



USAID | **PACIFIC ISLANDS**

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Partners in Advancing Sustainable, Resilient Development in the Pacific Islands

AUGUST 2016

OUR MISSION:

**WE PARTNER TO END EXTREME POVERTY
AND PROMOTE RESILIENT, DEMOCRATIC
SOCIETIES WHILE ADVANCING SECURITY
AND PROSPERITY.**



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PACIFIC ISLANDS

The United States Agency for International Development
U.S. Embassy Suva

158 Princes Road, Tamavua, Suva, Fiji

Phone: (+679) 331-4466

E-mail: infopacificislands@usaid.gov

Cover photo: In the village of Ungakum, Papua New Guinea, salt-water intrusion into wells and lack of fresh water storage are contributing to water shortages in the community. USAID is helping local residents install rainwater catchment systems and develop plans to manage climate-related disasters, including gradual changes like sea level rise. (Photo credit: Dani Newcomb, USAID/Pacific Islands)



WHO WE ARE

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is the lead U.S. Government agency that works to end extreme global poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies.

U.S. foreign assistance has the two-fold purpose of furthering national interests while improving lives in the developing world. USAID contributes to U.S. foreign policy goals by promoting broad-scale human progress at the same time it encourages stable, free societies, opens up markets and trade partners for the United States, and fosters good will abroad.

Spending less than 1 percent of the total federal budget, USAID works in over 100 countries to:

- Promote broadly shared economic prosperity;
- Strengthen democracy and good governance;
- Protect human rights;
- Improve global health;
- Advance food security and agriculture;
- Improve environmental sustainability;
- Further education;
- Help societies prevent and recover from conflicts; and
- Provide humanitarian assistance in the wake of natural and man-made disasters.

Our Mission:

We partner to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing security and prosperity.

In the last 20 years alone, economic growth, bolstered by human ingenuity and entrepreneurship around the world, has reduced poverty rates by half. Now, for the first time in history, we have the tools, technologies and approaches to finish the job. We are working to end extreme poverty and help men, women, and children live in societies that provide for their health, security and well-being.

USAID is implementing a new model of development that engages talent and innovation everywhere to achieve extraordinary goals. We're working to change the way we do development, with new partnerships, a greater emphasis on innovation, integration with local leadership, and a relentless focus on measuring and delivering results.

Supporting the world's most vulnerable populations and helping millions live in resilient, democratic societies are the right things to do. And in doing so, we strengthen our national and global security, energize economies, and bolster a safer, more prosperous future for all.

The Agency's head is the USAID Administrator, Gayle E. Smith. The USAID Assistant Administrator for Asia is Jonathan Stivers. The USAID/Philippines Mission Director is Susan K. Brems. The Pacific Islands region hosts six U.S. Embassies, led by Hon. Judith Beth Cefkin, U.S. Ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga and Tuvalu; Hon. Catherine Ebert-Gray, U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu; Hon. Karen Brevard Stewart, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands; Hon. Amy J. Hyatt, U.S. Ambassador to Koror, Palau; Hon. Robert Riley, U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia; and Hon. Mark Gilbert, U.S. Ambassador to Samoa. For more information, visit USAID's website at www.usaid.gov/pacific-islands.

COUNTRY PROFILE

The Pacific Islands are on the front lines of a variety of worldwide challenges, in particular global climate change and natural disasters. With some areas in the Pacific Islands only 15 feet above sea level, these nations are among the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and they are some of the least able to respond. The United States has significant security and trans-border interests in the region, which is home to more than 8.5 million people and supports fisheries and forests that are critical to local livelihoods and the global food supply.

USAID assistance to Pacific Island countries focuses on climate change adaptation across the region; HIV/AIDS prevention, control and treatment in Papua New Guinea; and targeted democracy initiatives. We work with Pacific Island governments, bilateral and multilateral donors, the private sector, and civil society organizations to ensure that USAID programs have the greatest possible impact.

The Pacific Island countries are rich in culture, history and biodiversity. More than 1,000 languages are spoken, and national populations range from less than 10,000 to more than 7 million. The region also supports valuable fisheries that are critical to local livelihoods and the global food supply. Yet the islands' very existence is threatened by global climate change, natural disasters, infectious diseases and governance challenges that undermine stability.

USAID assistance in the Pacific Island region covers 12 nations: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. USAID helps the Pacific Island countries adapt to and ease the negative impacts of global climate change and environmental degradation; supports disaster mitigation, relief and reconstruction; assists the government and civil society in Papua New Guinea to expand HIV prevention, care and treatment; and empowers women and builds the capacity of civil society organizations to strengthen peace and security in post-conflict Bougainville, an autonomous region in Papua New Guinea.

USAID/PACIFIC ISLANDS

- Manages investments of approximately \$16.5 million annually.
- Takes seriously its stewardship of these resources and reports regularly to the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Administration.
- Has more than 70 staff of business professionals, doctors, lawyers, accountants and other experts in the fields of governance, management, communications, economics, environment, education, and health that support the Pacific; of which 11 positions are based in the Pacific Islands, namely, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and the Federated States of Micronesia.
- Designs projects that are inclusive, relevant to local conditions, and timely.
- Conducts regular evaluations, audits, and on-site monitoring of all its investments.
- Has the stature to convene meetings with bilateral and multilateral donor organizations.
- Works in partnership with the government, civil society, private sector, and citizens of the 12 Pacific Island countries.
- Excels in cooperation with international and domestic partners.
- Actively seeks out partnerships with the private sector.

Environment, Energy, and Climate Change

USAID bolsters the human and institutional capacity of Pacific Island communities, civil society, governments, and regional institutions to adapt to the negative effects of climate change.

USAID's community-level projects serve as models for replication and scale-up by national governments, regional institutions, and other donors and stakeholders. U.S. assistance supports climate-proofing of community infrastructure, disaster preparedness, and innovative adaptation measures undertaken by civil society organizations.

