Whakarongo ake au ki te tangi a te manu
Tui, tui, tuituia
Tuia i runga, tuia i raro, tuia i roto, tuia i wahoi
Tuia te here tangata
Ka rongo te pō! Ka rongo te ao!
Tui, tuituia.
Tuia te muka tangata
I takea mai i Hawaiki-nui, i Hawaiki-roa, i Hawaiki-pāmamao
Ki te wheiao, ki te ao mārama
Tihei mauri ora!

I listen to the call of the bird
Unite, bind and come together
From above, below, within and beyond
Uniting mankind
It is heard night and day
Interweaving the genealogical thread of mankind
Emanating from the great place of Hawaiki
Into the world of light toward illumination
It is done.

E te Iwi, tēnā koutou katoa.
Nau mai, haere mai ra.

Contents
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Final Call: Register now!
HPF Symposium 2012
Te Mana Taurite ā Tāngata - He Whakaoratanga mo te Ao Hurihuri
Epidemics and Economics- Equity in a changing world

Thursday 5 July and Friday 6 July

Brentwood Hotel, Kilbirnie, Wellington

The severity of the economic situation both globally and locally appears to be having a direct impact on the emergence and inequitable distribution of communicable and non-communicable disease in New Zealand.

This year’s Symposium will look at the interrelationship between epidemics, economics and how these factors impact on equitable outcomes in health. What can Public Health and Health Promotion practice learn from the evidence?
Key note speakers

**Honourable Tariana Turia**, Associate Minister of Health

**Assoc Prof Michael Baker**, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health, University of Otago

**Assoc Prof Rhema Vaithianathan**, Director, CARE Department of Economics University of Auckland

**Dr Clair Mills**, Senior Lecturer at Te Kupenga Hauora Maori, University of Auckland

Here is the link for registration and full programme on our HPF website. For further information within the next couple of weeks and to register go to:


**Changes at HPF**

**HPF Board appoints new Executive Director**

Sione Tu’itahi is the new Executive Director of the Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand *Runanga Whakapiki Ake i Te Hauora o Aotearoa*. An educator, author and public health professional, Sione has been the Deputy Executive Director of the Forum for the past four years.

“We are delighted to have Sione with his wealth of professional experience and leadership in the education and public health sectors over the last 18 years,” says Donna Leatherby, Chairperson of the Forum.

Sione joined the Forum in 2005 after six years as Pacific Manager at the Auckland Regional Public Health Service. He has also taught at a number of tertiary educational institutions. For more than ten years he led the building of Pacific capacity at Massey University. A former journalist and broadcaster, Sione is the author of a number of books, academic papers, and children’s stories. As a voluntary community worker, he is a member of the Pacific Peoples’ Advisory Panel to the Auckland City Council.

“I am honoured and delighted to work with a great team at the Forum, contributing to the hauora and holistic wellbeing of all peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand,” says Sione.

“Building on the great work of those who came before us, our team will continue working together with other organisations in the health sector and other sectors and communities to address inequities and the underlying determinants of wellbeing, and to ensure that hauora is everyone’s right.”

Sione takes over from Dr Alison Blaiklock who successfully led the Forum for eight years before she resigned in order to take up further studies in tropical medicine and public health with James Cook University, Australia.

**From the Guest Editor, Ieti Lima**

Welcome to this issue of Rongo Korero o Hauora post-Helen. It actually feels strange that someone else other than Helen could possibly be preparing this, and subsequent editions of this valuable resource. Rongo, under the editorship of Helen, has been an important part of the HPF’s work for the past three years, informing and updating the
sector about developments, political, economic and social changes, as well as promotions, new appointments and movements of personalities within the public health and health promotion sector. Other aspects of the HPF’s work, particularly liaising and networking with the workforce in the South Island have also been important components of the work of the HPF which have been enhanced using Rongo.

Whilst the content and style of presentation of Rongo may never be the same again, the role and task of guest editors from here on, would benefit greatly by learning from Helen’s legacy of ensuring that the material included is interesting, style of writing is clear and easy to read, and content relevant to the sector and general readership.

I confess it is going to be a difficult task to try and follow what Helen has achieved with this E-news Bulletin. I am also mindful of the high standards and professionalism she brought to it. Her network of colleagues and members of the sector who communicated information for her to share is testament to that. For now, I can only try to do the best possible to ensure the hard work that our colleague has invested in this project, will continue to provide the workforce and community readership with the quality of information which Helen has done over the past three years.

