

# SWPHC Hydrographic Leaders Program

Challenges faced by island nations



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South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission



# Outline of today's session

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- Introduction to the SWPHC HLP
- Challenges faced by island nations
- Responses to challenges
- Break-out session (25 minutes)
- Wrap up/Final remarks



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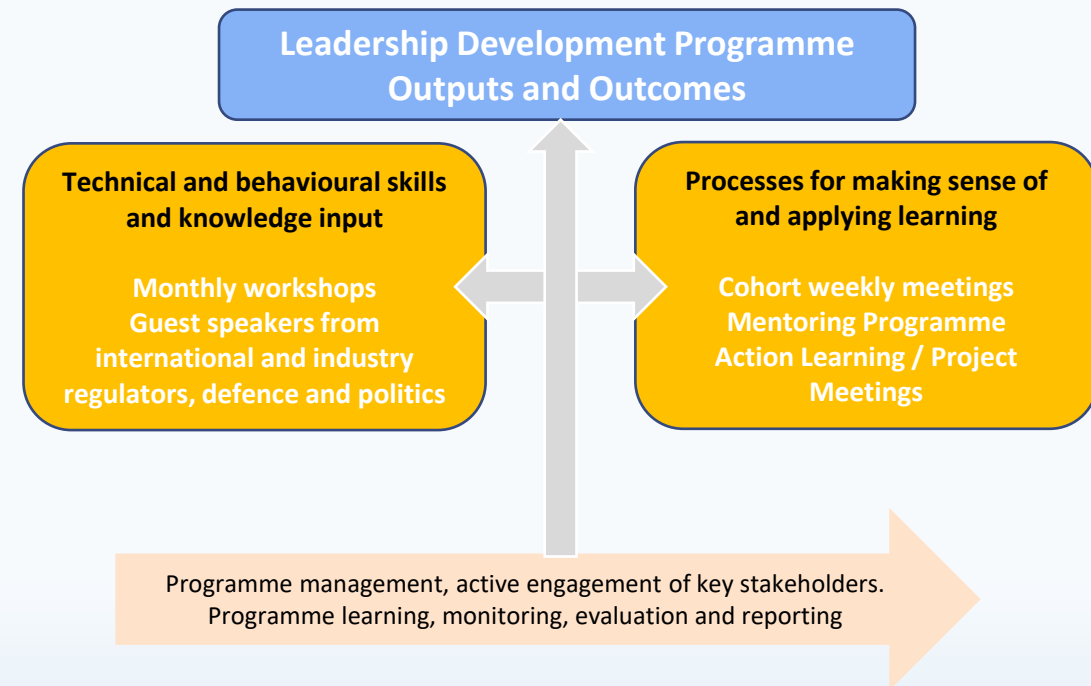
# SWPHC Hydrographic Leaders Program

The aim of the program is to increase the confidence and motivation of participants to:

- Lead hydrography work in their region, including formal leadership roles.
- Represent their region and nations at international fora.
- Increase their visibility through this program.

This is done through:

- Weekly cohort meetings
- Mentoring relationships
- Technical Workshops (e.g. Law of the Sea, Hydrographic Governance)
- “Soft skill” Workshops (e.g. “Right Conversation”)
- Guest speakers (e.g. SWPHC Steering Group members, and Abri Kampfer Director IHO)



