

Naoero Bulletin

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2026 APP graduation empowering local capacity



APP graduates proudly display their certificates of attainment reflecting their dedication and hard work

A large number of locals are taking up learning opportunities in the trades and upskilling through the annual vocational training offered by the government's Alternative Pathways Programme (APP), with the latest cohort graduating this month, 7 July.

The government-led training programme combined two awards ceremonies that saw over 600 graduates complete their chosen fields of vocational training under the Australian government-funded APP.

The courses are delivered by the Vocational Training and Professional Development (VTPD) unit of the Department of Education, and the Fiji National University (FNU).

It is a proud moment for the governments of Naoero and Australia as their joint efforts to ensure education and trade learning is reaping benefits across individuals, families, communities and the country.

The APP is an initiative led by the Government of Naoero and managed by the Department of Multicultural Affairs to provide dei-Naoero with opportunities that will have lasting benefits far beyond the individual graduate.

President David Adeang urged the graduates to never stop learning, and to aim for excellence, open doors and empower communities; to rise above challenges and offer hope for the future.

"You have overcome challenges, embraced new opportunities, and demonstrated that it is never too late to learn, never too late to improve, and never too late to change the course of your life."

The course which range in durations from a few days to a year, are not merely educational initiatives, but investments in people, families, communities, and the future of Naoero.

President Adeang urged parents to send their children to school every day and make education the highest priority, as well as commit to healthier lifestyles.

The courses delivered by the VTPD are either nationally accredited or TAFE Queensland accredited and include digital literacy, automotive, construction, hospitality, electrotechnology, welding, furniture making, plumbing, trainer and assessor.

The FNU courses include tiling, painting, hair dressing, food and beverage, plastering, OHS, solar installations, electrical, welding, human resources, front office management, cookery, baking and patisserie, joinery, carpentry, plumbing, brick laying, business management, small engine repair, air conditioning refrigeration, automotive, and fashion.

Secretary for VTPD Sharina Deiye emphasised that vocational education is no longer a second choice, but is

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a smart, respected choice and a pathway to employment, entrepreneurship, innovation and national development.

She highlights that the strongest economies are built also by skilled tradespeople and prospered because they invested in skills.

Acting Secretary for Multicultural Affairs Damien Adeang said the true success of the programme is measured by the confidence that has been built, the doors that have been opened, and the hope that has been restored.

He acknowledged the students' balancing family responsibilities, work commitments, and personal challenges.

The certificates were presented by President Adeang, Minister for Education Asterio Appi, and Australian High Commissioner Matthew Barclay.

The FNU's Director for Industry Ms Salaseini Rabuka also attended the ceremony and congratulated the participants for a successful journey towards achieving their goals and vocational milestones.

The APP is made possible by the steadfast support and investment of the Australian government for the people and future of Naoero. The Government extends its gratitude and appreciation for Australia's unwavering support and commitment.

The programme's first cohort of 101 participants received their certificates of attainment offered through the FNU's Training and Productive Centre, on 28 July 2023. At the time, the APP was initially established focusing on planning for the future of dei-Naoero staff affected by the drawdown of operational services at the Regional Processing Centre (RPC). It has since expanded and now offers the training to the wider population. //

Treaty Cup bringing communities together through sports

The inaugural Naoero-Australia Treaty Cup, held on 11 July, brings together community engagement and reinforces the long-standing partnership between the two countries, reflecting the spirit seen in the shared passion of football built on teamwork, trust and a shared goal, where success comes from working together consistently over time.



Women's inaugural Treaty Cup winners, West team, with AFL greats Gary Jr and Nathan Ablett

assured by working together - a \$40 million mechanism is established for mutually agreed engagements in a range of security related sectors.

In the spirit of the partnership and love of sports, especially Australian rules football, the Treaty Cup and the visit of AFL star Gary Ablett Jr, and brother Nathan, this month is an opportunity to celebrate the enduring friendship, promote health and wellness, and inspire the next generation of Naoero leaders and athletes.