Other people

**Professor Sir Mason Durie to retire**
HPF wishes to acknowledge Professor Sir Mason Durie, who is retiring from his Massey University positions of Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Assistant Vice-Chancellor Maori and Pasifika.

Among his many contributions to New Zealand in the fields of education, health, leadership, and Maori development, Sir Mason was a keynote speaker of several HPF conferences over the years, providing strategic directions and frameworks for health promotion such as his model of *Te Pae Mahutonga* in 1999.

At the HPF 2011 symposium in Wellington, Sir Mason presented a “Decade Two Framework” for considering the practice of health promotion.

**HPF wishes to send its congratulations to Dame Mabel June Hinekahukura Mariu** from Te Whanau A Apanui. Dame Mariu was made a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list, for services to Maori and the community. She is a former member of HPF’s board. Dame Mariu is also a past president of the Maori Women’s Welfare League, and a former Silver Ferns captain.

**Sene Kerisiano: Senior Advisor Pacific, Infrastructure Public Health, Ministry of Health**

Meet Sene Kerisiano, Senior Pacific Advisor, Public Health Group, Ministry of Health. A public health nurse by training, Sene has been working with a Pacific team from the Health Promotion Forum to advance the Pacific goal of *Te Uru Kahikatea: Public Health Workforce Development Strategy*. As a result of this collaboration, a contract to develop and implement a plan for Pacific public health workforce development has been awarded to Le Va.

As the Pacific unit of Te Pou, Le Va is New Zealand’s national coordination service and workforce development programme for Pacific mental health, addictions, disabilities and general health.
Te Pou is a national service that works to support and develop the mental health, addiction and disability workforces in New Zealand.

Visitors to the HPF

Hon Jo Goodhew
Responding to an invitation, Hon. Jo Goodhew, Associate Minister of Health visited the HPF on Friday 15 June. Workforce development and the role of health promotion in primary healthcare were some of the major topics discussed.

Hon. Goodhew, MP for Rangitata, is also Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Minister for Senior Citizens, Minister of Women's Affairs.

News and Issues
Health Promotion

Diploma in Health Promotion
Manukau Institute of Technology (MIT), Faculty of Nursing and Health Studies continues to offer the Diploma in Health Promotion. The next class commences in July 2012.

The Diploma in Health Promotion (Level 6, 120 credits) runs part time over two years at MIT in Otara, Auckland.

The Diploma in Health Promotion is suitable for people currently working in the health promotion field who have not previously had the opportunity to gain a formal qualification or those seeking to gain skills to enter the health promotion workforce.

The aim of the Diploma is to prepare students with the knowledge and practical experience that enables them to work as confident health promoters across diverse communities and settings. Graduates are prepared to develop their leadership potential and apply the theories, concepts, principles and values relating to health promotion in their practice. The Diploma in Health Promotion will provide a qualification and career pathway for health promoters. Scholarships are available for those currently employed in a public health role.

If you would like to register your interest to receive more information about the Diploma in Health Promotion please email Jenny Bratty at <jenny.bratty@manukau.ac.nz> or phone 09 9688000 ext 8810.

Find out more about the programme.

NEW Course at AUT – Postgraduate Diploma in Arts with a Pacific Studies Focus
This postgraduate diploma focussing on Pacific Studies starts Second Semester - 16 July 2012. The core paper 918404 Pacific Epistemologies (30 points) will be taught at the AUT Manukau campus. The first class for this course will be on Monday 16th July from 5-8pm and future class times will be arranged after that first class.

For more information, please contact the AUT Student Centre on 0800 AUT UNI, studentcentre@aut.ac.nz or contact Salainaoloa Wilson on salainaoloa.wilson@aut.ac.nz or 09 9219999 x 6041.
**Ministry of Health**

Rheumatic fever programme expanded

25 May 2012

The Ministry of Health’s Rheumatic Fever Prevention Programme is funding new health services, including school-based sore throat swabbing services, to help with the early detection of throat infections that can lead to this serious disease.

More than 35,000 children are enrolled at more than 100 schools involved in the swabbing programme, part of a $24 million five-year campaign to reduce rheumatic fever.

Rheumatic fever can result from a throat infection caused by Group A Streptococcus (GAS) bacteria if not identified and treated early enough. It can also cause permanent heart damage and reduce life expectancy. Children between 5 and 14 years of age are particularly affected and Maori and Pacific children nationwide have 20 to 40 times higher rates of the disease than other groups.


