

## DevPac News

A Quarterly Publication of the Association of the Development Financing Institutions in the Pacific

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Volume 1-Issue 1

## MISSION

"To be the premier focal point for knowledge and advocacy promoting financing of sustainable development in the Pacific Island Countries."

## VISION

"We contribute to the sustainable development of Pacific Island Countries by advancing development finance programs and practices through knowledge-sharing, training and capacity enhancement, advisory support, building partnerships and advocacy work."

## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENT

#### 2016 ADFIP AGM

**NADI—FIJI** 

NOVEMBER 21ST—24TH, 2016

THEME: PACIFIC
REGIONALISM AND
CLIMATE CHANGE: NEW
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADFIP

HOST: FIJI DEVELOPMENT BANK

#### ADFIP APPOINTS JEAN-PHILIPPE DE JONG AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



he board of the Association of Development Financing in the Pacific (ADFIP) has appointed Jean-Philippe de Jong as CEO with effect March 1, 2016. Jean-Philippe de Jong, a Dutch national, is a leading development finance executive with 35 years-hybrid commercial / development banking experience and a strong international background, reflected by his command of 5 languages and his involvment with project and development finance activities in more than 30 countries in Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Caribbean, West Africa and the Pacific, for which region he has been working the last 20 years.

Before joining ADFIP, Jean-Philippe de Jong was at the European Investment Bank (EIB) Head of the Sydney-based Pacific Regional Office which he helped establish in May 2007. Prior to his leading role at the Pacific Regional Office, he was working at the EIB's head office in Luxembourg, and before, with the French Credit Lyonnais Group.

"I am very excited to have been chosen to lead ADFIP, at a very special point in time," said Jean-Philipppe de Jong. "As the largest contributor of finance to the Private Sector in the Pacific and its crucial role in the development of Pacific Islands economies, ADFIP needs to gain visibility as a regional organisation and to become a credible counterpart to other regional organisations and donor agencies."

Anna Mendiola, Chairman of the ADFIP Board and President of the Federated States of Micronesia Development Bank, said "As a proven leader and with a strong track record, Jean-Philippe de Jong is in our view well suited to transform ADFIP into a dynamic, visible and strong regional organisation. We are glad that he is on board."

In particular, the ADFIP Management Committee hopes that the reinforced association will be able to become the regional counterpart for all donor agencies and foreign countries determined to contribute to the financing of Private Sector projects in the Pacific Region.

Alongside its traditional financing of projects in small business, industry, agriculture, fisheries and tourism, ADFIP is committed to enter into cooperation agreements with donor countries and interna-

tional agencies with a view to become the main financier of projects in Climate Change (both mitigation and adaptation), Disaster Management and Women Empowerment in the Pacific Region.

ADFIP is the umbrella organisation of 25 development and commercial banks, home finance corporations and credit unions spread over Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. ADFIP's Regional Office is based in Suva, Fiji.



NVITATION TO ALL ADFIP MEMBERS: PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED ON YOUR ACTIVITIES, NEW PRODUCT LAUNCHING, SPECIAL PROJECTS, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ......... PROVIDE US WITH WRITE UPS, PRESS REALEASES AND PHOTOS FOR PUBLICATION. EDITOR.

## 39th ADFIAP MEETING—2-5 May, 2016 APIA, SAMOA

**DFIs: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE** 



Group photo of the ADFIAP delegates with the Prime Minister of Samoa, Hon Auelua Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi

The 39th Annual Meeting of the Association of Development Financing institutions in Asia and Pacific (ADFIAP) was held at the Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey's Hotel & Bungalow, Apia, Samoa from the 2-5th May, 2016 with delegates travelling from abroad to attend.

The Samoa Prime Minister, Hon Tuilaepa opened the ceremony and also welcomed all the delegates.

The theme of the conference, "DFIs: Building Partnerships for Climate Change Resilience" is very relevant as it is timely. The issue of climate change is here and now. Development Finance institutions are tasked to be in the forefront of advancing climate-related financing instruments and services in different countries and in developing and undertaking innovating solutions to the growing need for climate financing in this part of the world.

Climate finance refers to financing channeled by national, regional and international entities for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programs. Member-DFIs of AD-

FIAP have since provided both financhange-related projects such in energy efficiency, renewable energy, clean



The 3 Proud Hosts of the 39th ADFIAP Annual Meeting: Faumuina Esther Lameko-Poutoa, cial and technical assistance to climate CEO Samoa National Provident Fund; Mata'utia Rula Levi, CEO Samoa Housing Corporation and Susana Laulu, CEO Development Bank of Samoa.

technologies, green infrastructure, sustainable agriculture, among others.

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# ADFIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 6th May, 2016—APIA, SAMOA



ADFIP Management Committee takes photo after the meeting in Apia, Samoa

Capitalizing on the ADFIAP meeting, the Management Committee held their meeting soon after as all of the Committee members were attending and would like to make use of the opportunity to discuss important issues and give the new CEO, Jean Philippe de Jong, the opportunity to present on the way forward for ADFIP.

The committee had the opportunity to discuss many important matters and agree to rally behind the new CEO in supporting him in the future. The Management Committee met after a lapse of one year as the ADFIP Annual Meetings was cancelled the meetings in 2015.

