



Sustainable Development Application Form			
Submitting Partner: Global Ministries		Date Submitted: Spring 2022	
Address: PO Box 1986	City: Indianapolis	State: IN	Zip Code: 46206
Name of Contact: Derek Duncan		Title: Area Executive, East Asia and Pacific	
Phone Number(s): 216-736-3220		E-mail Address: duncand@ucc.org	
Project Name: Development as we see it: Youth Changing the Story of Development Local Partner: Institute for Mission Research at the Pacific Theological College, Aisake Casimira, Director Location: Fiji			
Person at DOM responsible for and accountable for this project: Derek Duncan			
Partner's History/Relationship with the Project: <p>The Pacific Theological College (PTC) is an institution of the Pacific Conference of Churches and is a partner of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through Global Ministries. The Institute for Mission Research at the Pacific Theological College supports churches to be well-informed and effective actors for justice and the affirmation of God's creation through advocacy, research, and capacity building. The Pacific Islands region is dubbed as paradise, however, its people are not without challenges. Working with church organizations and communities, the Institute hopes to help build a region that focuses on the well-being of its people that ensures all living things thrive.</p> <p>Since its founding more than 50 years ago, PTC has been instrumental in producing many educated church leaders, scholars, theologians, ethicists, and activists both for the Pacific churches and for the wider Pacific community. It is the first institution in the Pacific to introduce and emphasize the importance of postcolonial studies through indigenization and contextualization both in theology and education. PTC also assists the churches and the countries in the region through the contributions of its graduates in their transitions towards religious and political self-determination. The college has been instrumental in shaping and guiding the theological responses of the churches of the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC) as it addresses critically many of the political, economic and social issues in the region from the perspective of the Christian Gospel.</p> <p>Through this unique theological and indigenous lens, the leadership of this project will guide young adults from the Pacific to consider priorities of development and well-being in their own communities with an understanding of the indigenous knowledge accumulated to address these issues and priorities.</p>			
Description of Project			
Name of Project (agricultural, health, water, micro-credit, education, community development, etc.): The name of this project is <i>"Development as we see it: Youth Changing the Story of Development."</i> This project aims to equip and train youth on defining their own narrative around the themes of political rights and security, climate change, gender-based violence, and the role of the church in social change in the Pacific.			
PTC recognizes that in many ways the Pacific Islands have been and continue to be exploited by global forces. Given this, it is important for young future leaders in the Pacific to learn to "tell a different story" about the Pacific. Young people, when given the skills and tools to understand and analyze policy, are able to raise their voices in advocacy for their community.			

This project focuses on building the capacity of young people to gather and learn the story of their community and to communicate it effectively. The project will focus on youth in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands (12 young men, and 12 young women) who will attend a series of workshops on narrative documentation and video communication. They will be provided with mentors and the necessary equipment and resources for this work. The participants will go into 12 communities around Fiji to research and document stories. Each will listen for stories around the themes of political rights and security, climate change, gender-based violence, and the role of the church in social change.

Target Population (children, women, farmers, urban poor, etc.):

Pacific Islander youth living in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands.

How many persons are/will be served? (please give as specific a figure as possible)?

There will be a cohort of 24 youth trained directly in this pilot project, all of whom will engage with community members from 12 communities.

Key Objectives:

1. Train youth through intensive, in-person workshops on identifying community priorities or concerns, essay writing, and journalism.
2. Produce video documentaries that share the youth perspectives on critical issues and development.

The goal is to contribute youth perspectives to a regional narrative that witnesses to how communities are empowered to reframe and communicate their own narratives of development. Each perspective includes influences of indigenous cultural forms and a prioritization of Pacific needs and priorities. Political rights and security, climate change, gender-based violence, and the role of the church in social change are common concerns to which island communities seek alternative and more authentic narratives of causes and solutions. These will be themes of analysis and narrative production for the youth.

Key Activities:

Activity 1: Twenty-four men and women under the age of 30 will be selected for training and participation, including some from faith-based organizations and civil society organizations, university students, and youth leaders from the communities. Participants will be 50% young men and 50% young women. After training, the 24 will engage in research and documentation among 12 communities in Fiji.

Activity 2: One two-week communications training workshop per year of the project will be held for the 24 youth participants. These trainings will be on communications in changing the story of development, and will involve learning analysis, documentary story-telling and technological skills in photography and video production.

Activity 3: Two 30-minute video documentaries per year of the project will be produced to highlight re-narrated aspects in the 'story of development' that challenge Pacific communities. Each video project will be screened and used for discussion and preparation of covenantal agreements within community and church contexts.

Duration of Project:

This is a two-year pilot project

Project Budget

Total Budget: \$975,000 FJD or approximately \$460,000 USD for the two-year pilot project

Amount Requested from Week of Compassion: \$12,500 USD
Is this a one-time request or an on-going request? One-time
Is the project financially supported by ecumenical or outside partners? If so, what percentage does it cover for this project? Yes, 98% is covered by ecumenical partners.
Please list partners who are funding this project: MISEREOR, Missio Munchen, CARITAS International (Germany), ACT Alliance (Switzerland), Lutheran World Relief (USA)
Does this project/partner receive funding from UCC OGHS, if so how much? No
What is the overall percentage of fund requested that will be used for administration/overhead? 0% requested will be used for overhead
Please attached a detailed, itemized budget and cost breakdown for the requested funds. A detailed budget is attached.
Dates and project names of previous proposal submissions: N/A
How do you plan to monitor, evaluate, and report back to Week of Compassion? <i>(Please note that future funding is contingent upon reporting. In addition to reporting, please provide stories of transformation and photos.)</i> Monitoring of the project will be accomplished through field visits with the participants, an electronic database and communication between organizers and participants, and mutual support among the participants and between them and mentors with the churches and affiliated agencies. Additionally, the Global Ministries Area Executive for East Asia and the Pacific plans to visit the project in the third quarter of 2022. A narrative report and financial report will be provided to Week of Compassion after one year.
If granted, is there a deadline by which to receive funding? It would be ideal to receive funding before the third quarter of 2022.