

Pacific Health Governance Research Network Workshop Two

31st October – 2nd November 2018

Tanoa International Hotel – Nadi, Fiji

The Pacific Health Governance Research Network (PHGRN) is proud to announce its second Workshop.

Workshop Two will be hosted by Fiji National University (FNU), the Pacific Community (SPC) and the University of Queensland, at the Tanoa International Hotel in Nadi, Fiji.

The PHGRN is building a network to create spaces for research partnerships between Pacific researchers and stakeholders, and Australian and international counterparts. The network focuses on health governance in relation to the SDG agenda, seeking to help the region meet goals and targets, and ensure that no-one is left behind. Research and actions under the PHGRN will be consistently informed by Pacific voices, to ensure integration of local knowledge into research and that research addresses practical local needs leading to positive change in the Pacific.

The PHGRN is organised into five major research themes which are designed to capture the diverse and overlapping challenges and opportunities for health and policy in the Pacific region and the broader context of the Sustainable Development Goals agenda.

Workshop Two will provide opportunity for attendees to discuss research partnerships and projects with counterparts and interested stakeholders. In addition, it will build upon the work of mapping research needs started in Workshop One with more focused discussions on the five major research themes. Workshop Two will also aim to generate concept notes, research groups, and outline agreements toward funding proposals and collaborative actions. In response to feedback from Workshop One, Workshop Two will be longer and also more closely involve policy makers, multilaterals and donors in discussion.

Workshop Two will involve both plenary sessions, and parallel breakout sessions focusing on specific issues under each of the five major research themes. We aim to make Pacific voices central in directing the PHGRN research agenda. Parallel breakout sessions will each be co-facilitated by a Pacific Islander and other international researchers and practitioners and will use a modified *Talanoa* method to facilitate broader engagement of attendees.

Finally, attendees may benefit from one of three training sessions provided by experts in the area of media communications, grant writing, and policy brief preparation.

Registration fees:

- 15 AUD for Pacific students
- 50 AUD for Pacific attendees
- 80 AUD for international attendees.

Please note: Limited travel scholarship places will be available for Pacific researchers and practitioners. The scholarship application form can be found [here](#) and should be submitted to pacifichealthgovernance@gmail.com by the 15th September 2018.

Email: pacifichealthgovernance@gmail.com

Twitter: @PacHealthGov

Facebook: Group - [Pacific Health Governance Research Network](#)

Program Overview

WORKSHOP OPENING (31st October)

Evening: Cocktail Reception

WORKSHOP DAY ONE (1st November)

AM: Plenary – Welcome Session

Plenary – Climate Change and Health

PM: Breakout Sessions – Climate Change and Health

Plenary – Health Systems and UHC

Breakout Sessions – Health Systems and UHC

WORKSHOP DAY TWO (2nd November)

AM: Plenary – NCDs and the Pacific

Breakout Sessions – NCDs and the Pacific

PM: Plenary – Health Security WASH

Breakout Sessions – Health security WASH

Evening: Parallel Training Sessions – Media Training, Grant Writing, and Policy Brief Preparation

REGISTRATION AND CONTACT:

Register for Workshop Two: <https://phgrn-workshop-two.eventbrite.com.au>

Join the PHGRN and General Workshop Two Queries: pacifichealthgovernance@gmail.com

Overview of the Five Themes

1. The **Health Security** theme focuses research on Pacific health security, biosecurity and human security. Research here incorporates the management of disasters and infectious disease epidemics, the interactions between climate change and health, as well as water, food and psychological securities. Gendered impact on health is an important dimension of the health security theme. The health security pillar takes a strengths-based approach by reviewing existing community-based initiatives, with the aim to improve and scale-up successful approaches.
2. The **Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage** theme provides research on the global, regional and national policy contexts that arbitrate investment in health systems and universal health coverage. Research will concentrate on the ramifications of this broader environment on Pacific health governance, and the manner in which drivers such as human rights, the market and mobility interplay to determine access and provision of health services. At the local level, the network investigates the impact of social factors such as attitudes, norms and gender in relation to accessing healthcare, and how they differ across the region and between communities in the Pacific.
3. The **Climate Change and Health** theme investigates the needs, capacities and barriers for local community climate change resilience and adaptation. In addition, research focuses on improving communication and feedback between policy-makers and communities, in order to translate global and national policies to implement effective and supported climate change adaptation programs in local communities. Research needs to create clear linkages between climate change and health in the Pacific, in order to mobilise local action and garner support from the international community.
4. The **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** theme is concerned with issues related to water security, and considers policy and regulation, water infrastructure, personnel training for infrastructure management, and urbanization. Research is initially evaluating models for building sustainable water systems, increasing institutional capacity for surveillance of water quality and water-borne diseases, and ensuring clean water availability in health facilities and schools.
5. The **Non-Communicable Diseases** theme seeks to understand the links between NCDs in the Pacific and the regional and global determinants of behavioural risk factors contributing to the NCD burden, such as tobacco smoking, alcohol abuse, poor diet and physical inactivity. The NCD pillar also considers the capacity of health systems to manage these conditions. Research is supporting translating screening to long-term management, identifying cost-effective interventions for the Pacific context, supporting campaigns for promoting health literacy, and exploring opportunities to implement trade or tax policies. Mental illnesses are an under-recognised disease burden which are addressed specifically under the NCD pillar.