At the national and regional levels, USAID strengthens the capacity of governments and regional institutions to develop and implement effective climate change adaptation policies and strategies. We implement projects through partnerships to increase the reach and effectiveness of our assistance. Some of our partners include U.S. Peace Corps, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, and other donor countries, such as New Zealand, Australia, and Germany. USAID has the lead responsibility for disaster mitigation, relief, and reconstruction in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands under the Compact of Free Association. USAID's disaster assistance in these countries complements climate change measures that help the two countries prepare for natural disasters.



Health

Papua New Guinea suffers from one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in the Pacific Islands. While overall adult prevalence is nearly 1 percent, HIV infection rates are much higher among key populations, including sex workers, men who have sex with men, and transgenders. In partnership with the National Department of Health, USAID addresses Papua New Guinea's HIV/AIDS epidemic by supporting a continuum-of-care model that links prevention, care, support and treatment services for people vulnerable to, living with, or affected by HIV/AIDS.



USAID builds on this successful model by delivering HIV/AIDS services to 12,500 key affected populations, as well as by linking those affected by gender-based violence—a key contributing factor to HIV infection in women—to support services.

In addition, Papua New Guinea has the highest rate of TB in the Pacific Islands region and one of the highest rates of Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) in the world. USAID provides special technical assistance and support for systematic screening and strengthening treatment regimens for MDR-TB and Extensively Drug-Resistant TB.

Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance

USAID is helping to sustain peace and stability in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville in Papua New Guinea. With a referendum on full independence from Papua New Guinea slated to take place in 2019, USAID is working with the Bougainville government, civil society organizations, and women's groups toward open, transparent, and peaceful electoral events.

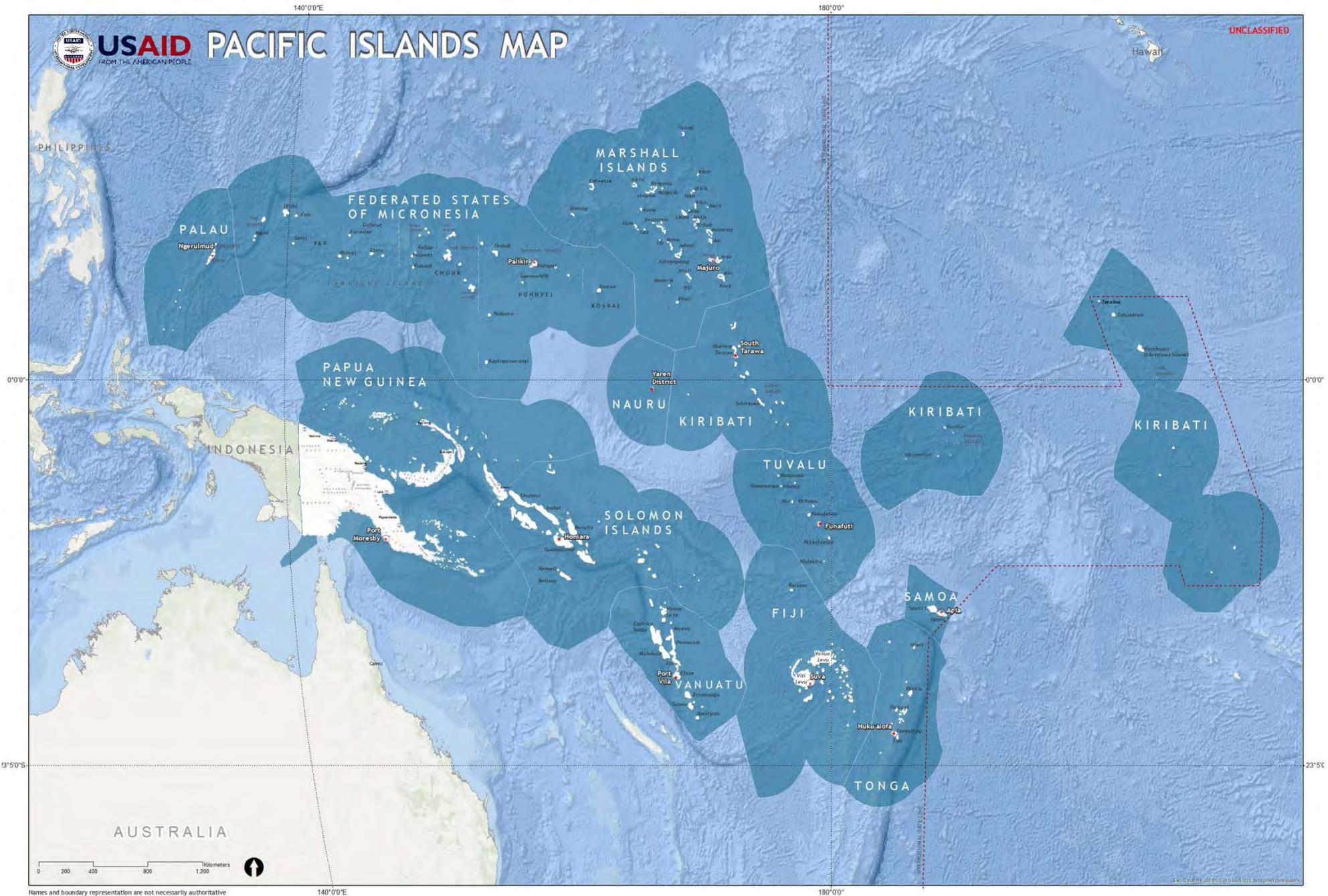




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PACIFIC ISLANDS MAP

UNCLASSIFIED



Names and boundary representation are not necessarily authoritative
Islands and atolls enhanced for visibility are not to scale

USAID/PACIFIC ISLANDS Projects

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT

Choiseul Integrated Climate Change Programme (CHICAP)

Implementation Period: March 2014 – March 2017

Implementing Partner: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,000,000

Geographic scope: Solomon Islands

The U.S. Government collaborates with other donors in the Pacific region to maximize resources. Working with Germany's aid agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, CHICAP strengthens the ability of communities, and provincial and national institutions in the Solomon Islands to cope with disasters and climate change. In 2015, CHICAP trained six communities on sustainable fishing practices and established three nurseries. The nurseries now produce seedlings of agricultural crops and trees for communities in Choiseul province.

