

“Little People, Environmental Giants” Engaging our Pacific Youth

- Brianna Fruean 13 years old
- Youth Ambassador for Samoa
 - 350 Samoa
 - Future Rush Samoa

Never too Young to start

- I started my work as an Environmental Ambassador for Samoa, 3 years ago.
- I started with small school projects and moved onto bigger projects as my environmental group grew
- I submitted a project and was selected to represent Samoa at UNEP Tunza Conference in Seoul Korea, 2009
- The next year my second project was submitted and again I represented Samoa at Tunza Conference in Nagoya Japan, 2010



Engaging Pacific Youth

- I think our youth tend to think Climate Change issues are for Scientist, and use age and ignorance as an excuse.
- We need to engage our youth to understand regardless of “age or gender” we CAN all be part of the solution, “simply by our actions”.
- In fact “the younger we start educating ourselves and understanding” “it’s what we do that counts” the better off we will all be.
- They say it’s “hard to teach an old dog new tricks”, by this definition teaching our youth should be much easier, its a matter of doing so.

Speaking to our Youth in a Language we understand

- These days everything is web based and is driven by social networking
- In order to get the attention of our youth you have to talk to us in this forum
- This is a great way to motivate us and besides, this is the language we understand and defines us as people
- In order to engage our youth you have to know what motivates us and what makes us act, social media is great for this purpose.

Actions speak Louder than Words...

- I am inspired by Bill McKibben who founded 350.org
- I think too many people get lost in the Science of Climate Change
- 350.org is all about Action and Awareness
- Lets not focus too much on the problem, let us focus on the solution
- And most of all “empowering change” starting from the most key person, you!

Pacific Family - United

- Individually we are small, collectively we “are a powerful force of change”
- It is our home, our paradise, ours to fight for, ours to treasure, we hold the solutions – together
- Let us focus on Solutions together as one Pacific Family!
- They say our “Children are the Future” if so we “need to engage them now to take control” and be ambassadors for change, “to make a difference!”



Ambassadors of Future change, Starts with our Youth Today

- For me personally, don't get too depressed over the Science of Climate Change, focus more, on Solutions
- “Actions are the key here”, do something, start with yourself and see how many more you can influence, this is the challenge
- Start now, the younger the better, today we have google and the internet, we need to educate ourselves, empower ourselves to be the change, to make a real difference for Future generations of our Pacific Paradise!

Thank you - Faafetai

- Firstly I would like to thank all of you for listening to my presentation, I hope you enjoyed it
- Thank you to The Director David Sheppard and SPREP for the opportunity to present today
- I am available to come to your Countries to speak to your youth, if you pay my fare
- Thanks to Mom and Dad for the day off from School