



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Civil society to benefit from launch of new online learning platform

(12 May, 2021) Suva, Fiji - Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the Pacific will now be able to access valuable learning resources and toolkits to boost their capacity following the virtual launch of an online Moodle platform in Suva today.

Launched by the European Union (EU) and OXFAM in the Pacific “Raising Pacific Voices” project, the Moodle platform will enable users to access learning resources developed by the project from anywhere – be it from their homes, offices, institutions or organisations.

Speaking at the launch, the Team Leader for Natural Resources and Governance at the EU Delegation Ms Ingrid Swinnen said, “The European Union is pleased to support the *Raising Pacific Voices* project which is the result of an excellent partnership between the EU, OXFAM in the Pacific and OXFAM’s partners - the Pacific Disability Forum, the PRNGO Alliance and the Pacific Civil Society Organisations.

“Access to online learning is of even more importance now, particularly as some Pacific countries continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. It was with this in mind, that the Raising Pacific Voices project rescripted its modality of programme delivery as an adaptation measure in response to the pandemic,” Ms Swinnen said.

The development of this Moodle platform has been an important core objective of the Raising Pacific Voices project to develop and strengthen the capacity of national and regional CSOs. Users will be able to access training on organisational capacity building and safeguarding capacity development.

Raijeli Nicole, OXFAM in the Pacific Regional Director said, “The Moodle platform and the greater idea of Distance and Flexible Learning will ensure continuity and sustainability of the Raising Pacific Voices program beyond the life of the project. We are pleased to collaborate with the University of the South Pacific in hosting the platform for us.

“The Raising Pacific Voices project has enabled Oxfam in the Pacific to work with our regional CSO partners, the Pacific Disability Forum and the PRNGO Alliance on a range of capacity development strategies to improve organisational competencies, enhance board and staff skills in good governance, strategic planning, financial management, administration and communications, human resource management, constituency engagement, policy engagement and influencing and advocacy.

“The important funding support received from the EU to the Raising Pacific Voices project has strengthened the capacity of our partner Pacific CSOs and their collective action capabilities,” Ms Nicole said.

The Moodle platform can be accessed on the “Pasifika Rising” website here www.pasifikarising.org

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