

Pacific Biomedical Engineering Network

6th Pacific Biomedical Engineering Network (PBEN) Meeting, 8th – 12th April 2024

THEME: “STRENGTHENING BIOMEDICAL WORKFORCE IN THE PACIFIC REGION”

The Pacific Biomedical Engineering Network formerly known as Pacific Biomedical Network held its inaugural meeting in 2012 for biomedical engineers and technicians in the region. This platform was launched to create a forum where regional biomed experts were able to provide support, share experiences, challenges and develop resolutions to the common challenges they faced.

The role of the PBEN forum is to ensure that Heads of Health are provided with clear guidance, advice and support from their Director of Clinical Services to enable them to make informed decisions on priority issues relating to biomedical engineering matters and the development of biomedical engineering services in the Pacific.

Meeting Objectives

The objectives of the meeting are for member countries to share Biomedical experiences, challenges and to strengthen partnerships towards addressing Biomedical priorities in Pacific Island Countries & Territories (PICTs). Topics of interest include:

- **Capacity building:** Strengthen knowledge and skills through training. The workshop will include technical training of biomedical test equipment, servicing, maintenance and trouble shooting.
- **Network:** Support biomedical services and skills through strong collaboration and Partnerships
- **Leadership:** Strengthen leadership and management skills for qualified biomedical technicians targeted towards country’s needs.
- **Gender Equality, Disability Social Inclusion (GEDSI):** Increase awareness on GEDSI matters in the health profession and biomedical field.

Recommendations from the meeting will be presented to the Pacific Directors of Clinical Services meeting.

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Day 1 – Monday 8th April 2023:

Disability Inclusion Awareness Training (DIAT) Workshop

Time		Item	Description	Designation & Organisation
Start	End			
8.30	9.00	1.0	Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiji Disabled People Federation Organizations of Persons with Disabilities
9.00	9.30	1.1	Introduction to the training and disability inclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introductions Warm up/ Expectations 	Fiji Disabled People Federation
9.30	10.00	1.2	D2: Introduction to Disability and Disability Inclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is it important for health services to be inclusive? What is a disability?- What is disability Inclusion? Barriers to accessing health services. What can health services do to make services more inclusive to persons with disabilities 	Fiji Disabled People Federation
10.00	10.15	Morning Tea Break		
10.15	12.15	2.0	D3: Making Health Services Disability Inclusive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OPD sharing experiences. Addressing/removing barriers Next steps (Traffic light activity) Feedback Forms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiji Disabled People Federation Fiji Association of Deaf Psychiatric Survivors Association Spinal Injury Association United Blind Persons of Fiji
12.15	13.00	Lunch		
13.00	16.00	Hamilton Course *Only those who haven't finished course		
16.00	16.30	Afternoon Tea Break		
End of day 1				

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Day 2 – Tuesday, 9th April 2023: 6th Pacific Biomedical Engineering Network Meeting Day 1

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
8.00	8.30		Registration	Secretariat	Pacific Community (SPC)	-
Session		1	Opening and Devotion	Chair	Samoa	
8.30	8.45	1.1	Remarks from the Secretariat Regional Health Architecture	Dr Berlin Kafoa	Director Public Health Division, SPC	-
8.45	9.00	1.2	Update on Regional Biomedical Services	Ms Sunema Talapusi	Biomedical Adviser, SPC	-
Session		2	Workforce			
9.00	9.15	2.1	Mentoring & In-country mission	Mr Tociro Katsuki & Mr Semisi Finau	DFAT Biomedical Consultants Tonga & Tuvalu	IP
9.15	9.30	2.2	Challenges in biomedical HR provision at remote location	Mr Oswald Malisa	Biomedical Technician, Vanuatu	-
9.30	10.00	2.3	Q & A: Group Discussions			
10.00	10.30		Tea Break and Photo session	Official Photo	All delegates	
Session		3	Education			
10.30	10.45	3.1	Certified Technical Training	Ms Ataata Binataake	Biomedical Engineer, Kiribati	IP
10.45	11.00	3.2	The Medical Room Training	Ms Sera Vereadali	Head of Biomed Department, CWMH Suva	-
11.00	11.30	3.3	Q&A: Group Discussions			
11.30	11.45	3.4	Fiji National University experience	Mr Tuifonualava Tangatailoa	Head of Biomed, Tonga	-
11.45	12.00	3.5	Q&A: Group Discussions			
12.00	13.00		Lunch			
Session		4	Leadership			
13.00	13.15	4.1	Biomedical Services in Papua New Guinea	Mr Ambrose Kwaramb	Chief Engineer of PNG Department of Health, Papua New Guinea	IP
13.15	13.30	4.2	Biomedical Services in Solomon Islands	Mr Douglas Reres	Principal Biomedical, Solomon Islands	IP