Climate Ready

Implementation Period: 2017 – 2022

Implementing Partner: To be determined

Total Estimated Investment: \$24,700,000

Geographic scope: Pacific Regional

Pacific Island countries are already experiencing sea level rise, increasing drought and storm frequency and intensity, ocean acidification, and consequent damage to coral reefs and fisheries, among other negative impacts of climate change. Many governments within the Pacific region request additional support to address these negative impacts. USAID's Climate Ready project will help Pacific Island countries to become more climate resilient, to protect the lives and livelihoods of Pacific Island peoples and increase their prosperity. It will work with government partners and other stakeholders to draft and implement policies to achieve adaptation goals; access larger amounts of financing from international climate adaptation funds; and improve the skills and systems within each country to better manage and monitor adaptation projects.

Coastal Community Adaptation Project (C-CAP)

Implementation Period: October 2012 – December 2016

Implementing Partner: Development Alternatives, Inc.

Total Estimated Investment: \$17,973,129

Geographic scope: Pacific Regional

People from across the Pacific are among the most vulnerable to climate change, while often facing formidable challenges to adapt to changing conditions. This capacity is often particularly limited at the community and local levels. C-CAP strengthens resilience in nearly 70 communities across nine Pacific Island countries by improving small-scale community infrastructure and building local capacity for disaster prevention and preparedness. This ultimately helps communities be more resilient in the face of changing climatic conditions. For example, C-CAP completed community disaster management plans and conducted disaster simulation exercises in 67 communities. The project completed infrastructure activities in 35 communities, and 33 additional projects are under way. With activities like these, evacuation centers, community buildings, and health clinics can now withstand stronger storms, and newly installed rainwater catchment systems can strengthen communities' resilience during times of water scarcity.

Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response (PREPARE)

Implementation Period: July 2013 – June 2018

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$67,000,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

More than 155,000 people living in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are vulnerable to disasters related to climate change. Under the Compact of Free Association between the governments of the United States, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, USAID supports disaster management and reconstruction for these countries. In 2015, USAID helped island communities establish customized disaster management plans. USAID also trained 70 government and nongovernmental partners to improve community resilience. In the same year, Typhoon Maysak destroyed houses, crops, and public infrastructure in the Federated States of Micronesia's Chuuk and Yap States. In response, USAID expedited delivery of emergency and reconstruction assistance. To date, USAID has helped repair 127 public infrastructure facilities, such as government buildings, seawalls, and jetties, in Chuuk and 62 in Yap. USAID also distributed approximately \$1.5 million in vouchers to help typhoon survivors rebuild their homes.

Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change (ISACC)

Implementation Period: September 2015 – September 2020

Implementing Partner: The Pacific Community (SPC)

Total Estimated Investment: \$5,000,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu

ISACC works with eight Pacific Island countries to scale up national adaptation policies that have been successful in Kiribati and the Solomon Islands. The project links local partners, allowing them to pool their resources, manage their climate finances more effectively, and develop multi-sector approaches to adapt to climate change and reduce their risk to disasters. ISACC is assessing how Pacific countries manage their climate change finances, and is piloting a tool for them to better track these funds. The project will share findings from the pilot, so that countries can adopt and sustain best practices.

Pacific-American Climate Fund (PACAM)

Implementation Period: October 2013 – October 2018

Implementing Partner: Partners for Global Research and Development

Total Estimated Investment: \$23,991,293

Geographic scope: Pacific Regional

Civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Pacific often do not have sufficient funding and management capacity to respond to climate change challenges. PACAM awards grants to CSOs in 12 Pacific countries to implement and scale-up climate-resilient, community-level adaptation measures. These grants also enable programming that improves livelihoods, food, water security, and governance in the Pacific Islands. PACAM guides CSOs throughout the grant implementation, and helps them comply with USAID reporting procedures. In this manner, CSOs “learn by doing” and improve their proficiency in grant management. This positions them to replicate their projects, collaborate with other organizations, and engage in public-private partnerships. In 2015, the project awarded 15 grants totaling \$7.7 million that supported locally-driven and innovative initiatives on forestry, fisheries, and agriculture.

Project Assistance Agreement for Environmental Programming

Implementation Period: August 2016 – September 2021

Lead Government Partner: Government of Papua New Guinea’s Department of National Planning and Monitoring

Cooperating Government Partners: Government of Papua New Guinea’s Conservation and Environment Protection Authority and Climate Change and Development Authority

Total Estimated Investment: \$7,500,000

Geographic Scope: Papua New Guinea

While the wealth of Papua New Guinea's biodiversity is globally recognized, the country's rich and unique resources are among the world's most threatened. Major threats to the country's biodiversity are rapid deforestation, forest degradation, illegal fishing, pollution from industrial activities, and climate change. Papua New Guinea is one of USAID's 11 top priority countries for biodiversity. USAID and the Government of Papua New Guinea's Department of National Planning and Monitoring will work together to strengthen environmental policies and institutions; improve natural resource management; conserve biodiversity; and strengthen capacity to adapt to the negative impacts of climate change. USAID assistance under the Agreement is expected to support a more environmentally resilient population in Papua New Guinea.

U.S. Peace Corps Small Project Assistance

Implementation Period: October 2012 – October 2018

Implementing Partner: U.S. Peace Corps

Total Estimated Investment: \$3,090,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu

USAID works with the U.S. Peace Corps to raise environmental awareness among remote communities and increase their resilience to climate change impacts. In Vanuatu, Peace Corps volunteers train community members on climate change, adaptation measures, and disaster preparedness. Peace Corps volunteers also train community members to design and manage projects that address these issues. In Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga, volunteers train community members to build seawalls, improve water and sanitation, construct safe houses for use during extreme weather events, and integrate sound environmental practices into project planning.