The visit by the Abletts is a chance to showcase the tangible benefits of the Treaty to the people of Naoero through sports, brings people together, strengthen communities and create opportunities for young people. The Treaty reinforces the importance of cooperation and collective effort in building a stronger region.

Australia works closely with Naoero across health, education, infrastructure, policing, border security, governance, economic development and community wellbeing.

AFL Naoero arranged football clinics with the Ablett's, leveraging their expertise in the sport as well as mentoring the players during the Treaty Cup matches between the four East and West, men's and women's teams.

While football isn't for everyone, many other activities are available to stay active and healthy. The Ablett's were pleased to join the public service walk on Friday 10 July, demonstrating that keeping active is as simple as walking. //

Naoero and Australia have a deep, long-standing relationship, underpinned by a shared history and people-to-people links.

As Naoero's largest trade, investment, security and development assistance partner, the signing of the Naoero-Australia Treaty in December 2024, reflects the depth of the two countries' partnership and shared commitment to Naoero's long-term security, resilience and prosperity, as well as a peaceful, stable and prosperous Pacific.

The Treaty secures for Naoero, ongoing access to vital banking services, provide \$100 million over five years in budget support, and by recognising that security is best

Naoero parliament participates in 55th presiding officers, clerks conference

The Parliament of Naoero participated in the opening of the 55th Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference (POCC), hosted by the Parliament of Western Australia, 6–10 July.



(L-R) Deputy Speaker of Parliament Dageago and Speaker Stephen at the annual conference

The conference, hosted at Perth Parliament House, brings together presiding officers, clerks, members of Parliament and parliamentary officials from across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific to exchange knowledge, share experiences and strengthen democratic institutions through regional cooperation.

Representing the Parliament of Naoero were Speaker Marcus Stephen, Deputy Speaker Isabella Dageago, Clerk of Parliament Ann-Marie Cain, and senior HR officer Hanson Olsson.

Deputy Speaker Dageago delivered Naoero's country report highlighting significant parliamentary and national developments since the last conference.

The presentation provided delegates with updates on the government's transition to 'Naoero' as the country's official national name, recent parliamentary activities and developments, and the adoption of Naoero's new national emblem, reflecting the nation's evolving identity and continued progress.

The delegation also participated in discussions with parliamentary counterparts from across the Commonwealth, reaffirming Naoero's commitment to strengthening parliamentary governance, promoting democratic values, and fostering closer cooperation among Pacific and Commonwealth legislatures.

The Parliament of Naoero looks forward to further strengthening relationships with fellow Commonwealth parliaments through dialogue, collaboration and the sharing of parliamentary best practices. //

Airlines minister leads strategic China talks, unlocking new Pacific aviation opportunities

Minister for Nauru Air Corporation, Asterio Appi leads strategic Nauru Airlines delegation to China, unlocking new Pacific aviation opportunities, 27 June.



(2nd left) Airlines minister Appi with senior staff at the China meetings

Minister Appi, accompanied by a senior Nauru Airlines delegation, concluded a highly productive visit to China, marking a significant step forward in the government's commitment to strengthening Naoero's aviation connectivity across the Pacific region.

The delegation undertook an intensive programme of engagements across China, with a sharp focus on identifying partnership and investment opportunities that

will meaningfully enhance the Nauru Airlines network and its operational capability.

The delegation engaged with a broad cross-section of aviation and supporting industries.

"This visit has been an exceptional week of focused research and relationship-building. China presents for Nauru Airlines, very real pathways for us to elevate our services, our network, and our presence in the Pacific. We came with purpose, and we leave with a clear roadmap," Minister Appi said.

The visit produced a well-defined roadmap, highlighting priority areas for development that will guide the future direction of Nauru Airlines' network expansion and service enhancement strategy. The delegation's findings represent a forward-looking framework designed to position the airline as a stronger carrier serving the Pacific community.

The Nauru Airlines team will now move into a structured follow-up phase, undertaking detailed business case analyses and developing implementation plans across the priority areas identified during the China visit. //

Fisheries leaders reaffirm regional partnership at annual meeting

Pacific fisheries leaders convened in Wellington, New Zealand for the 25th Annual Forum Fisheries Committee Ministerial Meeting (FFCMIN25) to review achievements under the Forum Fisheries Agency's 2020-25 strategic plan and set priorities for the next five years.