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**HIIRC Digest - Issue 21 – 21 June 2012**

**Cancer Treatment (New Zealand)**

- **Cancer programme by Māori, for Māori**
  The first Kia Ora E Te Iwi programme to be held in a community setting took place in May. It was also the launch of a Māori cancer book, He Hikoi Hei Manaaki Tāngata. The Cancer Society of New Zealand has been working collaboratively with Iwi and Māori health providers from around Aotearoa to develop a Kaupapa Māori programme to be delivered to Māori by Māori, and Kia ora E te Iwi is the fruition of this national initiative.

- **Palliative care: national joint work programme 2012**
  This work programme has been jointly produced by Hospice New Zealand, the Ministry of Health and the Palliative Care Council. It provides a greater level of detail about how the projects that are currently being implemented at a national level will contribute to the strategic outcomes described in Measuring What Matters: Palliative Care.


**Primary Care (New Zealand)**

**Access to general practice for Pacific peoples: a place for cultural competency**
This study investigated features of mainstream general practice services that act as barriers to Pacific people accessing these services. The objective was to explore strategies for practices to be more welcoming, accessible and appropriate for Pacific peoples. Twenty Pacific participants took part in one of three focus groups. A semi-structured interview explored the participants' views and experiences.

The case for and against evidence-based guidelines in general practice

The latest issue of the *Journal of Primary Health Care* debates the role of evidence-based guidelines in improved health outcomes for general practice patients.


Smoking Cessation (New Zealand)

- The Quit Group service longitudinal client survey six-month follow-up
  
  The aim of this research was to measure the effectiveness of the Quitline service. For the first time, the evaluation looked at how all Quitline's services, including phone, online, blog, text, online coaching and emails support successful quitting. The main finding was that 24.2 percent of people who quit smoking with Quitline in the 2011/2012 year were still smokefree after six months.

Available to read in full text at: http://www.quit.org.nz/66/helping-others-quit/research

Other government policies and measures

Grandparents raising grandchildren to get Toolbox

Friday, 22 June 2012, 9:50 am

Press Release: New Zealand Government

Social Development Minister Paula Bennett has announced that a tailored version of the Toolbox parenting programme will be provided free to grandparents raising grandchildren.

“We asked the Parenting Place to provide practical support through the Toolbox programme for people who take in and care for children.”

“This is a specific, tailored programme that will help grandparents raising grandchildren with the skills to parent today’s children,” says Mrs Bennett.

“They do a tough job considering many are caring for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect – they need this.”

The tailored resource includes nine hours of practical parenting advice on DVD with a manual, which carers can work their way through at home.

At a cost of $600,000 http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA1206/S00332/grandparents-raising-grandchildren-to-get-toolbox.htm per year, this is seen as extremely good value for money.


Health of older people a priority for Ministry of Health

Improving the health of older people is one of five high-level priorities over the medium term, according to the Ministry of Health’s Statement of Intent 2012 to 2014/15.

“The greatest area of projected growth in health spending will apply to maintaining the health and independence of older people. This reflects both the ageing of the population and the expectation that services will improve in quality over time. The Government is committed to
providing effective health care, improved frontline services, affordable and quality support services, and greater dignity for older New Zealanders” (Ministry of Health, 2012: 13).


**PHM-Exch**  
**New WHO report on tobacco and trade**  
The World Health Organization has published a paper entitled 'Confronting the Tobacco Epidemic in a New Era of Trade and Investment Liberalization.'

See: [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2012/9789241503723_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2012/9789241503723_eng.pdf)

The development of the paper was overseen by Raman Minhas of WHO /TFI and was written by Dr Benn McGrady.  
For general information on WHO ‘s work in tobacco control including trade-related issues, or information specifically related to this paper, contact WHO /TFI at tfi@who.int

The paper updates a 2001 WHO paper by Douglas Bettcher et al entitled 'Tobacco Control in an Era of Trade Liberalization.'

**Climate change**

“**Our broken promises: Failure to act in 20 years since Rio vows**”  
*Matt Stewart and Shabnam Dastgheib*  
Twenty years of broken promises and failures to meet environmental obligations have left New Zealand with little to be proud of, according to a new “wakeup call” report issued on the eve of a global summit.