U.S. Peace Corps Super Typhoon Maysak Housing, Reconstruction, Repair and Community Resiliency Project

Implementation Period: December 2015 – December 2016

Implementing Partner: U.S. Peace Corps

Total Estimated Investment: \$300,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia

In parallel with PREPARE and the Typhoon Maysak Reconstruction Program, this U.S. Peace Corps project helps communities rebuild their houses, and strengthens their resilience to better respond to future disasters. To date, the project has created jobs for more than 200 local people as they rebuild homes for their own communities. Each home is equipped with a water catchment system and electrical connection. Persons with disabilities are also receiving homes designed to fit their specific needs.

USAID Asia Climate Change Adaptation Support Facility (USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific)

** Managed by USAID/Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA)*

Implementation Period: September 2011 – September 2017

Implementing Partner: AECOM International Development

Total Estimated Investment: \$19,200,000

Geographic scope: Pacific Regional and 13 Asian countries including Timor-Leste

Climate change has significantly disrupted livelihoods among communities in Asia and the Pacific Islands. Millions of people in the region are vulnerable to rising sea levels, frequent extreme weather events, and other impacts of climate change. Those who are particularly at risk, including the urban poor, live in low-lying coastal areas and river basins. The USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project helps national and local governments tailor adaptation projects to meet their specific needs. The project supports extensive research and analyses on how climate change affects key agricultural sectors and ecosystems. Since 2011, USAID has leveraged approximately \$262 million in investments from international development partners to expand and sustain adaptation projects. USAID has strengthened seven government institutions in the Pacific to better respond to the region's climate-change adaptation needs.

The Oceans and Fisheries Partnership (USAID Oceans)

** Managed by USAID/RDMA*

Implementation Period: May 2015 – May 2020

Implementing Partners: TetraTech ARD, Inc., U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Total Estimated Investment: \$20,000,000

Geographic scope: Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Coral Triangle Initiative (Pacific countries included are Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor Leste)

Unsustainable fishing practices threaten biodiversity, food security, and livelihoods of more than 200 million people in Southeast Asia. The USAID Oceans Project helps to develop a transparent and financially-sustainable system that documents and traces catches to verify if fish are legally caught and properly labeled. The system harnesses the latest science, technology, and innovation so that marine resources are caught and accounted for according to national laws. To maximize the system's effectiveness, USAID Oceans promotes collaboration among regional stakeholders.

USAID/PACIFIC ISLANDS Projects **HEALTH**

Strengthening HIV/AIDS Services for Key Populations in Papua New Guinea

**U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) project managed by USAID/Philippines*

Implementation Period: October 2012 – September 2018

Implementing Partner: FHI 360

Total Estimated Investment: \$19,400,000

Geographic scope: Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea suffers from one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in the Pacific Islands. The project, funded by PEPFAR and managed by USAID, closely monitors HIV prevalence and strategically directs its outreach and treatment services to areas of greatest need in the capital Port Moresby and Madang. It also improves patient adherence to the lifetime of treatment that is currently required. In alignment with the National AIDS Strategy, this is the first project in the country to target outreach for HIV prevention and testing to these key highly stigmatized populations. As of September 2015, 3,855 individuals received HIV testing and counseling, with 255 people testing positive for the disease and starting with treatment. The project funds a hotline for those affected by gender-based violence, a key contributing factor to HIV infection in women.

CHALLENGE TB (CTB)

**Managed by USAID/Washington*

Implementation Period: June 2016 – September 2016

Implementing Partner: FHI 360

Total Estimated Investment: \$155,000

Geographic scope: Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea has the second highest tuberculosis and Multi-Drug Resistant TB (MDR-TB) prevalence in the Western Pacific Region. The Challenge TB project complements current measures in Papua New Guinea to improve the treatment outcomes for drug-resistant TB. It also improves case detection for drug-resistant TB on Daru Island. USAID has provided two GeneXpert machines to quickly and effectively diagnose MDR-TB and, together with Janssen Therapeutics, has brought the first TB drug on the market in over 40 years to the country. The drug, called bedaquiline, treats patients suffering from MDR-TB, which is resistant to the two most effective anti-TB drugs available today. This project also strengthens the technical capacity at different levels of the health system.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Inc., Fair Housing and Water Improvements Project

**Managed by USAID/Washington*

Implementation Period: April 2014 – April 2018

Implementing Partner: Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Inc.

Total Estimated Investment: \$800,000

Geographic scope: Papua New Guinea

USAID's Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) provides assistance to schools, libraries, and medical centers outside the United States to improve health and education outcomes among partner countries. In Papua New Guinea, USAID/ASHA improves living accommodations in Kudjip Nazarene Hospital by building staff housing for its employees. This allows the hospital to attract and retain hospital staff and promote fair housing for both men and women.

USAID/PACIFIC ISLANDS Projects **Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance**

Peaceful and Inclusive Elections and Referendum project in Bougainville (PIER)

Implementation Period: February 2015 – February 2017

Implementing Partner: International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,050,000

Geographic scope: Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Post-conflict order remains fragile in Papua New Guinea, where citizens endured a decade-long civil war that began in 1988. Today, there is continued need for an inclusive peace process that engages with all stakeholders; for mitigation measures to defuse local conflicts and stronger law enforcement; and for activities that promote political development and economic recovery. Likewise, it will be necessary to promote dialogue around the referendum on Bougainville's political status to promote greater understanding of the various issues and prevent destabilization. PIER strives to help the electoral and referendum processes become more open, transparent, and peaceful. The project also promotes women's participation in politics and conflict mitigation. For the 2015 elections, the Bougainville Women's Federation, with support from USAID, trained and deployed Bougainville's first-ever domestic election observers. As a result, 26 long-term and 36 short-term observers deployed to 29 of the 31 constituencies in Bougainville, increasing the credibility of the 2015 elections.

