

Empowerment through Entrepreneurship

**ICDP case study of
Australia-Pacific Islands
cooperation**

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Australia – a marine nation

The world's third-largest maritime jurisdiction spanning 10.2 million km²



99% of goods imported in volume come by sea



The Blue Economy:

- \$118 billion revenue
- 462,000 jobs



12% of the world's blue carbon ecosystems



Fisheries & aquaculture, offshore energy, Shipping, tourism



Challenges

Australia's coasts and marine ecosystems are facing a range of threats, including climate change, coastal development, land-based run-off and direct human uses



Australia – a marine nation

**Australian Government's
Sustainable Ocean Plan
2023-2025**

**ABS National Ocean
Accounts since 2022**

**Member of the global
Ocean Panel**

**Signatory of the 2023
UN High Seas
Biodiversity Treaty**

**The Blue Economy policy is part of
Australia's commitment to Net Zero by 2050**

The South Pacific



Australia

Brisbane

Papua New Guinea

Goroka

Lae

Port Moresby

Solomon Islands

Honiara

POLYNESIA

Vanuatu

Port Vila

Nadi

Suva

Fiji

Apia

Samoa

Nuku'alofa

Tonga



Pacific Islands

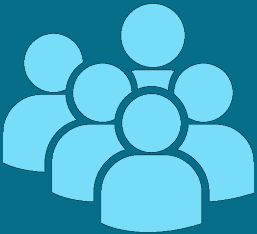
- **Hotspot for climate change and disaster risk**
- **The most aid-dependent region in the world**
- **75% of Pacific Islanders live in rural areas and rely on agriculture and fishing for their livelihoods**
- **Outside the agricultural sector, men outnumber women in paid employment by 2 to 1, and earn 20-50% more than women**

International Centre for Democratic Partnerships

- **Established in 2017 through
GAP 'Second Track' process**
- **Strengthening Australia-Pacific
relations and cooperation on
common challenges**
- **Australian and Pacific Islands
entrepreneurs working
together**



Australia/Pacific Network



1300+

66%  women





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Blue Economy Dialogue

- 1. New sustainable SMEs to diversify beyond 'tuna and tourism'**
- 2. Innovative financing and business models**
- 3. Tourism opportunities**
- 4. Transport and shipping opportunities**
- 5. Locally led solutions**
- 6. Support for women-led Pacific enterprises**



Less than a Container Load

- **Small volume challenges for agricultural exporters in Solomon Islands**
- **Reducing the cost of freight and logistics**
- **Impact of ESG regulations on Pacific supply chains**
- **A digital platform to aggregate small farmers' produce**



Blue Economy Partnerships

Is there an opportunity to build on ICDP's work with Pacific SMEs and entrepreneurs and do similar projects with Brazilian SMEs?



Thank you

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