



13th Australia Solomon Islands Business Forum

Heritage Park Hotel, Honiara | 2 - 4 September 2024

“Business Leading Employment and Export Growth”

13th AUSTRALIA SOLOMON ISLANDS BUSINESS FORUM

HERITAGE PARK HOTEL, HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

2 - 4 SEPT 2024

“Business Leading Employment And Export Growth.”

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Note: Invited speaker list. Some speakers are subject to confirmation.

MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2024. (6:00pm – 8:00pm)

1800 BUSINESS FORUM COMMENCEMENT COCKTAIL RECEPTION.

TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2024. (7:45am – 5:00pm, 6:00pm – 10:00pm)

0830 SESSION ONE:

WELCOME TO DELEGATES:

Ms Namoi Kaluae, Chair, Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

AUSTRALIAN AND SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT KEYNOTE ADDRESSES.

The Hon Jeremiah Manele, Prime Minister of Solomon Islands.

Senator The Hon Tim Ayres, Australian Assistant Minister for Trade & Investment.

SESSION TWO:

SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT BUDGET AND FISCAL OVERVIEW.

The Hon Manasseh Sogavare MP, Minister for Finance and Treasury.

THE SOLOMON ISLANDS ECONOMY:

Dr Luke Forau, Governor, Central Bank of Solomon Islands.

Economist, Bank South Pacific Financial Group Ltd.

ATTRACTING INVESTMENT OF GROWTH.

Solomon Islands Government Investment Policy: Hon Harry Kuma MP, Minister for Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration.

Improving the Investor Experience: Mr Wayne Morris, Partner, Morris and Sojnocki.

SESSION THREE:

PACER PLUS: AN UPDATE:

Mr Roy Lagolago, Director, Pacer Plus Implementation Unit.

Mr Burns Waroka, Senior Trade Officer, Solomon Islands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Mr Daniel Tucker, Country Manager, Kramer Ausenco Solomon Islands: A Business Perspective on PACER Plus effectiveness so far.

SUPPORTING BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT:

Mr Adrian Weeks, Australian Trade Commission to Solomon Islands.

Ms Leata Alaimoana, Queensland Pacific Trade Commissioner.

SESSION FOUR:

MANAGING FREIGHT AND LOGISTIC ISSUES FOR IMPORTS AND EXPORTS:

TradCo Shipping Limited, Solomon Islands.

Bulk Shop Solomon Islands.

Mr James Kana, Managing Director, Ueniusu'unu Agribusiness Group.

Mr Peter Hughes, Comptroller of Customs and Excise, Solomon Islands Customs and Excise.

EXPORTING SOLOMON ISLANDS LABOUR TO AUSTRALIA:

Labour Mobility Unit, Solomon Islands Department of Foreign Affairs and External Trade.

Mr Bob Pollard, Managing Director, Pasifiki HR.

Professor Stephen Howes, Director, Development Policy Centre, Australian national University.

1800 COCKTAIL RECEPTION AND FORUM DINNER.

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WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2024. (7:45am – 5:00pm, 5:00pm – 7:00pm)

0830 SESSION FIVE COMMENCES.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT: UTILITIES:

Hon Manasseh Maelenga MP, Minister for Infrastructure Development.

Mr Martin Sam, Chief Executive Officer, Solomon Power.

Mr Hyung Joon Jun, CFO, Tina Hydropower Limited.

Mr Carmine Piantedosi, Chief Executive Officer, Solomon Water.

Mr Calvin Ziru, Interim Commissioner, Solomon Islands Telecommunications Commission.

SESSION SIX:

INFRASTRUCTURE: OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Mr Jamie Isbister, Deputy Head of the Office of the Pacific and First Assistant Secretary, Pacific Infrastructure and Economic Division, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Mr Eranda Kotelawala, Chief Executive Officer, Solomon Islands Ports Authority.

Ms Lisa Esibaea, Infrastructure Project Co-ordinator, Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program.

Mr Shane Rosenthal, Regional Director, Pacific Liaison and Co-ordination Office, Asian Development Bank.

Solomon Islands Roads and Aviation Project, World Bank Group.

SESSION SEVEN:

GROWING AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXPORTS:

Agriculture:

Hon Franklyn Wasi MP, Minister for Agriculture and Livestock.

Ms Samantha Maeke, Country Manager Solomon Islands, PHARMA Plus.

Mr Jaime Reibel, CEO, Strongim Business, Solomon Islands.

Fisheries:

Hon Nestor Ghiri MP, Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources.

Mr Adrian Wickham, Chairman, Soltuna.

Bina Harbour Project.

SESSION EIGHT:

TOURISM:

Hon Choylin Yim Douglas MP, Minister for Culture and Tourism.

Mr Dagnal Dereveke, Acting CEO Tourism Solomons.

Mr Sean Te'o, CEO, Solomon Airlines.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES:

Ms Susan Sulu, Permanent Secretary, Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology.

Mr Frank Wickham.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Mr Simon Gorman, President, Australia Pacific Islands Business Council.

CLOSING DRINKS.