Minister Reagan Aliklik presenting country contributions and support for Forum fisheries strategic plan

The meeting, held 30 June to 2 July, centred on sustainable tuna management, institutional reforms, financial resilience, and regional cooperation through initiatives such as the East New Britain Initiative (ENBi). Ministers also reaffirmed regional partnerships, including the US Treaty, while acknowledging external challenges such as rising fuel costs linked to global conflicts.

Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA) Hon Reagan Aliklik, delivered Naoero's contributions across several agenda items, emphasising the country's strong support for the FFA Strategic Plan 2026–2031.

He highlighted its sharper focus on economic transformation, institutional capability, and accountability through a strengthened monitoring, evaluation and learning framework. He also recognised ENBi as a valuable pathway to future port and service-related development opportunities, despite onshore facilities not yet established.



Ahead of the ministerial retreat, delegates visited the Wellington Kaimoana Hub fish market, where premium seafood including prawns was showcased, reflecting the region's economic and cultural ties to fisheries.

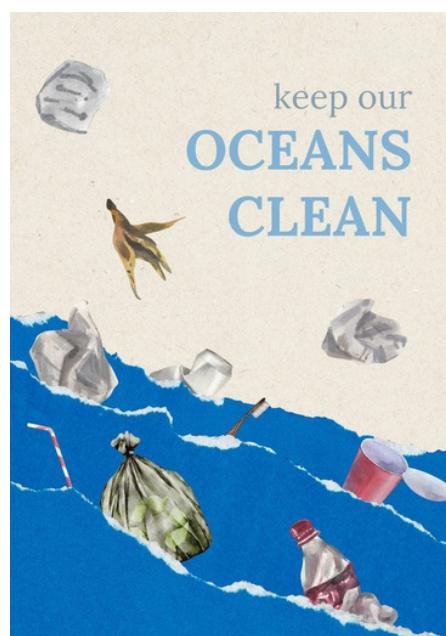
The retreat itself was held at Sudbury Farm on the Kapiti Coast, providing a setting for dialogue among ministers. The meeting concluded with the adoption of a joint communique, reinforcing regional unity and shared priorities for sustainable fisheries.

The FFCMIN25 Communiqué outlines key priorities and agreements on Pacific fisheries including key fisheries priorities for discussions at the upcoming Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in Palau from 30 August to 4 September.

The Communiqué addresses key regional priorities, including the Interim Executive Summary of the FFA Director-General's Annual Report 2025–2026, the Fisheries Roadmap, the FFA Strategic Plan 2026–2031, an update on the KPMG Independent Refresh and Performance Review, the East New Britain Initiative (ENBi), South Pacific Albacore, and the Middle East crisis and its impact on Pacific tuna fisheries.

Naoero's delegation included Deputy Minister Hon. Timothy Ika, chairman Peter Diema, Sheen Aliklik, Lucas Dediya, and personal assistant Shikara Hartman, along with the technical team, CEO Erana Aliklik, OFM Malgram Dowabobo, and Joint Venture Officer Taesha Aliklik, ensuring strong representation across policy, governance, and operational expertise.

The minister from New Caledonia and officials from American Samoa attended as observers. Also present were observers from the Pacific Community (SPC), the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office (PNAO), the European Union and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). //



New Ronphos logo released in 21st anniversary stamp

The Naoero Postal Services Corporation (NPSC) launched a commemorative stamp featuring the new company logo for phosphate corporation, RONPHOS, marking the 21st anniversary of the state-owned enterprise.



Minister for Ronphos Delvin Thoma receiving commemorative stamp from President Adeang

As Minister for NPSC, President David Adeang presented the framed stamps to Minister for Ronphos Delvin Thoma and commended the company for its ongoing work and contribution to national development.

