



Pacific School Food Network

Launch event

October 27, 2021



hello@pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



www.pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



[@PacSchoolFood](https://twitter.com/PacSchoolFood)

1



Pacific School Food Network

Welcome



hello@pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



www.pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



[@PacSchoolFood](https://twitter.com/PacSchoolFood)

2



Zoom etiquette

- Please mute your microphone
- Please add questions to the chat function
- Please keep your camera off, unless you are speaking

3



Agenda

- Background to the PSFN
- Our vision
- Guest speakers
 - Mrs Alvina Karan, National Food and Nutrition Centre, Fiji
 - Ms Josephine Maelaua, Solomon Islands National University / Ms Jill Losi, Ministry of Health, Solomon Islands
 - Ms Brynn Demei, Ministry of Education, Palau
 - Dr Viliamu Pukola, Senior Health Promotion Strategist Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand, Research Fellow Otago University
- How to get involved

4

Acknowledgements

- Ateca Kama
- Bridget Horsey
- Bridgith Suruweng
 - Brynn Demei
- David Drummond
 - Don Kadir
- Josephine Maelaua
 - Kariea Akau
 - Melissa Poang
- Tebawaatoki Taawetia
- Tabera Tekatu
- Sefano Katz
- Steven Underhill
- Ulumila Matairakula
- The GCNF team: Arlene Mitchell, Mamta Gurung Nyangmi and Melissa Pradhan

5

Executive Team



Chair

Dr Sarah Burkhart

University of the Sunshine Coast



Vice-chair

Associate Professor Pragya Singh

Fiji National University



Education/Capacity building lead

Ms Ann Hayman

FAO-UN Sub Regional Office for the Pacific Islands

Research lead

Dr Danny Hunter

Senior Scientist, Alliance for Biodiversity International and CIAT



Communications lead

Ms Jessica Raneri

Senior Nutrition Sensitive Agricultural Advisor to ACIAR and DFAT



Advocacy/Policy lead

Ms Clarissa MacKay

Eat Right Be Bright



6

School food and nutrition environments

School food and nutrition environments offer an entry point to reach children, parents, school staff and the wider community to improve food consumption behaviours.

They can include relevant policy and standards, provision of nutritious food in and near schools, nutrition education and complementary activities, for example integrated curriculum using school gardens for practical learning experiences.

7

The PSFN

- 2018/2019 projects undertaken by USC and FAO
 - Regional studies explored the current state and capacity for school nutrition education and school food programmes
 - A key recommendation: establishment of a mechanism to support collaboration and sharing of resources and experiences.
- The idea for a Pacific School Food Network was started by a small group at the Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF) Forum in December 2019.

8



Our Vision

The vision of the PSFN is to improve the health of Pacific Island children, their families and their communities through healthier school food and nutrition environments.

9



Our Vision

The Pacific School Food Network aims to provide:

- opportunities for collaboration, networking, and capacity building for those interested in school food activities
- a forum for technical input into school food provision and nutrition education activities
- a forum for policy guidance and leadership for healthier school food environments
- an avenue for sharing information and resources
- advocacy for research and greater evidence to inform school food activities
- resource mobilisation for research to inform school food activities and implementation to improve Pacific school food environments.

10



Guest speaker

Mrs Alvina Karan

Senior Nutritionist National Food and Nutrition Centre

Fiji

11



Guest speaker

Ms Brynn Demei

Ministry of Education

Palau

12



Guest speaker

Mrs Jill Losi

Ministry of Health

Solomon Islands

13



Guest speaker

Dr Viliamu Pukola

Senior Health Promotion Strategist, Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand

Research Fellow, Otago University

14



The PSFN

An urgent need to address a lack of awareness, operational budgets and other constraints that can currently limit the provision of healthy food options, and the need for standards to guide food production and provision in and near schools in our Pacific Islands region.

We expect to

- help define future entry points,
- identify research/evidence gaps and priority areas of future investment in our region,
- share good practices, lessons learned, and valuable experiences,
- help national authorities and their partners to better inform decision-making and to improve policies and programmes.

15



We invite you to join us

Criteria for joining the network as a member includes:

- An interest in Pacific school food and nutrition environments and systems
- A desire to collectively work towards the Pacific School Food Network vision

**All members, including those within the Executive Team, will be required to declare all conflicts of interest on joining.*

Members have access to newsletters/communication (e.g. by list-serve) and opportunities to attend webinars and events presented and hosted by the Pacific School Food Network.

Members can also elect to take part in a working group through an expression of interest process or may submit ideas for working groups.

16



We invite you to join us

- Sign up on www.pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org
- You will be prompted to add your details, and to answer two brief questions
- Your application will be assessed by the Executive Team, and you will be advised of the outcome via email
- We welcome stakeholders from the many areas/sectors that link with school food and nutrition



hello@pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



www.pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



[@PacSchoolFood](https://twitter.com/PacSchoolFood)

17



Pacific School Food Network

Thank you for joining us today



hello@pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



www.pacificschoolfoodnetwork.org



[@PacSchoolFood](https://twitter.com/PacSchoolFood)

18