One of the highlights of the discussion is the confirmation by the Fiji Development Bank to host the 2016 ADFIP Annual Meetings in Nadi, Fiji. The meeting scheduled to be held in March was postponed due to the devastating damages caused by Cyclone Winston in the beginning of the year. The meeting will now be held in November 2016.

The ADFIP Secretariat is now referred to as the "ADFIP Regional Office" which is now being strengthened to give ADFIP the visibility it needs in the region.



ADFIP Chairman—Ms. Anna Mendiola

## "TONGA DEVELOPMENT BANK SUPPORTS DISADVANTAGED BORROWERS"

Tonga Development Bank's support for disadvantaged borrowers wins international recognition for offering financial services that are supporting small income generating projects among disadvantaged and low-income earners in Tonga.

The TDB was awarded a Plaque of Merit, by the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (ADFIAP) in Apia, Samoa in recognition of the TDB Financial Inclusion services.

Leta Havea-Kami, TDB Chief Executive
Officer, who went to Apia in May 2016 to
receive the award, said the TDB services
included loans for small income generation
projects, encourage saving "and getting
small business owners more involved in
business planning, and the management of their
own businesses."

She said that 80% of TDB loans are for agricultural projects and at the moment the TDB is offering 1% and 4% interest loans for Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism and Education.

The two other recipients of the merit award from the Pacific were Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia FSM.

The ADFIAP has over 100 members from 39 countries in Asia and the Pacific. The Apia meeting was the first time for the annual general meeting of the ADFIAP to be held in the Pacific.

#### **40TH ANNIVERSARY**

Leta said that the TDB was established in 1977 and to celebrate their 40th anniversary next year "we want to increase our service to the community. In March we started offering foreign currency exchange services, overdrafts, and overseas money transfers. Internet and mobile banking will be launched either at the end of this month or early next month."



Leta Havea-Kami receiving award from Mr Arjun Fernando, Vice Chairman AD-FIAP and Director/CEO of DFCC Bank of Sri Lanka



Award winners from Samoa and Tonga with CEO of the Year award winner (middle)

Mr Datuk Mohd Radzif bin Mohd Yunus, Group Managing Director, SME Development

Bank (Malaysia)

Leta also reported that for the first time in the 39 year history of TDB, a public enterprise, they had paid government a dividend of \$1 million in February, which is 60% of its profits. The Tonga government is a 100% shareholder of the Tonga Development Bank.

## "BCI SETS SAIL TO BRIGHT BANKING FUTURE"

The Bank of the Cook Islands set its Vaka on a course to a brighter banking future on Thursday, April 14th 2016 unveiling the new BCI Vaka Debit MasterCard.

Bank of the Cook Islands CEO, Vaine Nooana-Arioka was presented with a certificate in honour of the partnership between BCI and Co-Op Services NZ.

Featuring a stunning image of double-hulled voyaging Vaka Marumaru Atua, the people's bank invites the community to join them on the journey.

Ultimately the new card will allow BCI clients ease of access to their funds no matter where in the world they are.

Representatives from MasterCard and Co-Op Services New Zealand said their partnership with BCl has been an exciting journey and they were looking forward to hearing about the international destinations voyaging BCl clients are able to use their Vaka Debit MasterCard.

While the new card will go live from May 16, the unveiling evening was one of celebrations for the work and achievements by the banks dedicated staff with Ms. Vaine Nooana-Arioka at the helm of the Vaka.



Representatives from MasterCard and Co-Op Services New Zealand along with BCl CEO, Vaine Nooana-Arioka (right) celebrate their partnership by cutting replica Vaka cake at the unveiling of the BCl Vaka Debit Master-Card at Crown Beach Resort & Spa.

And like the Vaka, traditional master navigator Tua Pittman drew similarities between the banks journey and a voyaging crew – with each person playing their part to sail the Vaka forward to success.

In her address, Nooana-Arioka paid tribute to her hardworking BCI team who have toiled for many years to position itself as the bank of choice. She says the bank is poised with the purpose of taking its clients into the future of banking. Her tributes also extended to the Cook Islands Voyaging Society for allowing the use of an image of Vaka Marumaru Atua for the new BCI Vaka Debit MasterCard.

She presented a donation for the future voyaging endeavours of the society to Cook Islands Voyaging Society president Ian Karika and master traditional navigator Tua Pittman. Pittman shared the society's pride in having the iconic Vaka as the image of the BCI Vaka Debit MasterCard. In true Cook Islands style, the night of celebrations was one of real enjoyment filled with song and dance including the banks own dance troupe, the BCI superstars, performing specially composed drum and action song dances for the Vaka card.



The renowned Kiwi jeweler and businessman, Sir Michael Hill, shared some insights into his own voyage as a businessman through turbulent waters to the successful entrepreneur he is today.

In his address he marveled at the beauty of the islands and encouraged the guests gathered to keep the simple beauty and balance he feels on the island.

BCI, a gold sponsor of the biennial Air NZ tourism awards held last night, is proud to bring a high caliber businessman as the guest speaker for the awards.

Sir Michael Hill was presented with a pair of Cook Islands black pearl cufflinks before joining in the milestone celebrations which also included a large Vaka Marumaru Atua cake including sails.

A number of special souvenir BCI Vaka MasterCard were gifted to clients on the night and from May 16, the BCI Vaka Debit MasterCard will go live so join BCI on the journey to a bright banking future.