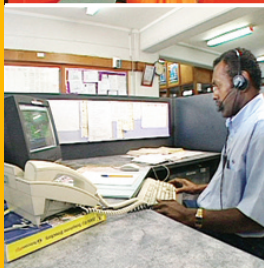


IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN PACIFIC ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Small Island Developing States Series, No. 1



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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
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PREFACE

Owing to demographic changes in Pacific island developing countries and territories, an increasing number of people are entering the labour market in these countries. In order to ensure that new entrants into the labour market are able to be gainfully employed, governments need to implement coherent macroeconomic as well as social policies that encourage growth in employment, especially in the private sector. Implementation of national, subregional and regional policies could lead to an increase in employment opportunities, strengthened labour force skills and greater compliance with internationally agreed labour standards.

This volume contains a regional study which reviews the labour market in selected countries of the Pacific, the policies which are currently in place and current labour market operations as a result of these policies. The study also contains country case studies of Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and Vanuatu. Recommendations to create greater opportunities for employment at both national and subregional levels were formulated by experts from these countries and their development partners.

It is hoped that the analysis as well as the conclusions and recommendations will be useful to policy-makers, not only in the countries in the Pacific, but also to their many development partners.

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