board Partnership: Managing Assets, Disaster Response, and Operator Capacities**

Through the partnership, Tonga Water Board and Unitywater have created collaborative project teams on the following key action areas:

- Strengthening the asset management framework for TWB's new solar farm
- Increasing cyclone disaster preparedness and response capacities
- Operator capacity - building baseline operator knowledge and skills

## What makes partnerships work?

Based on Tonga Water Board and Solomon Water experiences with Unitywater and Goulburn Valley Water, here are some reasons why these partnerships are working:

- A commitment to work through the challenges on both sides.
- Openness, honesty, and time – truly knowing the realities of each organisation.
- Deep commitment to listening – understanding issues from local perspectives and finding common ground.
- Creativity and a willingness to take risks – being willing to fail together to learn and build trust together.
- Making accommodations – It is important to meet the needs of both partners by being flexible to daily operational needs

*“With these partnerships we are building long term relationships and capacity, not just doing projects. Let’s keep this partnership work an ongoing priority in the years to come.” – Paulino Lakei Fifita of Tonga Water Board.*

## The challenge

These partnerships are proving strong, and successful, but they are young. Achieving impact in one, two, or three years is challenging – we must think of longer timelines. What can we do now that will sustain impact in 40, 50, or 100 years time?

It takes time and investment to build respectful, impactful partnerships, where all partners can contribute fully. Together with PWWA, we are committed to strengthening the relationships that we have built, and to supporting the development of new transformative partnerships that can meet the challenges we all face from a changing climate.





## Water Authority Fiji

(source WAF)

### WAF at 27th Australia-Fiji Business Forum

The Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) attended the 27th Australia-Fiji Business Forum at Intercontinental in Sydney, Australia.



The Forum is the only bilateral business conference held between Australia and Fiji. It aims to bring together Australian and Fijian business and government representatives to discuss issues which are germane to the growth of bilateral business and investment.

The Forum also saw the welcoming of two of Fiji's three Deputy Prime Ministers, the Minister for Trade, Cooperatives, Small and Medium Enterprises and Communications, Hon. Manoa Kamikamica and the Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Hon. Viliame Gavoka - both Deputy PM's have attended previous

Business Forums in their former roles.

Whilst speaking at the business forum, DPM Hon. Kamikamica welcomed the members of the Fiji diaspora in Australia and around the World, to invest in Fiji.

"You are always welcome home, please feel free to bring your skills, knowledge and experience – let's "Rebuild Fiji Together" a "New Fiji" for our people", he said.



"There has never been a better time for our two countries to do business with one another and for Australia and Fiji to deepen our economic relationship", said Hon. Manoa Kamikamica.

Meanwhile, WAF CEO Dr Amit Chanan presented to the Forum on the Water Authority's FY23 Capital Works Program. Encouraging technical service firms and contractors to consider bidding for these works, essential for improving water and wastewater service delivery for Fijians.

WAF Director, Mr Graham Dooley also attended the two-day event, encouraging Australian firms to partner with Fiji.



## **Nakini Village Empowered with Solar-Powered Water Project**

The residents of Nakini Village, situated in the province of Naitasiri, are expressing profound gratitude for the Government's timely intervention after the commissioning of their water project today. The village was chosen as the pilot site for a water project that incorporates a solar-powered water pump and an Ecological Purification System (EPS), which will furnish the villagers with a reliable source of potable water. The initiative aims to tackle water source challenges and introduce solar pump technology to improve water accessibility and reduce environmental impact.

The project comes with a significant government investment of \$171,000.00 with the main focus on enhancing the availability of clean water in remote communities while harnessing renewable energy solutions.

"This approach is crucial to improving water accessibility, particularly in areas where communities either lack access to water or face issues with outdated infrastructure, such as ageing dams and reliance on gravity-based systems," said the Minister. "Over the coming months, the Water Authority will conduct a comprehensive assessment of the pilot project here in Nakini and, if proven successful, the government intends to replicate this solar-powered water extraction system across Fiji to significantly improve water access for all citizens," emphasized Hon Tuisawau.

The system currently in place combines water extraction through solar-powered pumps, water purification processes, and finally, the distribution of clean water to the taps in the community. This integrated approach is seen as a promising model for tackling water challenges in remote areas. In addition to the pilot project, the government is also working with the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) to explore climate financing opportunities for solar-powered water solutions in similar remote communities. Many communities, like the one under consideration, require the use of power to extract groundwater when the water source is at a lower level.