In an article “Our broken promises: failure to act in 20 years since Rio vows” in the *Dominion Post* (Monday, May 28, 2012 A2), Matt Stewart and Shabnam Dastgheib, review The World Wildlife Fund report.

“The World Wildlife Fund report, *Beyond Rio* (pdf), has slated successive governments for failing the environment since promises made at the original Rio Earth Summit in 1992, and says the country now risks some of the highest rates of biodiversity loss on Earth unless urgent action is taken.”

“The 1992 United Nations conference brought world leaders together to set out a global agenda for action. Countries made promises and left with a set of responsibilities. The report, which has the backing of prominent scientists, says that 20 years later, New Zealand has little to be proud of.”

**UNDP launches Asia-Pacific Human Development Report**  
The UNDP Asia-Pacific Human Development Report - *One Planet to Share: Sustaining Human Progress in a Changing Climate* – one of the UNDP’s major contributions to the Rio+20 processes, was launched in Samoa on 12 June, a week in advance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the Rio+20 summit, where the world is seeking to define a post – 2015 development framework.

Speaking at the regional launch, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UN Development Programme Resident Representative, Ms. Nileema Noble thanked the Government of Samoa for
agreeing to host the event, and the University of the South Pacific for use of their campus in Alafua to launch the report simultaneously in 11 other countries: the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Ms. Nileema Noble underscored the importance of Pacific youth in responding to climate change:

“Youth in the Pacific are catalysts for transformational change … They can take advantage of the considerable opportunities for youth-led responses to climate change, such as ‘green’ employment opportunities arising in the agriculture, manufacturing, industry and transportation sectors.”

The report is mindful of the negative impact of climate change but also sees climate change as an opportunity to re-invent development in the region, both for our current national interests and for future generations.

The full engagement of youth is going to be critical in this process. Responses to climate change offer young people enormous opportunities for “green jobs.”

These include areas of agriculture, manufacturing, industry and transport services. Some of the report’s key messages for the region include:

- Developing countries face different conditions from those faced by the industrialised world in their process of growth; as we may be approaching limits to the unrestricted use of natural resources, growing first and cleaning-up later is not an option any more. Managing emissions better needs to become an inherent part of adapting and building resilience to climate change.
- Uncompleted development agendas imply that Asia-Pacific is much less “locked-in” to the old ways. There are opportunities to do development differently, to embed development responses to climate change in poverty and inequality reduction.
- Triggers for transformation need not explicitly be about climate change; lower emissions also mean better health, cleaner air, less pollution, a healthier natural environment, pleasanter surroundings — which improve quality of life and save costs anyway.
- Increasing use of renewable energy and low-carbon technologies, while reducing the use of fossil fuels, can sustain the environment and offer opportunities to the poor, including jobs and better services.
- Rural areas require far more attention. Home to most of Asia-Pacific’s poor and vulnerable people, they have poverty rates often twice as high as those in urban areas. Rural households are highly sensitive to climate shocks. Rural resilience strategies should be grounded in human development. Communities that are educated, have reliable sources of income, and are more equal, will be better equipped to meet new climate demands.

Beyond Rio+20
by Sunita Narain cse@equitywatch.org

Twenty years after, countries are coming together once again in Rio de Janeiro, but what will Rio +20 achieve? Will it engender decisive global action, or is any expectation of such dimensions going to be a washout?

It was June of 1992. The location was Rio de Janeiro. The occasion was the world conference on environment and development. A large number of people had come out on the streets. They were protesting the arrival of George Bush senior, the then president of the US. Just before coming to the conference, Bush had visited a local shopping centre, urging people to buy more so that the
increased consumption could rescue his country from financial crisis. Protesters were angered by his statement that “the American lifestyle is not negotiable”. People wanted change in the way the world did business with the environment. They demanded that Bush should sign the climate convention and agree to tough emission reductions. The mood was expectant, upbeat and pushy.

For the first time environmental issues were put on the world table. Till Rio 1992, environment was considered a local or national issue. But science and fears of a changing climate altered all that. Emission limits were needed for all industrialised countries. For this, global rules were essential and global cooperation imperative. The Rio conference saw the birth of global conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification.

Inevitably, Rio 1992 witnessed the first showdown between the North and the South on global rules for environmental management. Developing countries were firm they needed ecological space to grow. But they were also willing to say they should grow differently so that they do not add to pollution. They wanted money and technology to secure the new growth strategy. The big take home was that the environment was about socially equitable development.