U.S-Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Technical Assistance to Advance Regional Integration

**Managed by USAID/RDMA*

Implementation Period: November 2013 – October 2018

Implementing Partner: Nathan Associates

Total Estimated Investment: \$26,886,926 (FY 2015 estimated expenditures in Papua New Guinea: \$80,000)

Geographic scope: Papua New Guinea and other APEC (assistance eligible) Member Economies

USAID partners with APEC to promote free and open trade and investment, as well as to strengthen and deepen economic integration in the region. The project promotes good regulatory practices; fosters trade and investment in environmental goods and services; improves supply chain performance; aligns standards and codes; and advances progress in other policy areas. Additionally, the project has helped prepare Papua New Guinea's APEC Secretariat to host its first APEC meeting in 2018, and held workshops for government officials to help them better engage with current international agendas.

USAID/PACIFIC ISLANDS Projects

USAID/OFDA REGIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS

Countries in the Pacific experience a wide range of hazards, including cyclones, floods, drought, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions. Meanwhile, climate change is presenting new risks, including changes in rainfall patterns, increased severity of storms, and rises in sea levels. Poverty, population growth, and rapid urbanization all exacerbate these vulnerabilities. USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) leads and coordinates the U.S. government's response to disasters overseas. USAID/OFDA responds to an average of 65 disasters, in more than 50 countries, every year. The types of disasters that USAID/OFDA responds to are rapid onset disasters, such as earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, and slow onset crises, such as drought and conflict. USAID/OFDA saves lives, alleviates human suffering, and reduces the social and economic impact of disasters worldwide, in partnership with other operating units of USAID and other U.S. government agencies.

Building Disaster Management Capacity in the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Implementation Period: August 2013 – September 2016

Implementing Partner: Marshall Islands Red Cross Society, Micronesia Red Cross Society, and Palau Red Cross Society

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,480,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

The Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are vulnerable to natural hazards, including drought, floods, and storms. Through USAID/OFDA funding, the Marshall Islands Red Cross Society, Micronesia Red Cross Society, and Palau Red Cross Society—supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies—partner with local government agencies, businesses, and communities to build awareness of disaster response activities and cultivate a trained volunteer base for emergency responses.

Building Disaster Management Capacity

Implementation Period: April 2014 – September 2016

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$480,000

Geographic scope: Palau

USAID/OFDA supports the International Organization for Migration to build the disaster management capacity of Palau through the Australian Government's climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and education program. USAID assistance in Palau focuses on contingency planning for typhoons, improving school-based preparedness for disasters, and facilitating humanitarian assistance and logistics training.

Building Resilient Communities in Disaster-Prone Areas

Implementation Period: January 2016 – December 2018

Implementing Partner: International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,278,282

Geographic scope: Fiji

USAID/OFDA supports the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to implement the Building Resilient Communities in Disaster-Prone Areas program in several disaster-prone areas in Fiji. The project collaborates with the Fiji Red Cross Society to build the disaster-management capacity communities. The project also trains communities in developing early warning systems to reduce disaster risk.

Bolstering Disaster Response Capacity

Implementation Period: March 2016 – September 2018

Implementing Partner: American Red Cross

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,500,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Through USAID/OFDA support, the American Red Cross partners with Micronesia Red Cross Society to strengthen local capacity and reduce communities' vulnerability to disaster risks by improving sanitation infrastructure and increasing water supply. The project addresses water, sanitation, and hygiene needs in disaster-prone areas, including conducting hygiene awareness activities and repairing sanitation facilities.

Bolstering Community Resilience

Implementation Period: April 2013 – June 2017

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$4,740,000

Geographic scope: Morobe, Oro, and West New Britain provinces, Papua New Guinea

USAID/OFDA supports the International Organization for Migration to implement community-based disaster risk reduction programs in Papua New Guinea. The project is reducing the vulnerability of local populations to natural and man-made disasters in 30 communities within ten districts of Morobe, Oro, and West New Britain provinces. The project conducts training sessions and provides technical support for district, local, and provincial government officials. It also supports resilience-strengthening initiatives and risk-mitigation planning. USAID also supports agriculture and water, sanitation, and hygiene services in targeted communities, including areas significantly affected by El Niño.

Community Planning to Mitigate the Impact of Disasters

Implementation Period: July 2015 – June 2018

Implementing Partner: French Red Cross

Total Estimated Investment: \$2,200,000

Geographic scope: Malampa and Torba provinces, Vanuatu

USAID/OFDA supports the French Red Cross to construct and rehabilitate water supply infrastructure in Malampa and Torba provinces, improving the communities' access to safe drinking water during times of disaster. The program also provides hygiene information to community members to protect water sources from contamination, thereby reducing the risk of waterborne diseases.

Conducting Incident Command System Training

Implementation Period: FY 2012 - FY 2016

Implementing Partner: U.S. Forest Service

Total Estimated Investment: \$235,000

Geographic scope: Palau and Vanuatu

USAID/OFDA and the U.S. Forest Service train partners from national and local government, as well as nongovernment organizations (NGOs), in Palau and Vanuatu to improve disaster preparedness. In Palau, following initial consultations with the national government, the project is conducting incident command system (ICS) workshops with key partners and integrating ICS with existing response systems. In Vanuatu, the project is supporting training courses for participants from the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office, provincial governments, and NGOs to enhance disaster response capacity and facilitate emergency communication systems among the approximately 80 islands that comprise the country.

Enhancing Humanitarian Coordination in the Pacific

Implementation Period: FY 2012 – FY 2016

Implementing Partner: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,650,000

Geographic scope: Pacific Islands Region

USAID/OFDA partners with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Regional Office for the Pacific in Suva, Fiji, to strengthen humanitarian coordination in the Pacific. The program facilitates information sharing, initiates contingency planning, and enhances disaster response coordination among humanitarian actors in the Pacific.

Improving Water Access and Supply

Implementation Period: January 2016 – January 2017

Implementing Partner: CARE

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,002,898

Geographic scope: Tafea province, Vanuatu

USAID/OFDA, in partnership with CARE, conducts water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions in Tafea Province. The project bolsters community-led water system construction, management, and rehabilitation. It also raises awareness on water safety and protection of water resources.

