

## IRENA-CYPRUS Renewable Energy Applications for Island Tourism

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# Accelerating the Deployment of Renewable Energy Technologies in Island Tourism

**Ilisoni Vuidreketi**  
**CEO, South Pacific Tourism Organisation**



## Presentation Outline

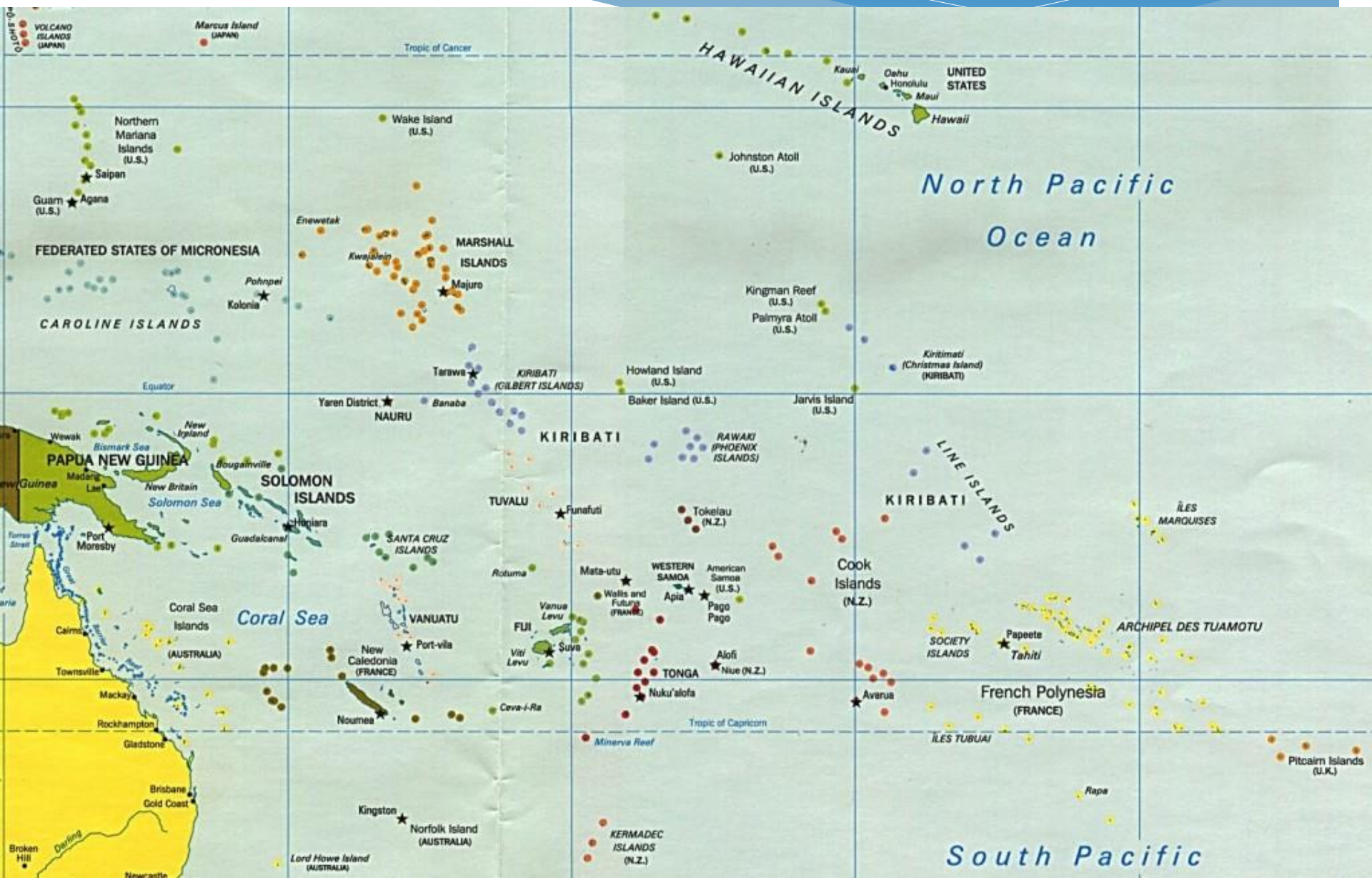
- SPTO - Who we are
- Pacific Islands – A snapshot
- Barriers to Growth in RE Technologies
- Opportunities for the Deployment of RE Technologies in Island Tourism
- Tourism Sector Perspective on Renewable Energy
- Partnership Opportunities for RE
- Conclusions