Now 20 years later, world leaders will meet again in the same city of Rio de Janeiro. But this time there is no apparent excitement in the run up to the conference. It seems world leaders, lost in managing financial crisis, have no time for environmental issues. It seems the world has run out of ideas to safeguard a common future.

So, the conference is ridden with the usual polemics. The old rich, mostly European countries, are preaching the virtues of environment to the new rich, comprising India, China, Brazil and the rest. The new rich are resisting efforts to remove the differentiation in the contribution of different countries to the creation of the problem. They want their right to development secured. But now the old rich want to wriggle out of this differentiation. They want action from all. They are missionaries for the environment. The rest, they project, are renegades.

The question is what more can be done at the global level? The fact is that all global environmental problems—from climate change to hazardous waste—have separate agreements. International rules of engagement and cooperation are being discussed in parallel processes and institutions. So what can a conference like Rio achieve?

A new bogey was created: Rio+20 would be about green economy and not about the 1992’s concept of sustainable development. But this was said without clarifying what is true green economy? Does it mean the world will invest in technologies to green the current economy? Or will it seriously reinvent growth so that it is not driven by cheap consumption that is costing us the earth?

The question is too inconvenient, so, instead, negotiators drew up a list of actions to meet green targets called sustainable development goals. Thus the fight has shifted to a new goal. The European Union proposed a set of environmental targets—from renewable energy to forest and biodiversity. The G-77 proposed a counter set of development goals—from consumption patterns to poverty eradication. At Rio 2012, the fight will be about whose goal makes it to the priority list. Rio 2012 will most probably set up a process to negotiate the specifics of the sustainable development goals. The fight will be postponed for another day.

60,000 avoidable hospital admissions costs taxpayers $2.3 billion
An Australia-first study has found 500,000 people could avoid chronic illness, $2.3 billion in annual hospital costs could be saved, and the annual number of taxpayer-funded Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme prescriptions could be cut by 5.3 million.

The study, *The Cost of Inaction on the Social Determinants of Health*, reveals avoidable chronic illness costs the Federal Government $4 billion each year in welfare payments and the national economy $8 billion in lost earnings. Click here to read the study's findings.

Catholic Health Australia (CHA) commissioned the University of Canberra’s National Centre for Social and Economic Modeling (NATSEM) to calculate savings the Federal Government could achieve if the 2008 World Health Organisation (WHO) action plan on social determinants of health was implemented.

Catholic Health Australia CEO Martin Laverty said "The lowest 20 per cent of income earners suffer twice the amount of chronic illness than the highest 20 per cent. NATSEM’s study quantifies the cost of avoidable poor health to the Australian economy."

"The WHO in 2008 detailed how countries like Australia should tackle health inequalities. Now we have evidence it makes economic sense to implement the WHO proposals. In releasing the NATSEM report, we seek a Senate Inquiry to detail how Australia can best implement the WHO’s action plan."

The NATSEM report found implementing the WHO recommendations could see:

- 500,000 Australians avoid suffering a chronic illness;
- 170,000 extra Australians enter the workforce, generating $8 billion in extra earnings;
- $4 billion in welfare support payments saved each year;
- 60,000 fewer people admitted to hospital annually, resulting in savings of $2.3 billion in hospital expenditure;
- 5.5 million fewer Medicare services utilised each year, resulting in annual savings of $273 million;
- 5.3 million fewer Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme scripts being filled each year, resulting in annual savings of $184.5 million.

"The social determinants of health – such as income level, housing status and educational attainment – are factors responsible for health inequities that result in 500,000 Australians having a chronic illness that could be avoided.

"Helping people to finish school, to gain secure employment and to better participate in society could see 500,000 Australians remain healthy and save taxpayers billions of dollars," Mr Laverty said. Click here to access the report *The Cost of Inaction on the Social Determinants of Health*

Click here to read the World Health Assembly's May 2012 resolution endorsing the 2011 Rio Political Declaration on the Social Determinants of Health

**Training**

**Certificate of Achievement in Introducing Health Promotion**

(aka) the Short Course 2012

There will be two simultaneous short courses in Wellington and Auckland with venues to be advised later:


Wellington and Auckland – 11 – 14 September, 2012
Public Health Leadership Programme 2012

In 2012 one programme will be offered in Wellington and one in Christchurch. The programme dates are:

Programme 1 (Christchurch): 7–8 August, 18–19 September, 13–14 November
Programme 2 (Wellington): 31 July – 1 August, 6–7 September, 30–31 October

