

IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN PACIFIC ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Small Island Developing States Series, No. 1



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United Nations

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
Pacific Operations Centre**

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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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CONTENTS

	Page
Preface	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Tables	viii
Abbreviations	ix
I. Introduction	1
II. Labour market characteristics	2
The labour force and employment	2
The role of the informal sector	3
Employment distribution between rural and urban areas	3
Unemployment and underemployment	4
Gender issues	5
Youth unemployment	6
Labour mobility	8
Future trends	9
III. Labour market policies	12
Employment acts and ordinances	12
Trade Unions	13
Superannuation schemes, pensions and social security schemes	13
Minimum wages	14
Skills training	15
IV. Labour market operations	16
Worker protection	16
Labour market flexibility	16
Reforming the labour market	18
Addressing gender issues	18
Skills mismatches	18
Labour mobility	20

V. Country studies	21
A. Fiji	21
Introduction	21
Labour legislation	21
The labour force and employment	22
Skills and migration	24
Gender inequalities	25
The informal sector	26
Unemployment and underemployment	26
Youth unemployment	27
Future trends	27
Conclusions	28
<hr/>	
B. Kiribati	30
Introduction	30
Labour legislation	30
The labour force and employment	31
Formal sector employment by gender and occupation	32
Skills and training	34
Unemployment and underemployment	35
Youth unemployment	36
Conclusions	37
<hr/>	
C. Papua New Guinea	39
Introduction	39
Labour legislation	39
The labour market and employment	39

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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