Working closely with local authorities, this support facilitates community-level preparedness to mitigate the effects of future disasters.

Mitigating the Effects of El Niño-related Drought

Implementation Period: January 2016 – December 2016

Implementing Partner: UN Food and Agriculture Organization

Total Estimated Investment: \$387,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Solomon Islands

USAID/OFDA partners with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to monitor and prepare for El Niño-related drought in Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Solomon Islands. The program collaborates with national disaster response agencies to develop systems to monitor food production and supply, particularly in remote locations where information gathering proves difficult. In addition to developing a robust data collection process, this support assists local officials to assess drought impacts and food security to determine response needs.

Mitigating the Effects of Decreased Rainfall

Implementation Period: February 2016 – September 2016

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$350,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

USAID/OFDA supports the International Organization for Migration to engage communities in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands affected by El Niño-related drought to encourage water conservation. The project provides solar-powered reverse osmosis units to supplement safe drinking water supplies in remote, vulnerable areas of the two countries. It also works with disaster management agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and local weather services to highlight the impact of El Niño and improve household water conservation.

Mitigating the Impact of Disasters by Coping with Water Challenges

Implementation Period: May 2015 – April 2018

Implementing Partner: French Red Cross

Total Estimated Investment: \$2,000,000

Geographic scope: Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands are vulnerable to natural disasters, including cyclones, floods, and tropical storms, that can limit access to safe drinking water and increase the risk of disease outbreaks. USAID/OFDA strengthens the capacity of communities in Guadalcanal and Malaita provinces to respond to natural disasters that may affect drinking water supply. The French Red Cross, in coordination with the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society, incorporates water, sanitation, and hygiene elements into community disaster mitigation plans. The project also rehabilitates water supply infrastructure, and teaches basic hygiene knowledge to local communities.

Monitoring Volcanic Activity

Implementation Period: FY 2012 – FY 2016

Implementing Partner: U.S. Geological Survey

Total Estimated Investment: \$980,000

Geographic scope: Papua New Guinea

USAID/OFDA and the U.S. Geological Survey provide technical assistance to national volcano monitoring organizations to respond to volcanic events. Assistance includes training in hazard assessment, early warning system development, and installation of volcano monitoring equipment. In Papua New Guinea, the project helps the Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory and Rabaul Volcano Observatory in Papua New Guinea to improve volcanic gas monitoring and warning systems to help get people out of harm's way during volcanic events.

Pre-Positioning Emergency Relief Commodities

Implementation Period: May 2014 – July 2017

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$216,800

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

USAID/OFDA supports the International Organization for Migration to pre-position emergency relief supplies in three strategic locations throughout the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The project also helps develop agreements with island-based organizations for logistical support during an emergency response.

Reducing Vulnerabilities through School Collaborations

Implementation Period: April 2015 – July 2017

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration

Total Estimated Investment: \$700,000

Geographic scope: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

USAID/OFDA supports the International Organization for Migration in implementing the Australian Government’s climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and education program in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The program builds the resilience of more than 500 school-aged children and 5,000 community members to climate change and climate-change hazards. The support also creates community disaster preparedness and response committees, develops school emergency management plans, and trains teachers in climate change and evacuation center management.

Supporting World Food Programme Emergency Capacity and Preparedness

Implementation Period: March 2016 – March 2017

Implementing Partner: UN World Food Programme

Total Estimated Investment: \$500,000

Geographic scope: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Western Samoa, and Vanuatu

USAID/OFDA and the UN World Food Programme bolster emergency logistics and telecommunications capacity across the Pacific, including in Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Western Samoa, and Vanuatu. This support helps national and regional relief actors improve assessment, coordination, equipment stocking, technical advisory services, and training capacity in the region. The program builds the capacity of government partners to manage effectively their national disaster management offices and their local partners, and helps develop infrastructure to prevent and respond to disasters.

USAID LEADERSHIP



Gayle E. Smith **Administrator**

Gayle E. Smith was sworn into office as the seventeenth Administrator of USAID on December 2, 2015. As a long-time leader in President Obama's Administration, she has helped shape and guide America's international development policy for the past seven years, notably by elevating development as a vital component of the national security agenda.

As Administrator of USAID, Smith oversees a dedicated team of nearly 10,000 professionals working to end extreme poverty, foster sustained and inclusive economic growth, and promote resilient, democratic societies all over the world. She is committed to sustaining USAID's work to lift up the world's most vulnerable people by promoting innovative partnerships, emphasizing science and technology, engaging with and strengthening local leadership, and maintaining a relentless focus on evaluating, measuring, and delivering results.

Most recently, Administrator Smith served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Development and Democracy at the National Security Council, where she helped manage the U.S. Government's responses to more than 15 major humanitarian crises and worked to strengthen democratic institutions around the world. She has been a driving force behind Presidential initiatives that are advancing USAID's mission, including Feed the Future and Power Africa.

Administrator Smith was previously a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, Co-Founder of the ENOUGH Project, and Co-Founder of the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network. During the Clinton Administration, she served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs at the National Security Council, and as Senior Advisor to the Administrator and Chief of Staff of USAID.

Prior to her U.S. Government service, Administrator Smith worked as a journalist in Africa for over 20 years, where she covered military, economic, and political affairs for the BBC, Associated Press, Reuters, Boston Globe, Christian Science Monitor, Toronto Globe & Mail, London Observer, and Financial Times. She won the World Journalism Award from the World Affairs Council and the World Hunger Year Award in 1991, and in 1999 she won the National Security Council's Samuel Nelson Drew Award for Distinguished Contribution in Pursuit of Global Peace.

Administrator Smith is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on the boards of Oxfam America, the Africa America Institute, ASSET, USA for Africa, and the National Security Network. She has also consulted for a range of NGOs, foundations, and governmental

organizations, including UNICEF, the World Bank, Dutch Interchurch Aid, Norwegian Church Relief, and the Canadian Council for International Cooperation.