Go to [www.publichealthworkforce.org.nz](http://www.publichealthworkforce.org.nz)

Events & Conferences

| Date          | Event                                                                 | Where         | Contact                                                                 |
|---------------|                                                                      |               |                                                                        |
| 27-30 June    | 2012 International Indigenous Development Research Conference        | Auckland      | Registrations opening in January                                       |
| 27-29 June    | Fifth International Asian and Ethnic Minority Health and Wellbeing Conference | Auckland      | Auckland University School of Population Health                          |
| 5-6 July      | Te Mana Taurite ā Tāngata- He Whakaaoratanga mo te Ao Hurihuri        | Wellington    | HPF Symposium 2012                                                       |
|               | Epidemics and Economics- Equity in a changing world                  |               | Watch for more information [www.hauora.co.nz](http://www.hauora.co.nz) |
| 7-9 July      | 3rd People's Health Assembly (PHA 3)                                 | Cape Town     | More information at [Health Assembly 2012](http://www.hauora.co.nz)       |
| 30 August     | HPANZ Pacific Branch Symposium                                        | Auckland      | See below for more information.                                          |
|               |                                                                      |               | Minister of Health of Samoa one of keynote speakers at the PHA Conference in Wellington July will be welcomed and also speak at this Symposium. |
| 3-5 September | PHA Conference Equity from the start – valuing our children          | Wellington    | More information below                                                   |
| 27 – 30 November | 5th International Conference Sustainability by Design: Breaking the Silos | Auckland      | See the Sustainability Society website [Breaking the Silos](http://www.hauora.co.nz) |

Public Health Association (PHA) Conference Update

3-5 September
Wellington
Equity from the start – valuing our children

Confirmed keynote speakers

The 2012 PHA Conference will be held 3-5 September in Wellington with the theme “Equity from the start – valuing our children”.

The Public Health Association’s 2012 conference is shaping up to be another fantastic three days! It’s the public health event of the year, and not something you want to miss.
Two new keynote speakers have been confirmed, so our impressive line-up now includes:

- Hon Dr Leao Talalelei Tuitama, Minister of Health for Samoa
- Sir Michael Marmot, Chair of the World Health Organization’s Commission on Social Determinants of Health (video presentation).
- Russell Wills, New Zealand Children’s Commissioner
- Cindy Blackstock, Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada
- Cindy Kiro, Head of the School of Public Health at Massey University.
- Anne Smith, Emeritus Professor from College of Education at Otago University
- Peter Boshier, New Zealand Principal Family Court Judge

And of course there’ll be the usual high quality seminars, workshops and posters.


**PHANZ Pacific Branch Auckland Symposium August 2012**

The Pacific Branch of the Public Health Association of New Zealand (PHANZ) is coordinating a Symposium to be held in Auckland prior to the PHA 2012 Conference in Wellington in early September. It will be an opportunity to welcome to New Zealand the Minister of Health from Samoa, Hon Leao Dr Tuitama Talalelei, one of the key note speakers at the PHA Conference in Wellington.

The Symposium is planned to be held at a venue in South Auckland on Thursday 30th August. For more details, please contact Ieti Lima on ieti@hauora.co.nz

**International Indigenous Development Research Conference 2012**

27th–30th June 2012 – University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

The next biennial international conference, previously the Traditional Knowledge conference, is being held at the University of Auckland, in June 2012.

To see the finalised speakers and programme visit [http://www.indigenousdevelopment2012.ac.nz/programme-sessions](http://www.indigenousdevelopment2012.ac.nz/programme-sessions)

**From around the Pacific region**

**Secretariat of the Pacific Community: Australia Signs Grant Agreements with SPC to support work in human rights and health**

Noumea, New Caledonia - The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has signed two agreements with the Government of Australia to support on-going human rights work and better manage non-communicable diseases in the region.

A three-year funding grant will help build the skills of Pacific governments and civil society organisations to better observe human rights and respond to violations through the Regional Rights Resource Team. The non-communicable diseases program delivered by SPC has also been extended by one year to June 2013 to improve the health of Pacific islands.
**Human Rights**

The funding agreement for the SPC Regional Rights Resource Team will support human rights training for Pacific government ministries and departments, members of parliament, magistrates, lawyers, law enforcement, community service providers, civil society organisations and law students. The major areas of focus will include addressing gender discrimination and violence against women through legislative reform; increasing access to justice and the rule of law; building civil society skills; supporting vulnerable populations, such as disabled persons; and assisting states to report on and implement international conventions on human rights.

