



Sustainable Energy Industry Association of Pacific Islands (SEIAPI)

Pacific Power Association 29th Conference

Geoff Stapleton
Executive Officer, SEIAPI

SEIAPI Overview

- The Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI) was formed in 2010.
- Membership levels
 - Industry - (Companies within PICTs)
 - Industry - Electrical Utilities- All PPA members are automatic members of SEIAPI
 - Associate - (Companies outside of the PICTs)
 - Honorary - Govt Departments, Donors , NGO's etc

Mission

- To create an enabling environment for the future growth of sustainable energy technologies and their applications in the Pacific Islands



Key Achievements 1

- MOU with the Pacific Power Association to work together on technical documents/guidelines relating to renewable energy and their application.
- Developed 16 technical guidelines
- Launched in 2012 the technician accreditation program similar to that being operated in Australia and USA (relaunched in 2014 as the PPA/SEIAPI scheme)
- Developed 19 Training Unit Standards that were submitted to the Education Quality and Assessment Program (EQAP) and approved for listing on the Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards (PRQS)

Key Achievements 2

- Through the World Bank funded PPA managed Sustainable Energy Industry Development Program conducted thirty-two 4 Day workshops on guidelines. Provided twice in 16 locations (12 countries).

(FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue , Palau, PNG, RMI, Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)

- 633 people attended at least one workshop;
133 people attended workshops in both rounds
- Plus two workshops in Cook Islands (not part of the project)

Current Staffing

- 2010 - 2018 SEIAPI managed by voluntary Executive Committee (EC)
- Global Sustainable Energy Solutions (GSES) provided secretariat services since 2012.
- From 2018 GSES hired Fiji national Sandip Kumar to support SEIAPI secretariat services.
- Geoff Stapleton resigned as GSES Managing Director 1 July 2022 to dedicate his time as Executive Officer working with EC to meet SEIAPI's objectives.

SEIAPI & Capacity Building

- In 2005 Geoff Stapleton & Dr Herb Wade wrote *Pacific Renewable Energy Training Initiative*, proposing a PICT Sustainable Energy Training Centre to help build the region's sustainable energy training capacity.
- Most requirements identified remain relevant today!
- Since 2010 SEIAPI has argued for sustainable energy training & provided *ad-hoc* solar PV training through GSES (an Australian Registered Training Organisation).
- Since 2019 SEIAPI (with GSES) has been focusing on the building of training capacity in the Pacific so that courses meeting the needs of the existing private industry and power utilities are available within the region. .

GIZ/PPA License Agreement

- In 2019 GIZ purchased on behalf of PPA a license for 4 PV courses from GSES.
- This allows all Pacific-based training centres free access to training resources to 4 courses relating to design & installation of off- grid & grid-connect PV systems.
- Each training centre signs an agreement with GSES that the material is for that training centres use only and cannot be on-sold.

Sustainable Energy Training Centre - USP Pacific TAFE 1

- In July 2022 GSES signed a partnership agreement with The University of the South Pacific (USP) Pacific TAFE, under which USP Pacific TAFE is now offering three online courses:
 - Grid Connected PV Systems - Design and Install
 - Stand Alone Power Systems (Off-Grid) - Design and Install; and
 - Battery Storage Systems for Grid Connected PV System - Design and Install

Sustainable Energy Training Centre - USP Pacific TAFE 2

- This SEIAPI/USP partnership is the initial stage of a larger project establishing a new Sustainable Energy Training Centre at the USP Pacific TAFE Suva campus.
- SEIAPI is in discussion with a private philanthropic organisation to secure funding for the centre.

Sustainable Energy Training Centre - USP Pacific TAFE 3

- Short courses (1 to 3 hrs) will be available within the coming weeks
- SEIAPI is working with other PICTs to identify trainers & training centres to provide the practical training components of the courses in-country or to conduct the courses face-to-face.
- SEIAPI has identified 4 additional courses that will be launched within 12 months
- SEIAPI is working with the sustainable energy industry to identify other new courses

SEIAPI Current Objectives 1

- Support the establishment of the Sustainable Energy Training Centre at USP Pacific TAFE and identify how to establish either face to face courses or just practical training within other countries.
- Develop the new courses
 - Those already identified
 - Investigate requirements for basic electrical training
 - Liaise with industry and other stakeholder
- Raise the profile of SEIAPI within the PICT's and work with the various in-country and regional stakeholders to develop a workplan on what is required in each country to increase the usage of sustainable energy products and services and how SEIAPI can support this.

SEIAPI Current Objectives 2

- Work with the relevant in-country government departments, power utilities and where relevant donors to have:
 - the guidelines endorsed
 - International component (modules, inverter, batteries etc) standards enforces
- Work with PICT Governments to either have
 - them recognise the accreditation programor
 - the relevant in-country regulator develop a “solar technicians license”.

How to achieve the objectives?

- The Executive Officer is travelling to PICTs in late 2022 and 2023 for discussions to identify what is needed to be undertaken in each country to support SEIAPI meeting the objectives.
- 2022 visits:
 - Fiji Twice (May and Sept)
 - Vanuatu (July)
 - Solomon Islands (October)
 - Tonga (November)



THANK YOU

Further Information:

www.seiapi.com

eo@seiapi.com