Smith also served on the policy and advisory boards of DATA, the Acumen Fund, and the Global Fairness Initiative, and was the Working Group Chair on Global Poverty for the Clinton Global Initiative from 2005 to 2007.

She received a B.A. from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



Jonathan Stivers **Assistant Administrator**

Jonathan Stivers serves as the USAID Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Asia. In this position, he oversees a budget of \$1.1 billion in assistance in 32 countries in South Asia, Central Asia, East Asia, and the Pacific Islands, and manages a bureau and overseas staff of approximately 1,200 development professionals.

Prior to joining USAID, Stivers was Senior Advisor to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. During his 18 years in the Legislative Branch, Stivers played a leadership role on numerous foreign policy initiatives related to global health, development, trade, and human rights – from advancing legislation that provided historic increases in global health funding to securing emergency relief appropriations in the aftermath of the 2010 Haiti earthquake. With an extensive background in Asian affairs, Stivers has worked, studied, and traveled throughout the region, with a special focus on democracy and human rights issues.

On Capitol Hill, Stivers also served as Senior Legislative Assistant to the Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and in the Office of the Democratic Whip. In these positions, he wrote and negotiated foreign policy provisions in the annual appropriations legislation and gained expertise in parliamentary procedure, communications, and member services.

Stivers earned a Masters of International Policy and Practice from The Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University in Asian Affairs and a Bachelor of Arts from James Madison College at Michigan State University in International Relations.



Susan K. Brems, Ph.D.
USAID Mission Director for Philippines, Pacific Islands, and Mongolia

Susan Brems, USAID Mission Director for the Philippines, Pacific Islands, and Mongolia, began her assignment in September 2015. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, rank of Minister-Counselor, Brems was previously Mission Director in Zambia (2011-2015); Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Bureau for Global Health (2009-2011); and Mission Director in Angola (2007-2009). She has also held the positions of Deputy Mission Director in Peru and Nicaragua. Brems has been with the Agency since 1992, spending the first 10 years of her USAID career as a health officer in Peru and Bolivia. Before joining USAID, she worked with the World Bank and the American Public Health Association.

Brems holds a PhD and MA from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Social Change and Development and from the Johns Hopkins College of Arts and Sciences in Socio-cultural Anthropology. Prior degrees include an MA from Middlebury College and a BS from Georgetown University.



Richard L. Edwards
Regional Coordinator, USAID Pacific Islands

Richard Edwards is a senior international environment expert and program manager. He has served as a USAID Foreign Service Officer, an NGO leader, and consultant in the Asia-Pacific, Africa, and the Middle East.

His expertise includes strategic planning, design, and implementation of major USAID development programs, with a focus on global climate change, clean energy, biodiversity conservation, and disaster response and reconstruction. He has lived and worked in several developing countries, including the Philippines, Morocco, India, Egypt, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia.

Edwards holds an MS in Natural Resources Management from Humboldt State University and a BS in Biology from the University of Oregon.

U.S. EMBASSIES IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS



Hon. Judith Beth Cefkin
**U.S. Ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga
and Tuvalu**

Judith Beth Cefkin was sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu on January 5, 2015.

Ambassador Cefkin is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, rank of Minister-Counselor. Prior to this assignment, Ambassador Cefkin served as the State Department's Senior Advisor for Burma. Other recent assignments included Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand (2010-2013), and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (2006-2009).

Ambassador Cefkin entered the Foreign Service in 1983. Her other overseas postings have included the Philippines, France, Mexico, and an earlier tour in Thailand. In Washington, she has served in the Office of Central African Affairs, the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, and the Office of European Union and Regional Affairs. She also served as Deputy Director of the Office of Western European Affairs and as Director of the Office of Nordic and Baltic Affairs. In 2009, Ambassador Cefkin did a brief stint on the Foreign Service Board of Examiners.

Prior to entering the Foreign Service, Ambassador Cefkin worked as a television news producer at network news affiliates in Denver and Houston. She also worked in Congress' Office of Technology Assessment and as a legislative intern in the U.S. Senate. She received a B.A. in Government from Smith College (1975), followed by a Masters in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science (1977). Ambassador Cefkin is married to Paul L. Boyd, a retired diplomat, who has also served in the military and in law enforcement.



Hon. Karen Brevard Stewart
U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands

Karen Brevard Stewart is a career member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service. Her previous post was as the Political Advisor to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, North Atlantic Treaty Organization. She was nominated by President Barack Obama on November 5, 2015, and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on May 17, 2016.

A native of Florida, Ambassador Stewart joined the Foreign Service as an economic officer in 1977. She has served overseas in Bangkok and Udorn, Thailand; Colombo, Sri Lanka; Islamabad, Pakistan; and as Deputy Chief of Mission in Vientiane, Laos and in Minsk, Belarus. She has served as Ambassador to Belarus and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In Washington Ambassador Stewart worked in multiple bureaus including: Office of Fisheries Affairs, Office of Energy Consuming Countries, Office of Israel and Arab-Israeli Affairs, and as Director of the Office of Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus Affairs. Most recently, Ambassador Stewart was Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, and subsequently Special Advisor to the Director General of the Foreign Service.

Ambassador Stewart graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. with honors in astronomy and economics from Wellesley College and pursued further studies in astronomy at the University of Virginia. In 1998, she received an M.S. in National Security Strategy from the National War College of the National Defense University. She has studied Thai, Lao, and Russian with the State Department.

Ambassador Stewart is the recipient of Department of State Meritorious and Superior Honor Awards. In December 2007, the Department presented her its first Diplomacy for Freedom Award for her Embassy's work in Belarus in support of democracy and human rights. In 2011 she received the Presidential Meritorious Service Award.



Hon. Robert Riley
U. S. Ambassador to the Federated States of
Micronesia

Robert Annan Riley III is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor. His prior position was as Management Counselor, U.S. Embassy Jakarta, Indonesia. With 35 years of experience in management positions, Ambassador Riley is recognized as an effective negotiator and team leader who has successfully coordinated a broad range of mission-wide programs.