**Pacific Framework for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).**

The Australian and New Zealand Governments co-fund the four-year Pacific Regional Non-Communicable Disease Program, jointly implemented by the World Health Organization and SPC. Non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and heart disease are on the rise and are a major health issue across the region.

At the Pacific Islands Forum held last year in Auckland, Forum Leaders declared that ‘the Pacific is in an NCD crisis’. This one-year, no-cost program extension will enable SPC to manage remaining country grants to strengthen the Pacific’s non-communicable diseases prevention and control efforts. SPC will also support whole-of-government approaches to tackling non-communicable diseases at a regional level.

Dr. Rodgers acknowledged the continued support from the Government of Australia for a regional approach to addressing these important priorities for Pacific Island countries and territories.

“The funding will ensure SPC can deliver results in enhancing human rights and NCD control at the national level,” Dr. Rodgers said.

“On SPC’s part, a ‘whole of organisation’, multi-sectoral approach to NCDs is essential because up to 70 per cent of the causes of these diseases and therefore the solutions are outside the health sector.”

“On the part of individual countries and territories, ‘whole of government’, ‘whole of society’ engagement in tackling NCDs holds the key to solving the crisis.”

For more information about the AusAID SPC grant agreements and support for SPC programmes, please contact Alisi Tuqa, Planning Officer (email AlisiT@spc.int) and Maggie Boyle, Regional Communications Manager, AusAID, Australian High Commission, Fiji (email: Maggie.Boyle@ausaid.gov.au) both agreements today.

*Source: SPC Press Release*


**New Zealand signs oceans partnership at Rio summit**

The New Zealand Government has signed up to a global oceans partnership at a UN sustainable development in Rio de Janeiro.

The Rio+20 conference which opened on June 20 is being held 20 years on from the original Earth Summit in Brazil.

In her address, Environment Minister Amy Adams told the summit that New Zealand is particularly concerned about harmful fisheries subsidies which are depleting global fish stocks.

She said ensuring small island developing states get a greater share of their marine resources is a priority.

The oceans agreement signed up to by New Zealand is aimed at better management of fisheries, protecting marine environments and addressing pollution.
Nine other countries are in the partnership, including Australia, South Korea and Norway, and 63 organisations including fishing and seafood companies.

(Source: Radio News, 21 June 2012, 1.13pm NZ time)

Some Pacific countries back new Oceans Initiative

Makereta Komai
Samoa Observer, Apia. Thursday June 21, 2012

Rio de Janeiro – Samoa is among four Pacific countries to have declared their support for the new Global Partnership for Oceans (GPO), whose aim is to restore the world’s oceans to health productivity. Fiji, Kiribati and Palau are the other countries.

In addition, four regional organisations based in the Pacific – the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) have also thrown their support to this global initiative launched on the sidelines of the Rio+20 conference. FFA’s director general, Su’ a Tanielu, says while his organisation supports the global initiative, he remains cautious.

“There are merits in these types of partnerships because the World Bank will bring financial resources and expertise to develop our fisheries, as long as we can monitor their activity and ensure there is no duplication of efforts,” said Mr Tanielu. “We also want to ensure that they don’t cut across the initiatives we already have in place.

The Declaration commits the Partnership to mobilise “significant human, financial and institutional resources for effective public and private investments in priority ocean areas.”

It aims to improve capacity and close the recognised gap in action in implementing global, regional and national commitments for healthy and productive oceans.

It also recognises that despite global commitments made to date as well as the efforts of many organisations, governments, enterprises and individuals, the oceans remain “under severe threat from pollution, unsustainable harvesting of ocean resources, habitat destruction, ocean acidification and climate change”. To tackle these threats, the Partnership is targeting three key focus areas:

- Sustainable seafood and livelihoods from capture fisheries and aquaculture
- Critical coastal and ocean habitats
- Biodiversity and pollution reduction.

Among the GPO’s agreed goals are targets for significantly increasing global food fish production from sustainable aquaculture and sustainable fisheries; halving the current rate of natural habitat loss and increasing marine managed and protected areas to at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas; and reducing marine pollution especially from marine litter, waste water and excess nutrients.

