

## From Recommendations to Action: Insurable Infrastructure Solutions in the Pacific

**Date:** 2–4 December 2025

**Location:** Asian Development Bank, [Pacific Liaison & Coordination Office](#), Level 20/45 Clarence St, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

### Background Information

Pacific Island Countries (PICs) face persistent and growing challenges in developing resilient, insurable infrastructure. The region's high exposure to natural hazards, limited insurance market capacity, and fragmented risk management practices have made it difficult for local and regional contractors to obtain adequate insurance coverage for donor-funded infrastructure projects. These challenges threaten both the financial and climate resilience of critical infrastructure and the communities they serve.

In response, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) published [Guide to Insurable Infrastructure in the Pacific](#) (2024), which provided a comprehensive framework for integrating risk-sensitive design and insurance solutions into infrastructure development. The guide identified key barriers and proposed a series of solutions spanning the entire infrastructure lifecycle: procurement, risk assessment and advisory, risk reduction, and risk transfer.

Building on these insights, a regional consultation workshop was held in Fiji in December 2024, bringing together representatives from 14 Pacific Island Countries, development partners, and insurance industry stakeholders. This workshop explored practical ways to address the identified challenges and introduced the concept of a Pacific Regional Infrastructure Finance and Insurance Facility (PRIFIF)—a dedicated facility to help operationalize solutions and make Pacific infrastructure more resilient.

Since [last year's Fiji event](#), ADB and its partners have worked to move from recommendations to action. Notably, a consortium of private sector members of the Insurance Development Forum (IDF) has since been formed, ensuring that the ongoing work toward PRIFIF is grounded in insurance industry expertise and solutions. As PRIFIF evolves, its core pillars include risk advisory and de-risking services, risk reduction measures, and the integration of SOURCE—a digital platform for infrastructure project preparation—ensuring that solutions are both comprehensive and supported by the insurance industry.

The upcoming Sydney workshop is a critical next step: it aims to translate previous insights and recommendations into practical implementation steps for PRIFIF. By convening key stakeholders, sharing real-world case studies, and co-creating an actionable roadmap, the workshop seeks to lay the foundation for a robust, insurance industry-driven infrastructure insurance ecosystem in the Pacific—ultimately supporting sustainable development and enhanced resilience across the region.

## Objectives of the Workshop

The Sydney workshop is designed as a pivotal step in advancing the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Finance and Insurance Facility (PRIFIF) from concept to implementation. Building on the momentum established in previous consultations and the formation of a dedicated insurance industry consortium, the workshop will:

- Recap key challenges and lessons learned on resilient, insurable infrastructure in the Pacific.
- Refine the PRIFIF concept and develop practical, actionable implementation options.
- Demonstrate PRIFIF's potential through real-world case studies from the region.
- Engage stakeholders in interactive sessions to gather feedback and set priorities.
- Build alignment and commitment for next steps, aiming for a Letter of Intent or regional declaration.

By the conclusion of the workshop, participants will have collaboratively developed a clear, actionable roadmap for establishing PRIFIF, setting the stage for improved financial and climate resilience of infrastructure across the Pacific region.

### Targeted Audience and Collaborative Goals

The Sydney workshop will convene a diverse group of stakeholders whose collaboration is essential for the successful establishment of the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Finance and Insurance Facility (PRIFIF). Participants will include:

- Government representatives from 14 Pacific Island Countries (Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea)
- Local, regional, and international contractors
- Local and international insurers and brokers
- Development partners (ADB, World Bank, NZ MFAT, AUS DFAT, JICA, JMOF)
- PCRIC and SOURCE representatives
- Infrastructure funders and investors
- Technical consultants and sector experts

By bringing together these key actors, the workshop aims to foster meaningful dialogue, leverage a wide range of expertise, and ensure that all perspectives are reflected in the outcomes. Working together, participants will co-create:

- An actionable implementation roadmap for PRIFIF
- A prioritized list of services and solutions for the facility
- Documented stakeholder feedback and consensus on implementation options
- A regional declaration or Letter of Intent to formalize collaborative action

This collaborative approach is designed to ensure that the PRIFIF is both practical and regionally owned, setting the stage for improved financial and climate resilience of infrastructure across the Pacific.