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# HLP Participants

## Australia

Richard Vanderschoor  
Jonah Sullivan

## Cook Islands

Vaipo Mataora

## Fiji

Sulueti Savou  
Jason Morrell

## Indonesia

Ferry Muntahir

## Kiribati

Tion Uriam

## Niue

Steve Alapako

## New Zealand

Brad Cooper  
Jennifer Coppola

## Papua New Guinea

Derick Petrus  
Nicolas Pion

## Solomon Islands

Daniel Malesi Mani

## Tonga

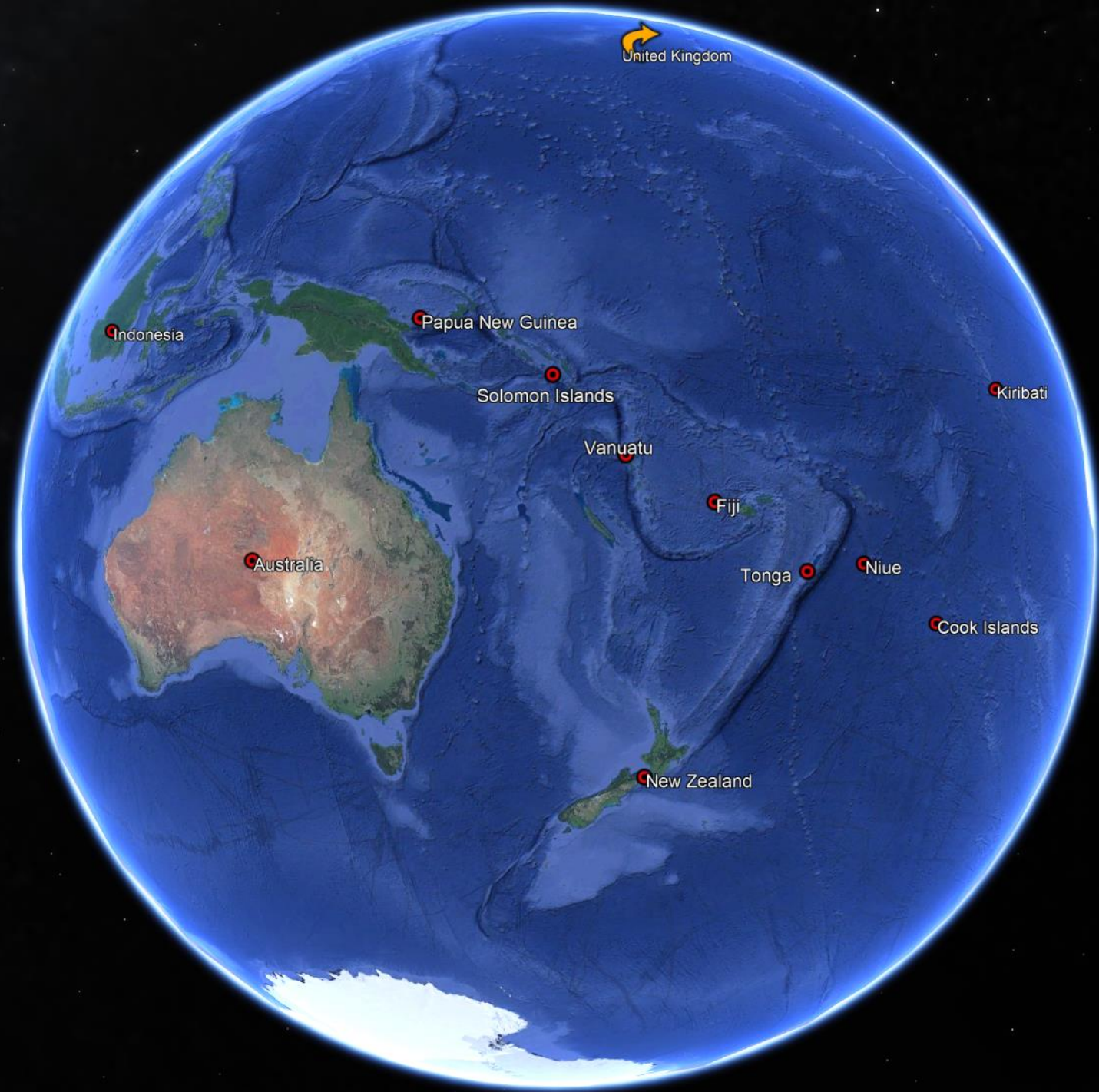
Sioeli Fifita

## United Kingdom

Daniel Miners

## Vanatu

Robson Tari



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# Challenges faced by island nations

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1. Different levels of capacity and requirements between nations.
2. People resources:
  - Limited people and resources.
  - Training and retention.
3. Technology and communications.
4. Limited guidance and processes.
5. Governments not prioritising hydrography.



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# Responses to challenges – PCA relationships

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- Linking up with larger HOs to understand processes and guidance.
- Focus on relationships at “working level”.
- Secondment opportunities.
- Consultancy visits to coastal states.



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# Responses to challenges – Capacity Building

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- Formal training:
  - In-person vs virtual
  - Reliance on PCAs and external organisations
  - Need to ensure transfer of knowledge
- Technology:
  - Can include access to technology, software licences, etc.
- Collaboration:
  - Peer-to-peer
  - Mentoring
  - Hydrographic Societies for outreach opportunities
  - Need for formal and information networks



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# Responses to challenges – Communication

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- Forums
- Technical meeting groups
- WhatsApp group
- LinkedIn group



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# Break-out session

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## Discussion Topics:

- Is there anything significant you would add or change to the challenges we have come up with?
- Which of our proposed solutions would you support?
- How do we convince governments to prioritise hydrography?

25 minutes discussion in groups of 5 or 6 people.

25 minutes discussion as a whole group

10 minutes wrap up and final remarks



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# Final Remarks

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- **Partnerships** – Build and maintain partnerships across the region sharing issues and ideas and approaches to solve each at the working level.
- **Capacity-Building** – formal, informal, different levels, sharing of knowledge and experiences.
- **Support** for HLP to be influential nationally, in the region and on the global stage.
- **Communication** is key!
- **Member Needs** – Members should have a greater responsibility in identifying their own unique needs and the direction their HO takes and the priorities they set.



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