New Zealand teenager pleas for action on climate change at Rio+20 Summit
What would you say if given the opportunity to tell world leaders your thoughts on climate change? For 17 year-old New Zealander, Brittany Trilford, that opportunity became a reality this morning at the Rio+20 Earth Summit. Invited to provide the opening speech, Trilford delivered a polite, but stern address to the 130 heads of state and representatives in attendance. Her demand: Do something.

The full text of Trilford's speech is below:

**Brittany Trilford Speech to UN Rio+20 Summit Opening Ceremony**

Tena Koutou from New Zealand. My name is Brittany Trilford. I am seventeen years old, a child. Today, in this moment, I am all children, your children, the world’s three billion children. Think of me for these short minutes as half the world.

I stand here with fire in my heart. I’m confused and angry at the state of the world and I want us to work together now to change this. We are here to solve the problems that we have caused as a collective, to ensure that we have a future.

You and your governments have promised to reduce poverty and sustain our environment. You have already promised to combat climate change, ensure clean water and food security. Multi-national corporations have already pledged to respect the environment, green their production, compensate for their pollution. These promises have been made and yet, still, our future is in danger.

We are all aware that time is ticking and is quickly running out. You have 72 hours to decide the fate of your children, my children, my children’s children. And I start the clock now... tck tck tck.

Let us think back to twenty years ago - well before I was even an inkling in my parents’ eyes - back to here, to Rio, where people met at the first Earth Summit in 1992. People at this Summit knew there needed to be change. All of our systems were failing and collapsing around us. These people came together to acknowledge these challenges to work for something better, commit to something better.

They made great promises, promises that, when I read them, still leave me feeling hopeful. These promises are left – not broken, but empty. How can that be? When all around us is the knowledge that offers us solutions. Nature as a design tool offers insight into systems that are whole, complete, that give life, create value, allow progress, transformation, change.

We, the next generation, demand change. We demand action so that we have a future and have it guaranteed. We trust that you will, in the next 72 hours, put our interests ahead of all other interests and boldly do the right thing. Please, lead. I want leaders who lead.

I am here to fight for my future. That is why I’m here. I would like to end by asking you to consider why you’re here and what you can do. Are you here to save face? Or are you here to save us?

Simon Matafai represents 54 countries of the Commonwealth of Nations at Rio+20

Wednesday, 13 June 2012, 12:27 pm
Press Release: Rio 20

Six youth from around the world have been selected to represent the Commonwealth Youth Climate Network at the Rio+20 United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. One of the selected six is NZ born Samoan; Simon Matafai.

Simon is no stranger to such international conferences. In 2010, Simon became the first ever selected Pacific Island youth to represent New Zealand at the United Nations MDG Summit in New York. In 2011, he was selected again to represent New Zealand at the United Nations COP17 Summit in Durban, South Africa. Next week’s Rio+20 Summit in Brazil will be another opportunity for Simon to lobby, campaign and advocate strongly on behalf of youth.

"I will be a voice for the voiceless. I will say what world leaders need to hear. I refuse to accept the current passive leadership that threatens my future and the next generation" – Simon Matafai.

Simon is also a musician. He was recently one of the conductors for the Rugby World Cup 2011 Opening Ceremony mass choir. Simon directs his own School of Piano, the Auckland Gospel Choir and was the New Zealand Coordinator for the Rio+20 Global Youth Music Contest. This was a song competition where youth delivered their messages about world issues through music. The winners of this competition will also be in Rio to perform their original songs before the world.

With a strong passion to serve and establish a positive legacy for the future; Simon aims to be elected as Prime Minister of Samoa. He is completing studies in Music, History and Law at the University of Auckland. You can follow Simon’s journey on www.facebook.com/simonmatafai & twitter.com/simonmatafai

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The Pacific scene at HPF
Pacific providers and senior leaders of the Pacific public health sector attended two meetings, one in Auckland in May and one in Christchurch in June, to discuss and be updated on developments involving public health and health promotion within the HPF.

For the Christchurch leaders’ fono on 5th June, the team of Sione Tu’itahi and Ieti Lima were joined by Sene Kerisiano, Senior Advisor Pacific, Infrastructure Public Health, of the Ministry of Health. Sene updated the Pacific provider leaders including others from non-Pacific services whose work serves members of the Pacific communities, on current work by the Ministry of Health which supports and enhances the Pacific public health and health promotion workforce. Participants at the Pacific leaders Christchurch fono included some who travelled from Ashburton, Nelson, and Dunedin

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