## Detailed Agenda

### Monday 1 December 2025: Arrival

Time (AEDT)	Session
19:00–	Informal networking, location tbc

### Tuesday 2 December 2025: Infrastructure Insurance Challenges and Solutions

Time (AEDT)	Session	Hybrid session
08:30–09:00	Coffee & Networking	
09:00–09:10	Welcome and Purpose <i>Thomas Kessler, Principal Disaster Risk Insurance &amp; Finance Specialist, ADB</i>	
09:10–09:20	Welcome to Sydney <i>Jonathon Kirkby, Senior Private Sector Development Officer, ADB</i>	
09:20–09:30	Introduction to the Workshop <i>Ekhosuehi Iyehen, Secretary General, Insurance Development Forum</i>	
09:30–10:00	Keynote 1: Building Resilience in the Pacific <i>Gary Pollack, Founder &amp; Director, Thrive Leadership</i>	
10:00–10:15	The Pacific Region Infrastructure Pipeline <i>Dr. Robert Guild, Team Leader, Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility</i>	
10:15–11:00	Why Are We Here? Challenges in Insuring Pacific Infrastructure <i>David Simmons, Disaster Risk Finance Consultant</i>	
11:00–11:30	Coffee Break & Talanoa (open dialogue)	
11:30–12:45	Pacific Region Infrastructure Case Studies & Breakout Groups <i>Jamie Pollard, Global Parametrics</i>	
12:45–14:00	Lunch	
14:00–15:00	Pacific Regional Infrastructure Finance & Insurance Facility (PRIFIF) <i>Amir Sethu, Head of Sustainability, MS Amlin</i>	
15:00–15:30	Coffee Break & Talanoa	
15:30–16:30	Initial Feedback from Pacific Island Representatives <i>Risto Schmidt, Head Climate Resilience Switzerland, Zurich Insurance</i>	
16:30–16:45	Closing Remarks <i>Thomas Kessler, Principal Disaster Risk Insurance &amp; Finance Specialist, ADB</i>	
19:00–21:00	Conference Dinner	

**Wednesday 3 December 2025: Implementing PRIFIF**

<b>Time (AEDT)</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Hybrid session</b>
08:30–09:00	Coffee & Networking	
09:00–09:15	Day 2 Welcome <i>Saoirse Jones, Insurance Development Forum</i>	
09:15–09:35	Keynote 2: Pacific Regional Cooperation <i>Aholotu Palu, CEO, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company</i>	
09:35–09:45	A perspective from South-east Asia <i>Benedikt Signer, SEADRIF</i>	
09:45–11:15	Interactive Panel on PRIFIF Concept and Implementation <i>Moderator: Jamie Pollard, Disaster Risk Finance Lead, Global Parametrics</i> <i>Panellists:</i> <i>Katrina Murison, Lead Adviser Infrastructure, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs &amp; Trade   Manatū Aorere</i> <i>Richard Poulter, CRO, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company</i> <i>Dr. Robert Guild, Team Leader, Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility</i> <i>Panay Koulovasilopoulos, Chair, Lloyds Disaster Risk Facility &amp; Senior Underwriter, Hiscox</i>	
11:15–11:45	Coffee Break & Talanoa	
11:45–12:45	The Role of ADB's Multilateral Platform for Sustainable Infrastructure (SOURCE) <i>Christophe Dossarps, CEO, Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation</i>	
12:45–14:00	Lunch	
14:00–15:45	Deep Dive into the PRIFIF Services (Procurement, Risk Assessment & Risk Reduction, Risk Transfer) <i>Consultant team</i>	
15:45–16:15	Coffee Break & Talanoa	
16:15–17:15	Follow-up Pact (regional declaration or Letter of Intent) <i>Workshop participants</i>	
17:15–17:30	Closing Remarks <i>Thomas Kessler, ADB</i>	

**Thursday: 4 December 2025: Internal Workshop (Project Team & Donors)**

<b>Time (AEDT)</b>	<b>Session</b>
09:30–12:00	Discussion on Concept and Implementation, Next Steps, and Final Report Preparation  The ADB and consultant team will be available for bilateral meetings at request.