



ICDP

International Centre for Democratic Partnerships

PACIFIC @ CONNECT

COMMUNITY



PACIFIC CONNECT VISION

Pacific Islanders, particularly women, develop self-sustaining businesses through innovation and application of digital technology.

The Pacific Connect program works under a broader guiding framework that supports our activities including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

We work in Australia and the Pacific to build connections, facilitate a greater exchange of ideas and expertise, and establish business relationships.

We believe that the spread of technology and innovation in the Pacific can support sustainable development.

We attract and encourage emerging leaders particularly women from the Pacific and Australia to join a growing community that empowers and enriches its members.

‘ESTABLISHING MEANINGFUL CONNECTION’

WHAT IS ICDP?

The **International Centre for Democratic Partnerships (ICDP)** is a not-for-profit organisation which aims to forge genuine and enduring strategic relationships between Pacific and Australian individuals and organisations. We leverage the extensive network of our strategic partners Global Access Partners (GAP) and Strategic Development Group (SDG) in Australia and the Pacific to build connections and establish business relationships.

WHAT IS PACIFIC CONNECT?

A program developed and delivered by ICDP which was announced by the Prime Minister of Australia at the 48th Pacific Islands Forum in Samoa on 8 September 2017. The aim of *Pacific Connect* is to help deliver the Government’s agenda to step up Australia’s engagement in the Pacific by working with local leadership to identify opportunities, individuals and coalitions for engagement under a theme of *‘Australia-Pacific Connections for the Digital Future’*

“I am grateful to ICDP for helping me find like-minded partners for implementation and growth – those who had the same dreams, goals and ambitious resolve.” - Pacific Connect Alumnus

“It’s [the Dialogue] has opened up a network of experts participating in something that will improve the Pacific’s infrastructure and development through technological and innovation advancements.” – Pacific Connect dialogue participant.

IT'S YOUR COMMUNITY

Whether you are new or an existing Pacific Connect Community (PCC) member we put this together for you to obtain key information to help make your participation enjoyable and valuable.

WHAT IS THE PACIFIC CONNECT COMMUNITY (PCC)?

Through the Pacific Connect Program, ICDP invites Australian and Pacific Island emerging leaders to participate in a series of activities designed to help cultivate relationships between individuals and organisations. Through attendance at these activities' participants become a member of a network called the 'Pacific Connect Community.' The Community provides a valuable platform for its members to continue collaborations, and to generate projects and activities to enhance and increase their network, learn from each other, and create sustainable business opportunities. The Community provides an avenue for individuals to amplify their voice and impact by working together.

PCC PURPOSE

The Pacific Connect Community works actively to foster and strengthen a transnational network of emerging leaders in Australia and the Pacific. The purpose of the Community is to facilitate and develop lasting friendships, partnerships and opportunities across a variety of sectors, including but not limited to business, academia, government, and civil society through:

- Identifying and participating in activities that support the current Pacific Connect theme – 'Australia-Pacific Connections for the Digital Future' and denoted future themes.
- Sharing cultural, professional & personal experiences and knowledge through creating tailored events/activities for Community members to connect and collaborate on common issues.
- Identifying & collaborating on projects that benefit Pacific peoples.
- Participating in unique mentorship & networking opportunities with Australian & Pacific leaders/organisations.
- Referring/recommending potential participants for future Pacific Connect events.

COMMUNITY HUBS

- PCC Hubs have been established in each country covered by the Pacific Connect Program (Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga & Vanuatu) to help support and coordinate Pacific Connect Program activities and PCC in-country activities.
- Each Hub has a Coordinator who is ICDP's & the PCC's main point of contact in country.
- Through the Hub Coordinator (HC) the PCC is encouraged to generate ideas and activities to enable continued engagement by PCC members and to attract new members as per the vision and objectives of the Pacific Connect Program.
- Hubs are safe spaces for collaboration, sharing and learning to support personal and professional development of PCC members.

HUB COORDINATOR ROLE

- The Pacific Connect Hub Coordinator (HC) in collaboration with ICDP organises and supports the Hub's growth and development through a series of activities.
- The HC's are encouraged by ICDP to provide a link between ICDP & the PCC for ideas and feedback to continually improve and grow the program.

