

## NEW PACIFIC ORGANIC LEARNING FARM NETWORK LOOKS TO NATURE TO BOOST CLIMATE RESILIENCE

**WHAT:** Launch of the Pacific Organic Learning Farm Network

**WHEN:** Friday, May 28, 10 am (New Caledonia), 11 am (Fiji)

**WHERE:** SPC Headquarters, New Caledonia

**Zoom link:** <https://spc.zoom.us/j/98586628515?pwd=Um0yMkdibEkzSXVkbGVjWks1RDROdz09>

### Key Speakers:

**Dr. Stuart Minchin** – Director, the Pacific Community (SPC)

**Mr. Philippe Renault** – Regional director, Pacific regional office, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Noumea

**Mr. Luc Asselin de de Williencourt** - Deputy Permanent Representative of France to SPC and SPREP

**Ms. Karen Mapusua** – Director, Land Resources Division, SPC

### Background:

Organic farming systems are a holistic agricultural practice that helps address food security, climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation. This event will launch the Pacific Organic Learning Farm Network, a four-year project aimed at Pacific smallholder farmers that will address these challenges and help build resilient food and agricultural production for local communities and beyond. The project will focus on Fiji, Nauru, Tonga and the Solomon Islands, with exchange and learning components with Wallis and Futuna, New Caledonia and French Polynesia in the framework of the PROTEGE project, funded by the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund's regional budget and implemented in the Overseas Countries and Territories by SPC.

A network of Organic Learning Farms (OLFs) that become learning centres for best organic and agroecological production methods will be established and fertilized to foster sharing of knowledge, planting materials and successes. The OLFs will significantly expand the amount of land sustainably managed in the project and partner countries, helping to ensure nutritious and healthful food and agricultural products are regularly available and able to reach people during future shocks, including storms, public health emergencies such as COVID-19, and other disasters.

The Pacific Organic Learning Farm project is the first regional project of the Kiwa Initiative. The objective of the Initiative is to make Pacific Island ecosystems, economies and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change through Nature-based Solutions. The Initiative is funded by

the [European Union](#), [France](#), [Canada](#), [Australia](#) and [New Zealand](#) and is managed by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

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### **About SPC:**

The Pacific Community (SPC) is an international development organisation gathering 26 Member Countries and Territories. SPC harnesses science, knowledge and innovation for sustainable development, benefiting Pacific people, since 1947. [www.spc.int](http://www.spc.int)

### **About the Kiwa Initiative:**

The Kiwa Initiative is a multi-donor program that aims to build resilience to climate change through Nature-based Solutions. It is based on simplified access to climate change adaptation and Nature-based Solutions financing for local and national authorities, civil society and regional organizations in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories, including the three French Overseas. [www.kiwainitiative.org](http://www.kiwainitiative.org)