## **SPTO - Who We Are :**

- **Inter-governmental Organisation established in 1986**
- **Mandated by 16 Pacific Islands governments**
- **Purpose : To Market and Develop Tourism in Pacific Island countries**
- **Also have 200 Private Sector Members**
- **Based in Suva, Fiji Islands**

# PACIFIC ISLANDS - A Snapshot



## Pacific Islands - A Snapshot

- SPTO Members – **16 Small Island countries**
- Comprise of over **20,000 tropical islands**
- Total population of about **11 million** – Papua New Guinea **7 million**
- Spread over **50 million square kms** of Pacific ocean
- Historically reliant on traditional industries: **agriculture and fishing** for economic survival
  
- **TOURISM SECTOR** – now largest and most promising sector across Pacific Islands
- Biggest contributor to GDP, job creation and economic diversification
- Comprise more of **small and medium enterprises**
- Range of Tourist Arrival Numbers – 2012 Annual
  - **Kiribati** – 5,000
  - **Tonga** – 50,000
  - **Samoa** – 135,000
  - **Fiji** – 660,000

Best hope for sustainable economic growth of Pacific Islands Countries.



## **Barriers to Growth in RE Technologies**

- **Geographical spread and isolation of Pacific Islands**
- **Small population base and limited domestic capital for investment**
- **Inadequate infrastructure and high cost of RE technologies**
- **Absence of Financing for RE projects and lack of understanding of financing modalities by private tourism operators/hoteliers**
- **Lack of local capacity in implementing and managing RE projects**



## Opportunities for the Deployment of RE Technologies in Island Tourism

- 1. Improvements to Tourism products and services**
  - clean uninterrupted power; drinking water, air conditioning, telephone and internet, eliminate air and noise pollution
- 2. Strengthen Tourism Business Viability and Sector Growth**
  - resolve problem of high fuel cost; increase profitability; opportunities for re-investment and tourism business growth
- 3. Benefits to Local Communities**
  - multiplier effects - social and economic benefits to the local communities
  - high positive impact on local livelihoods and living standards
- 4. Environmental and Climate Change issues**
  - increase opportunities for environment protection and response to CC mitigation and adaptation
- 5. Development Support**
  - Presence of support agencies (eg. IRENA, SPC) to provide initial RE technical support - SPTO



## **Tourism Sector Perspective on Renewable Energy**

- a) Huge scope for RE deployment and benefit to Island Tourism**
  - *RE offers hoteliers opportunity for access to energy and sustainable energy supply*
  - *Heaps of untapped opportunities for RE deployment*
  - *also the direct and spin off benefits to the local communities*
- b) Supportive Policy and regulatory framework is critical**
  - *Government to provide an enabling legal and operating environment*
  - *policy and planning for appropriate RE technologies in the tourism sector*
- c) Capacity Building**
  - *Institution and capacity building for public agencies and private sector tourism operators is key to the sustainable management and implementation of RE programmes.*
- d) Promote Private Sector Investment in RE Technologies**
  - *establish financing mechanisms to support private sector access to finance and initiatives towards RE deployment*
  - *establish investment incentives and profitable investment projects to attract private sector investment in RE tourism projects*





## Partnership Opportunities for RE

1. **Improve coordination of EE and RE programmes** and activities at national, regional and international levels to eliminate the duplication of efforts and ensure maximum outcomes for the tourism sector.
  - Technical agencies like IRENA to work with Tourism agencies like SPTO and other public private sector organisations of the Pacific.
2. **Strengthening cooperation** with and commitment from development partners and donor agencies to ensure the effective and efficient utilisation of available resources. Targeted approach.
3. **Sharing of experiences and best practices** to ensure continued improvements in the planning, implementation and monitoring of RE in island tourism.

## Conclusions

1. **Renewable Energy is critical for the future sustainable growth and development of tourism in Pacific Island countries, through:**
  - i) Economic contribution
  - ii) Social development opportunities
  - iii) Environmental protection outcomes
  
2. **For Pacific Islands to have a viable and sustainable RE programme, it is essential that:**
  - Governments to be assisted in facilitating an enabling environment to boost RE distribution and utilisation in consultations with all stakeholders.
  
  - Technical assistance be provided to public and private sector stakeholders to build capacities in the planning, management and monitoring of RE deployment.
  
  - Establishment of Financing mechanisms to support private sector investment in appropriate RE technologies
  
  - Coordination and linkages of programmes by key stakeholders, lead technical agencies (SPTO, IRENA, GIZ, SPC), development partners, donors and governments.

**THANK YOU ALL**

**And special THANKS to  
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