

Chief Justices' Leadership Forum

The PJSP Chief Justices' Leadership Forum took place on 13 and 14 February 2023 in Auckland. With a pōwhiri we welcomed the Chief Justices of Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Aotearoa New Zealand and Tokelau, as well as a representative for the Chief Justice of Tuvalu. Chief Justices of the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Vanuatu and the Federal Court of Australia attended remotely.

The forum was productive and positive, providing Pacific Chief Justices the opportunity to share insights and challenges facing Pacific judiciaries, and identify where the PJSP, and MFAT more broadly, can most effectively provide support.



From left to right: Justice Sir John Muria of Tuvalu, CJ Perese of Samoa, Lord CJ Whitten KC of Tonga, CJ Sir Rocky Palmer of Solomon Islands, CJ Ingram of RMI, CJ Coxhead of Niue, CJ Sir Gibbs Salika of PNG (seated), CJ Dame Helen Winkelmann of Tokelau and New Zealand, Acting CJ Khan of Nauru



Court performance management and annual reporting workshop



We were pleased to host the Court performance management and annual reporting workshop in Wellington from 6-10 March 2023. Thirty-three people attended from 13 of our partner countries. It was wonderful to see attendees participating fully in the workshop, developing the ability to



analyse and use data to improve court performance and tell the story of the court's work.

The workshop culminated in participants developing court performance management and annual reporting plans for their jurisdictions.

Judicial wellbeing webinar

In March PJSP held its second webinar on judicial wellbeing. Facilitated by Robyn Bradey, the session focused on practical strategies for managing personal wellbeing and involved interactive exercises, self-reflection tools and open discussion.

You can now watch the highlights of the webinar on the PJSP [website](#) – including a mindfulness warm up, an overview of judicial stressors and an interview with Coroner R Kay, who is both a mental health practitioner and judicial officer. The password is **PJSP**.



Human rights workshop – a postcard from the RMI



Top row: Kaiboke Iseia, Assistant Clerk of the Courts, James Reimers, Assistant Clerk of the Courts, Ablos Tarry Paul, Presiding Judge District Courts, Caios Lucky, Associate Judge District Courts, Hainrick Moore, Assistant Clerk of the Courts
Bottom row: Davidson Jajo, Associate Judge, District Court (Ebeye), Tanya Lomae, Assistant Clerk of Courts, Chief Justice Ingram, Carolyn Graydon PJSP Human Rights and Access to Justice Advisor, Linda S Murnane, Associate Justice High Court, Claire Loek, Associate Judge, Traditional Rights Court.

In December 2022 we held workshops on human rights in the Marshall Islands. Through sessions with judges, magistrates, justices and court staff (both separately and together), we identified key priorities and coordinated actions for progressing a people-centred approach to providing justice, including improvements for people in remote locations and for vulnerable court users. This was also an opportunity for Court reflections on its significant achievements in expanding access to justice for court users, including:

- Increased use of remote court proceedings and video conferencing for hearing evidence from vulnerable victims
- New downstairs court room and responsive in-court and outreach court services for people with disabilities
- Increased access to free legal representation through the Court's unique Legal Aid Fund model
- Increased justice coherence through Traditional Rights Court findings on Marshall Islands' unique customs, integrated into High Court judgments.



The visit also provided an opportunity to work with police, prosecution, legal aid services and women's and disability organisations for better coordination of access to justice and protection of human rights support across the whole justice sector.



LIFT – applications must be received by 31 March 2023

The Lift programme enables local solutions to local issues through funding, technical advice and support.

You can apply for funding for locally-led development activities at any time. However, we encourage applications to be lodged no later than 31 March 2023 to assist with our programme budget planning.

Please note the following steps in making an application:

- send us your expression(s) of interest by 31 March 2023 (form is found on our [website here](#))
- let us know who we can work with in your court to finalise the application(s)
- let us know your preferred project timing.

All Lift applications need approval from the Chief Justice or Head of Bench. We will notify our response to the applications(s) received before 31 March by the end of April 2023.