ACTIVITIES

Below are activities of the Pacific Connect Program which are designed to increase capacity & collaboration and help generate projects & business ideas.

Workshops: to support capacity and professional development needs in technology & business innovation.

Dialogues: to encourage and enable existing Pacific Connect Community (PCC) and new participants to meet, collaborate, and develop networks & projects.

Annual Ideas Exchange: Australia-based event for active PCC and current leaders to share their ideas, showcase projects and broaden their networks.

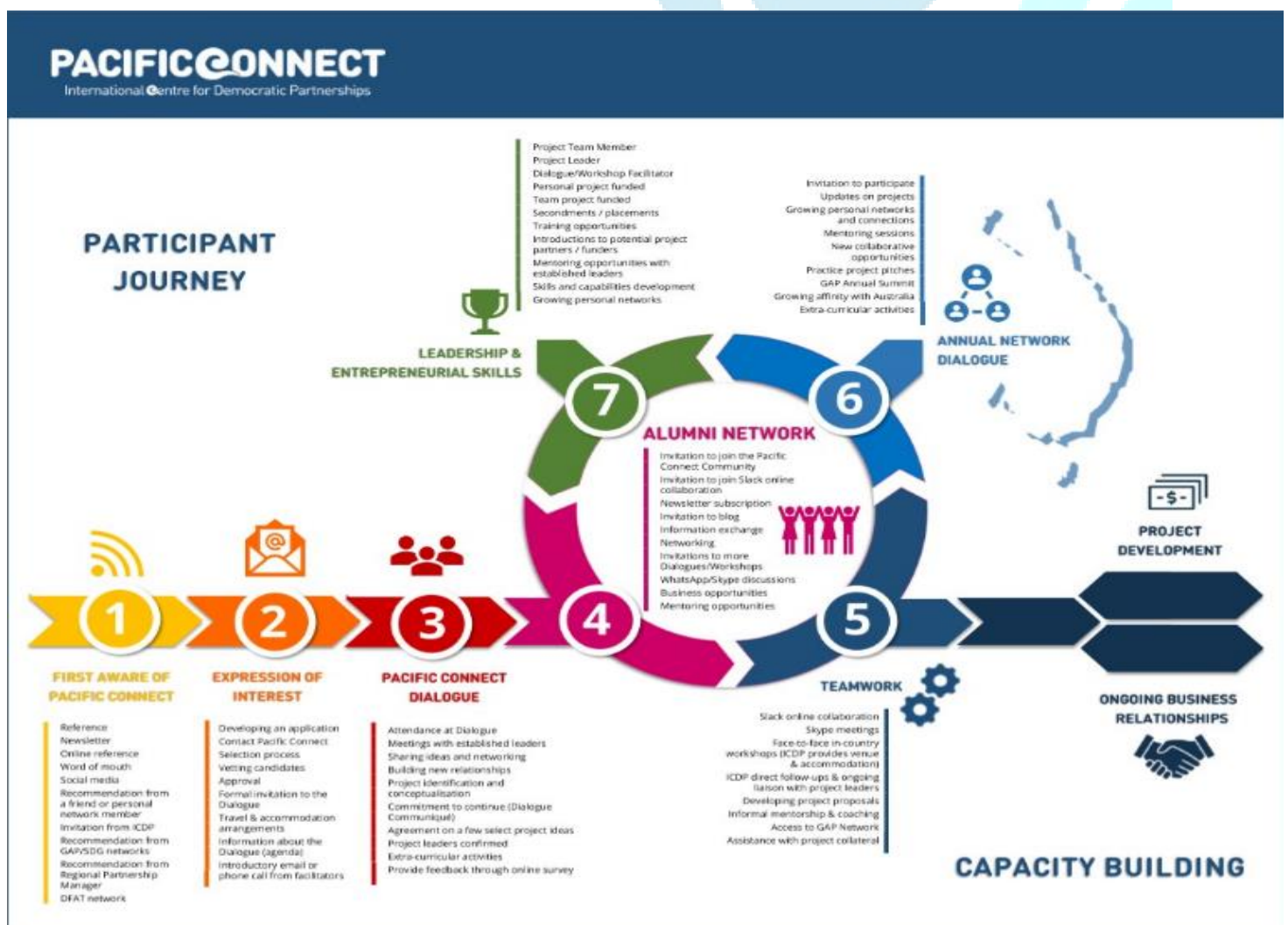
Strengthen individual connections: PCC access professional development, mentoring, advice, and support through referrals, and dedicated online platforms.