The new logo features the 12-pointed star of Naoero symbolising the 12 original indigenous tribes, the map of Naoero, and tribal regalia of shark teeth, feathers of the majestic and prized frigate bird, and rolled string made of coconut fibre. The yellow ribbon, inscribed with the company's name, symbolises the sun and RONPHOS' pride in what it stands for and represents, as well as the year of establishment, 2005.

Phosphate has always been part of Naoero and contributed much to its wealth and connection with the world as it supplies countless tonnes of the rich fertiliser to foreign countries. The phosphate company changed management hands several times until 2005 when it transitioned from the Nauru Phosphate Corporation (NPC) to RONPHOS on 1 July 2005. //



Kiribati 47th Independence Day

His Excellency President David Adeang attended the 47th Independence Day celebrations of the Republic of Kiribati at the Betio Sports Complex, 13 July, along with Pacific leaders, senior officials, regional dignitaries and government delegations, enjoying the festive occasion with an outstanding musical parade by multiple school groups and a live performance by the Kiribati Police Service brass band.



President Adeang and Kiribati President Maamau observe the singing of the Kiribati national anthem

As part of the week's program celebrating the national day, President Adeang also attended a powerlifting competition between Team dei-Naoero and Team Kiribati, a gala night and a State dinner, further strengthening the deep people-to-people ties and friendship between the two Pacific nations.

The Kiribati Independence Day celebrations concluded with a dinner banquet featuring traditional dance, singing, and a performance by Miss Kiribati 2026, Tabokori Kiaieta, alongside the Waa Mai Kiribati (Kiribati Canoe group).

Naoero's participation in Kiribati's special events demonstrates the ever-growing bilateral and enduring partnership rooted in Micronesian values, mutual understanding, respect and cooperation.

Also in attendance were Deputy Ministers Rennier Gadabu and Wanganeen Emiu, as well as members of Parliament Pyon Deiye and Jason Agir. //



Team Naoero ready for Glasgow 2026

The official Naoero team uniforms for the XXIII Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow, Scotland later this month were unveiled and distributed to athletes and officials at a ceremony, 16 July, hosted by the Speaker of Parliament and Naoero Olympic Committee President Marcus Stephen.



The government proudly supports the NOC, athletes and officials as they embark on the XXIII Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland

Naoero President, His Excellency David Adeang, among others, presented the uniforms to the team who are departing on today's flight bound for Glasgow.

Naoero is sending 14 athletes to compete in four sports – athletics, boxing, weightlifting and judo.

Naoero first participated in the Commonwealth Games in 1990 and has been marked by a strong focus on weightlifting with all its gold medals achieved in that sport. Naoero has won an impressive 31 Commonwealth Games medals, all in weightlifting, including the 10 golds by Marcus Stephen, Yukio Peter and the late Reanna Solomon.

The last CommGames medal won by Naoero was by weightlifter Maximina Uepa, who was 19 at the time. Her win retained Nauru's reputation of winning a medal at the Games since its first participation in 1990.

Glasgow 2026 is held from 23 July to 2 August, marking the fourth time Scotland is hosting the Commonwealth Games. Approximately 3,000 athletes are expected to compete across 215 medal events in 10 sports. //

Government continues to address housing concerns

The Department of Infrastructure officially handed over four newly completed residential houses to local families as part of the government's housing initiative, 8 July.



Grateful home owners settle in to new homes

The schedule covered small ceremonies across the districts of Uaboe, Anabar, Meneñ and Buada. His Excellency the President, David Adeang led the delegation, presenting the keys and cutting the ceremonial ribbons alongside the new homeowners.

The new homeowners are Renos Agege (Uaboe), Vivian Hiram (Anabar), Glorine Canon (Meneñ) and Joyce Alona (Buada).

While the government-funded houses in Uaboe and Anabar fall under to the Smart House initiative, the house in Meneñ is part of the Government Housing programme, while the house in Buada is part of the RedZone relocation project, also funded by the government.

Also in attendance were ministers Shadlog Bernicke, Jesse Jeremiah and members of the infrastructure department.

The combined Government Housing, RedZone, and Smart House initiatives reflect the government's ongoing vision to provide safe, affordable housing, improve family wellbeing, and strengthen local communities. //

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