

CIRCULAR

FILE: HR 17
DATE: 20 May 2019
CIRCULAR: 19/37

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CROP Organisations
SPREP Partner Organisations

SUBJECT: Introducing the following:

SPREP is pleased to announce the following members of the SPREP Community:



Mr. Salesa Nihmei, a national of Vanuatu, has been appointed to the position of Meteorology and Climatology Adviser (MeCA) with the Climate Change Resilience Programme. He is no stranger to SPREP having worked as the Meteorology and Climatology Officer since 2013. Salesa holds a Master of Science in Meteorology from the University of Philippines and a Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science from Lincoln University, NZ. He started in his new role on 1 April 2019.

The MeCA position serves as the primary focal point of contact between SPREP and the Pacific Meteorological Council through the Pacific Meteorological Partnership Desk (PMPD). The MeCA will be responsible for SPREP's PMDP team, working very closely with the team to ensure that support is provided to the Pacific National Meteorological and Hydrological Services.

Ms. Karen Baird, a national of New Zealand, has been appointed as the Threatened and Migratory Species Adviser (TAMSA) within the Island and Oceans Ecosystem (IOE) Programme. Karen holds a Master of Science and Bachelor of Science from the University of Auckland, NZ. She has over 30 years' experience in the areas of protection and management of threatened species with a range of organisations in NZ including the Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment and NZ Wildlife Service. Karen joins SPREP from Forest & Bird (F&B) NZ / BirdLife International where she has been working since



2013 as the Senior Advocate for F&B and BirdLife International Regional Coordinator for the Pacific. She started in her new role on 29 April 2019.

The TAMSA role will provide strategic, policy and technical advice to SPREP Members to support their priorities on threatened and migratory species (TMS) as well as provide oversight management of large long-term TMS projects implemented by SPREP.



Dr. Peter Davies, a national of Australia, has been appointed as the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Adviser (CMEA) within the IOE Programme. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy from Southern Cross University, Australia. Peter brings with him over 20 years' experience in marine and coastal science management in a number of organisations in New South Wales (NSW), Australia including the Environment Protection Authority and the Hunter Catchment Management Authority. He joins SPREP from the Department of Environment and Heritage, NSW where he has been working as the Senior Environmental Scientist for the past 15 years. He started his new role on 29 April 2019.

The CMEA's principal objective is to address the coastal and marine elements of the SPREP Strategic Plan Regional Goal 2 and will work closely with the TAMSA as well as SPREP's Waste Management and Pollution Control (WMPC) Programme in achieving Regional Goal 3. The CMEA also plays a key leadership role in implementing the cross-organisational integrating function of the Ocean Coordination Team.

Mr. Jamie Davies, a British national, has been appointed to the position of Project Manager, By-Catch Integrated Ecosystem Management (PM-BIEM), SPREP's component of the EU-funded EDF-11 Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme. Jamie holds a Master in Tropical Coastal Management from the University of Newcastle, UK and a Bachelor of Science in Marine Geography from the University of Wales, UK. He brings to SPREP 18 years of experience in project management in the areas of marine conservation and ecosystem management from a number of organisations including The PEW Charitable Trusts, Natural England as well as the Overseas Voluntary Services and WWF Philippines. Jamie joins SPREP from Plymouth Marine Laboratory, UK where he has been working as the Senior Project Manager, Geospatial Applications Team for the past year. Jamie started in his new role on 8 May 2019 and will be based in our Suva, Fiji office.



Ms. Davina Bartley-Tiitii, a Samoan national, has been appointed to the position of Waste Management and Pollution Control Programme Assistant (WMPCPA). Davina holds a Diploma in Education from the National University of Samoa. She is re-entering the work-force after taking time out to look after her family. Davina had previously worked at the Samoa Family Health Association as the Youth Programme Officer and as Assistant Receptionist. She started in her role on 26 March 2019.

In her role, Davina will provide administrative and secretarial services and support to the Programme Director and the WMPC Programme.

Ms. Crystal Schwenke, a national of Samoa, has been appointed to the position of PacWaste Plus Project Technical and Administration Officer (PWPTAO). She joins SPREP from the National University of Samoa where she had been working as the Senior Student Administrator since 2013. Crystal is a National University of Samoa graduate of Bachelor of Commerce in Management: Public Administration and Industrial Relations. She started in her new role on 15 April 2019.



The PWPTAO will provide project assistance and support in the management and implementation of the PacWaste Plus Project.



Ms. Laura Fepuleai, a national of Samoa, has been appointed to the position of Intra-ACP GCCA+ Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES) Finance and Administration Officer (PACRESFAO). She joins SPREP from the Samoa Audit Office where she had been working as an Auditor for the past two years. Laura is a Bachelor of Business (Accounting) graduate from the Auckland University of Technology, NZ. She started official duties on 25 April 2019.

The PACRESFAO's primary role will be the financial and administrative management of PACRES.

US Peace Corp Response Volunteer

Mr. Robert Sullivan has been engaged through the Secretariat's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United States Peace Corp Response Volunteers (PCRVR) Programme. Robert will be working closely with the Waste Management and Pollution Control Programme & Communications and Outreach Team over the next ten months as Communications and Behavioural Specialist. In this role, he will focus on the 'Greening' of the Pacific Games which will be held in July this year here in Apia, Samoa; as well as other sustainable activities that have a life post the games such as the sports champions, recycling mechanisms for plastics including infrastructure and financial incentives, and guidelines for future events.



Robert holds a Master of Arts (Communications) and a Bachelor of Arts (Mass Communication) from the University of Texas at Tyler, USA. He brings with him years of experience in communications, project management and marketing. Robert was most recently the Editor-in-Chief for the University of Texas at Tyler's Communications Department. He started in his new role on 29 April 2019.

Secondment



Ms Sophie Kalderimis, is on secondment to SPREP from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), NZ. She will be working closely with SPREP's Legal Counsel Clark Peteru on providing legal advice, services and support to the Secretariat's

Legal Unit. Sophie holds a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) and BA in Political Science from the University of Otago. She has been with MFAT NZ since 2015, most recently acting as the Legal Adviser for Climate Change and Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Prior to MFAT, Sophie worked as a corporate lawyer. She started on 30 April 2019.

We welcome and congratulate all our new staff on their appointments and we look forward to these positions increasing and strengthening relevant support and services to the region.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General