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Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
13.30	14.00	4.3	Q&A: Group Discussions			
Session		5	Preventative Maintenance & Asset Inventory			
14.00	14.15	5.1	Implementation of policies to informed decision making	Ms Catherine Fiu	Principal Biomedical Engineer, Samoa	IP
14.15	14.30	5.2	Documentation & Asset Inventory	Mr Nelson Vagua	Biomedical Technician III, American Samoa	-
14.30	15.30	5.3	Q&A: Group Discussions			
15.30	16.00		Afternoon Tea			
16.00	17.00	5.4	Suppliers Meet & Greet			
End of Day 2						
17.30	19.00		Welcome Reception			

Day 3 – Wednesday, 10th April 2024: 6th Pacific Biomedical Engineering Network Meeting Day 2

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
8.20	8.30		Opening Prayer			
8.30	9.00		Recap of Day 2 – Key Points & Recommendations	Ms Virisila Livicala	National Biomedical Coordinator, FPBS Fiji	-
Session		6	Medical Waste			
9.00	9.15	6.1	Regional Waste Management Awareness	Mr Joshua Sam	SPREP	IP
9.15	9.30	6.2	Country experience & Biomedical Waste Management	Mr Alben Adelbai	Biomedical Equipment Specialist, Palau	IP
9.30	10.30	6.3	Q&A: Group Discussions			
10.30	11.00		Tea Break			

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Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
Session		7	IPC – Hand Hygiene			
11.00	12.30	7.1	Hand Hygiene workshop - Practical	Ms Margaret Leong	Infection Prevention & Control Adviser, SPC	
12.30	13.30		Lunch			
Session		8	Discussion Of Recommendations			
13.30	15.00	8.1	Key Decision Points & Recommendations	Country Representative Only	(CLOSED DOORS)	
15.00	15.15		Tea Break			
15.15	16.00	8.2	Key Decision Points & Recommendations	ALL	Wrap it up	
16.00	16.15	8.3	Close Meeting			
End of Day 3						

DAY 4: Thursday, 11th April 2024: The Medical Room Training – Patient Monitoring

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	
Start	End					
8.00	8.10	1.0	Opening Prayer	Chair		
8.10	9.00	1.1	Course Introductions & Course Health & Safety	Dr Dani Forster	Director, The Medical Room	
8.30	9.00	1.2	Review of relevant Documentation & Legislation	Dr Dani Forster	Director, The Medical Room	
10.00	10.15		Tea Break			
10.15	12.15	2.0	Group Work	Dr Dani Forster Richard Bower	The Medical Room	
12.30	13.00		Lunch			
13.00	15:00	3.0	Group Work	Dr Dani Forster	The Medical Room	

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Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation
Start	End				
15.00	15.15	<i>Afternoon Tea Break</i>			
15.00	17.00	4.0	Group Work	Dr Dani Forster	The Medical Room
<i>End of day 4</i>					

DAY 5: Friday, 12th April 2024: The Medical Room Training – Patient Simulator

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation
Start	End				
8.00	8.10	1.0	Opening Prayer	Chair	Samoa
8.10	10.00	1.1	Continuation of Course	Dr Dani Forster	Director, The Medical Room
10.00	10.15	<i>Tea Break</i>			
10.15	12.15	2.0	Continuation of Course	Dr Dani Forster Richard Bower	The Medical Room
12.30	13.00	<i>Lunch</i>			
13.00	15:00	3.0	Continuation of Course	Dr Dani Forster	The Medical Room
15.00	15.15	<i>Afternoon Tea Break</i>			
15.00	16.00	4.0	Group 2 – Practice & Assessment	Dr Dani Forster	The Medical Room
16.30	17.00	4.1	Certificate Ceremony Closing of Training	Dr Silina Motofaga	Team Leader, Clinical Services Programme, SPC
<i>End of day 5</i>					