Identification and development of projects: PCC supported to develop new and continue collaborations and management of existing projects.

Seed funding opportunities: PCC projects kickstarted by the ICDP Micro Investment Initiative.

Building the Pacific Connect Community: facilitate member engagement in events, support self-initiation of project/activities.

Communications: utilise online technologies & platforms to enable collaboration, information sharing, promotion of Pacific individuals, organisations & stories.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING – ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

PCC Hubs & Project Teams may be eligible to receive limited funding from ICDP to support specific engagement activities and as 'seed' funding for generating proposals/projects that meet Pacific Connect objectives. Requests for funding will be granted at the discretion of the ICDP CEO & Board. All funding will need to be administered and acquitted through consultation between ICDP and the Project Lead or Hub Coordinator.

Project Funds are provided on a case-by-case basis and are subject to availability. Project proposals will need to be coordinated and submitted through the ICDP Micro Investment Initiative – ICDP will supply relevant documents for the application.

Hub activities/events and proposals should be designed to enhance network connections and meet Pacific Connect objectives and the current theme. This funding will be coordinated through the Hub Coordinator.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- Organise an activity – members can work with the Hub Coordinator to organise a local or regional activity to help sustain and expand the Pacific Connect network and to enable further discussions and projects on the theme 'Australia – Pacific Connections for a Digital Future'.
- Become a mentor – members who wish to act as mentors for other members to provide coaching and leadership support.
- Attend Community Activities – members are a valuable resource and contributor to events and projects and for feedback on the Pacific Connect program to help shape it going forward. Members also contribute to extending the network and bringing new members to the Community.
- Take a leadership role – members can identify and lead a project or business opportunity, contribute expertise to other projects and/or champion collaboration opportunities for fellow members.
- Share opportunities – members are encouraged to share business and funding opportunities.

COMMUNITY MEMBER BENEFITS

- Improved access and connectivity to individuals and networks in Australia and the Pacific.
- Raised visibility of achievements within own country and through ongoing connections to Australia & the Pacific.
- Platform to create new opportunities – career, community, business, culture.
- Access to funding for engagement activities/events and for developing business opportunities.
- New opportunities to build connections with Australian government, business, academia, civil society and individuals.
- Increased access to specialised and tailored mentoring and capacity building.
- Open access to the broader Pacific Connect / ICDP networks.
- Flexibility to 'shape/influence' Community for mutual benefit.

ICDP INVESTMENT & SUPPORT

The ICDP, through its government, business, and academic networks, will invest in and support the Community by:

- engaging with and connecting members and supporting Community generated projects and activities.
- providing advice and coaching on the development of project concepts and proposals.
- identifying potential investors.
- linking individuals and groups with business and mentoring opportunities.
- expanding professional and personal networks and building leadership capacity.
- sharing its Social Media and website mediums to highlight and support Community activities.

It is envisaged that the Pacific Connect Community will influence the activities of the Pacific Connect Program through Hub Coordinators & activities.



PCC meet at the 2019 Annual Ideas Exchange - Sydney

NETWORKING ideas **ADVICE**
Projects **Mentoring**
collaboration **Culture Dialogue**
Business opportunities

COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the Pacific Connect Community are encouraged to use ICDP and Pacific Connect social media channels to promote their activities and provide regular blog content. Assistance in establishing and maintaining these online networks will be provided to HC's by the ICDP Communications Coordinator. ICDP will work with the Hub Coordinators on activities/events to feed into its overall reporting for the Pacific Connect program.

When considering its social and online media presence, the HC's & Community Members are asked to sign up to the:

- ICDP newsletter via the ICDP website: www.icdp.com.au
- ICDP LinkedIn - [linkedin.com/company/international-centre-for-democratic-partnerships/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-centre-for-democratic-partnerships/)
- Twitter account - @Pacific_Connect
- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalCentreforDemocraticPartnerships>
- Pacific Connect Network Slack site – [Pacificconnectnetwork.slack.com](https://pacificconnectnetwork.slack.com)