The Minister stated that the goal is to enhance the well-being of the community by not only granting market access but also by providing essential infrastructure support such as better roads and access to water.

Meanwhile, Village elder Eroni Koroiwaca thanked the Government for the timely assistance. "We are thankful Minister for the Government intervention and rest assured that this is the beginning of a new era for our village."

Mr. Koroiwaca said that the villagers no longer have to use river water for daily needs, and they look forward to a brighter future for their village through continued collaboration for future development.







*(source mork water)*

Moerk Water was delighted to attend and be among the exhibitors at the PWWA conference, this year in Palau as they do every year.

Moerk Water talked to a range of different utilities about water resilience and how renewable energy powered water treatment is the best option to build resilience for many countries. Dr Mat Francis also presented a technical talk on minimizing the cost of seawater desalination systems by designing smart renewable energy systems which extend operating hours and harness local renewable energy assets allowing for smaller treatment systems to be built. Moerk Water’s General Manager Richard Ashley was also elected as one of the allied directors of the PWWA board.

This was the first time the conference has been held in the North Pacific and allowed those who made the trip to explore beautiful, pristine Palau. Moerk Water would like to thank everyone who helped make the conference such a success particularly the PWWA secretariat and the Palau Public Utilities Corporation.

**Palau PWWA Conference Pictures:**



***Richard Ashley, General Manager Moerk Water, newly elected to the Board of Directors of PWWA with Dr Mat Francis, Director of Water Chemistry, Training and Capacity Development Lead.***



***MW delegates with CEO Elizabeth Wright-Koteka, Cook Islands Water Utility***



***MW delegates with Seymour Singh, WAF Fiji***



***MW delegates with Uatea Salesa, SPC***



**Edkarl Galing with colleague, ADB**



**MW delegates with Manasa Tusulu, WAF Fiji**



**MW delegates with new Chairman of PWWA, Fuimaono Dominic Schwalger, Samoa**



**Moerk Water booth with the wonderful PPUC volunteers**

## **Moerk Water's activities in PNG**

Papua New Guinea celebrated its Independence Day on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September with a public holiday on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September marking the occasion in 2023. Moerk Water's International Business Development Manager Barbara Brezger recently returned from Port Moresby where she was hosted by the Healing the Land Ministry as part of the dedication ceremony for the latest Moerk Water UV Filtration system due to be installed in Kiru, Central Province PNG. This containerised solution, which uses the latest in UV-LED technology, will treat the contaminated wells in Kiru to provide water both for drinking water and agricultural use.

Papua New Guinea faces many challenges supplying fresh water to its inhabitants. According to the latest Joint Monitoring Program report, generated by the WHO and UNICEF, only 37% of Papua New Guineans have access to a basic water supply. Water supplies in Papua New Guinea are contaminated with bacteria, sediment, and heavy metals. Moerk Water has been supplying Papua New Guinean communities with a range of renewable energy powered membrane filtration and disinfection treatment systems to ensure clean and safe drinking supplies are available to all.



## Upcoming Events

EVENTS	DATE
1. Pacific Resilience Partnership Meetings and side events..... (join the CEO and Secretariat talk about the role of water security in Pacific resilience on the 12 <sup>th</sup> October)	5 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> October
2. Fiji Day 2023.....	19 <sup>th</sup> October
3. International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023.....	13 <sup>th</sup> October
4. Water NZ Conference in Wellington, New Zealand.....	16 <sup>th</sup> –19 <sup>th</sup> October
5. 16-20 October PRIF Week 2023 – a virtual conference on “Quality Infrastructure for a Blue Pacific” (Speakers include Fuimaono Dominic Schwalger, Chairman PWWA and CEO Samoa Water Authority, and Ms Elizabeth Wright-Koteka, Deputy Chair PWWA and Secretary Ministry of Infrastructure Cook Island).....	15 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> October
6. Federated States of Micronesia Day 2023.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> November
7. Tonga Constitution Day 2023.....	4 <sup>th</sup> November
8. International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women 2023.....	25 <sup>th</sup> November
9. 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 28).....	30 <sup>th</sup> Nov–12 <sup>th</sup> December



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