Previously, Ambassador Riley served as Management Counselor at U.S. Embassy Manila, Philippines (2009-2013), U.S. Embassy Hanoi, Vietnam (2007-2009), and U.S. Embassy Islamabad, Pakistan (2006-2007). Before that, he served as Senior Financial Management Officer, U.S. Embassy Paris, France (2002-2006), during which he was on a detail appointment to U.S. Embassy Baghdad, Iraq (2005-2006). He also served as Financial Management Officer at U.S. Embassy Madrid, Spain (1998-2002), U.S. Embassy Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (1995-1998), and U.S. Embassy Lilongwe, Malawi (1993-1995).

Before joining the Foreign Service, Ambassador Riley worked as Regional Administrator for West Africa, for Plan International, Dakar, Senegal (1992-1993). Earlier in his career, he served in the Peace Corps, as Chief Administrative Officer, Africa Region, Washington, D.C. (1988-1992), Administrative Officer in Mali (1986-1988) and Gabon (1983-1986), Volunteer Leader/Logistics Coordinator, Gabon (1981-1983), and Volunteer, Gabon (1979-1981).

Ambassador Riley earned a B.A. from Yale University in 1979 and has received numerous Department performance awards. He speaks French and Spanish.



Hon. Amy J. Hyatt
U.S. Ambassador to Koror, Palau

Amy J. Hyatt arrived at Embassy Koror in March 2015 to assume the position of Ambassador after being confirmed by the Senate on December 2014. She is a career Foreign Service Officer with the personal rank of Minister Counselor.

Ambassador Hyatt has worked for the U.S. Department of State for over 29 years, serving in Washington, DC, and at seven embassies overseas. Most recently Ambassador Hyatt was the Management Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt. Before that she was the Diplomat in Residence at Arizona State University.

Ambassador Hyatt was the Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargé at the U.S. Embassy in Helsinki, Finland, and served in Korea, Thailand, the Philippines, Norway, and the Czech Republic. While in Washington, DC, she served as Political Analyst handling North Korea for the Bureau of Intelligence and Research and as Post Management Officer for several East Asia posts.

Prior to entering the Foreign Service, Ambassador Hyatt was a litigation attorney in San Francisco. She has a J.D. from Stanford, an M.S.S. from the National Defense University, National War College, and a B.A. from the State University of NY at Binghamton.



Hon. Catherine Ebert-Gray
U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu

Ambassador Catherine Ebert-Gray is a Minister-Counselor in the Senior Foreign Service. She was sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu on January 22, 2016.

Between 2011 and 2015 she served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Logistics Management and Co-Chair of the Defense - State Executive Steering Group supporting the transitions in Iraq and Afghanistan. Her global division annually managed \$7 billion in State Department acquisition in addition to oversight of the Department's global supply chain.

Since entering the Foreign Service in 1988, Ambassador Ebert-Gray has served in Mali, Morocco, Togo, Egypt, Germany, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, and Australia. She has spent over half of her career in the South Pacific region.

Tours in Washington have included positions as Supervisory Post Management Officer in the State Department's Near Eastern Affairs and South and Central Asian Affairs Bureaus during Operation Desert Shield and the re-opening of embassies in Kabul, Baghdad and Tripoli. She also served as an Analyst in the Center for Administrative Innovation and Director of Overseas Employment in the Bureau of Human Resources.

Throughout her career, Ambassador Ebert-Gray participated in overseas American Chambers of Commerce and volunteered on the boards of four international schools. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, she was employed in city, state, and congressional staff positions in Wisconsin and Hawaii.

Ambassador Ebert-Gray received degrees in international relations and political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's degree in national resource management from the Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy.



Hon. Mark Gilbert
U.S. Ambassador to Samoa

President Barack Obama nominated Mark Gilbert as United States Ambassador to New Zealand and Samoa on January 6, 2014. The U.S. Senate confirmed Ambassador Gilbert's appointment on December 12, 2014, and he was sworn in by Vice President Joe Biden on January 7, 2015. Ambassador Gilbert presented his credentials in New Zealand to Governor-General Jerry Mateparae on February 9, 2015, and presented his credentials in Samoa to Chief Justice Patū Sapolu on May 12, 2015.

Ambassador Gilbert formerly served as a Managing Director of UBS, the culmination of a distinguished career in finance, which included positions at Barclays and Goldman Sachs. From 2009 to 2013 he served as the Deputy National Finance Chair for the Democratic National Committee.

Prior to his banking career, Ambassador Gilbert played professional baseball for eight seasons, reaching the major leagues with the Chicago White Sox in 1985. Ambassador Gilbert is the first former major league player to become a United States Ambassador.

Ambassador Gilbert served on the Development Committee and Utah Advisory Board of the Sundance Institute; Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Finance Committee at Pine Crest School (1992-2012); and President and Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee of B'nai Torah Congregation (1994-2007).

Ambassador Gilbert is a graduate of Florida State University.

For more information, please contact:

Mission

Susan K. Brems, Ph.D.

Mission Director

Phone: (+632) 301.4801

E-mail: SBrems@usaid.gov

Mr. Clay Epperson

Deputy Mission Director

Phone: (+632) 301.4804

Email: CEpperson@usaid.gov

Mr. Richard Edwards

Regional Coordinator

Phone: (+679) 331.4466, ext. 8220

Email: Riedwards@usaid.gov

Mr. Kiel Enrique

Development Outreach and Communications Specialist

Phone: (+632) 301.4711

Email: EErique@usaid.gov

Headquarters

Ms. Melissa Kennison

Desk Officer

Phone: (+202) 712.4521

E-mail: MKennison@usaid.gov



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The United States Agency for International Development
U.S. Embassy Suva
158 Princes Road, Tamavua, Suva, Fiji
Phone: (+679) 331-4466
E-mail: infopacificislands@usaid.gov

www.usaid.gov/pacific-islands