

# ILO's Contributions to Circular Economy and the Jaipur Declaration in the Pacific

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# ILO and the Jaipur Declaration

## Jaipur Declaration Goals:

- Promote 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)
- Foster circular economy transitions
- Create green jobs and sustainable livelihoods

## ILO's alignment through the Decent Work Agenda:

- The Decent Work Agenda has 4 focus areas; Employment Creation, Social Protection, Rights at Work and Social Dialogue
- Green jobs in waste and resource management
- **Skills training** for circular economy sectors
- Support for inclusive and just transitions





# ILO in the Pacific

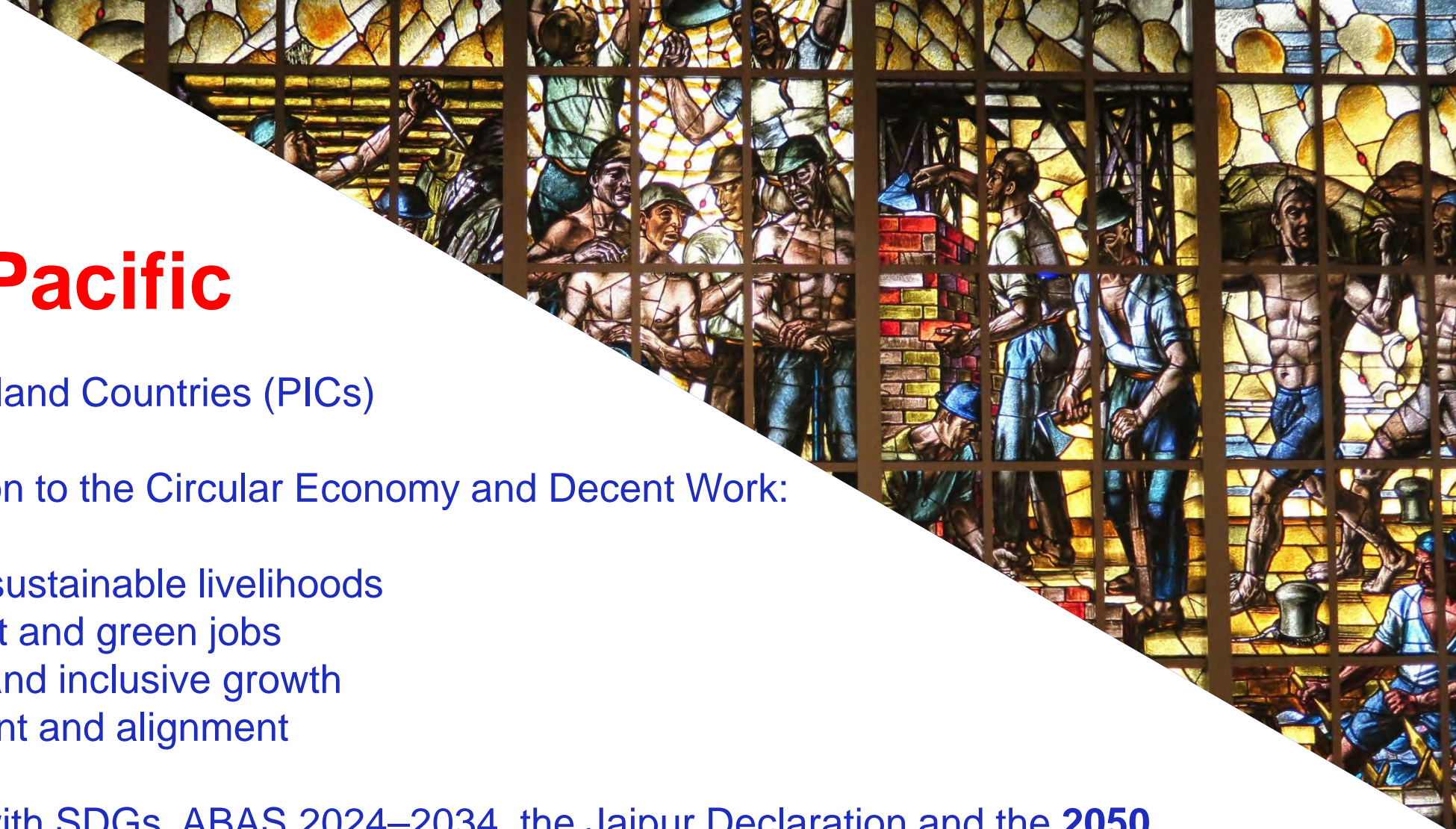
Active in 11 Pacific Island Countries (PICs)

Focus areas in relation to the Circular Economy and Decent Work:

- Decent work and sustainable livelihoods
- Skills development and green jobs
- Social protection and inclusive growth
- Policy Development and alignment

Strategic alignment with SDGs, ABAS 2024–2034, the Jaipur Declaration and the **2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent**

Ensure linkages to National level Development Plans are critical to ensure ownership and sustainability





# Decent Work in the Circular Economy

► Circular jobs are often labour-intensive

Risks: informal work, low pay, hazardous conditions

**ILO's approach:**

Formalization of circular jobs

OSH standards and social protection

Social dialogue and rights at work





## Case Study – ILO STREIT Project – Papua New Guinea

### Sustainable Infrastructure

- Works relevant to community priorities
- Type of infrastructure fit for labour-based methods
- Quality design and implementation of works
- **Effective contracting arrangements – sustainable resourcing**
- Sustainable solutions for maintenance and operation
- **Sustainability: Ensuring ownership**, stimulating demand for goods and services, and supporting productive sectors.

### Productive Employment

- Obtaining **relevant skills and graduating** from the programme
- Reaching out to the most needy
- Reaching targeted groups, i.e. women, youth, disadvantaged groups
- **Adhere to OSH and Labour Laws**



# Case Study: Just Transition in Samoa (Policy Coherence and Integration)

## Samoa is part of the Climate Action for Jobs Initiative

### ILO supported:

- Tripartite social dialogue for Just Transition planning
- Integration of green jobs into employment strategies
- Inclusive participation of women and youth

## Circular economy link: Policy coherence across sectors

### ILO supports development of National Employment Policies (NEP) in 8 Pacific countries to:

Address youth unemployment and NEET rate  
Promote decent work in climate-vulnerable economies  
Integrate employment into national development agendas

**NEPs include action plans for job creation in green and circular sectors**





# Future Skills for a Circular Pacific

## Key future skills areas:

- Green technical skills: waste auditing, eco-design, engineering, mechanical
- Soft skills: systems thinking, adaptability
- Entrepreneurial skills: circular business models

## ILO supports:

- TVET reform and curriculum development
- Digital and blended learning for remote contexts
- Building and exploring innovative entrepreneurial activities for marginalised groups



Source: UNDP Revisiting Circular Economy In 2023

# Skills development and Just Transition for a circular economy in the Pacific

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE PACIFIC



Opportunities for sustainable economic growth, resource efficiency, and waste reduction

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



Building the workforce's capacity for green jobs and circular economy practices

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMES



Promoting innovation and circular business models

## JUST TRANSITION



Ensuring decent work, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability



# Conclusion

## 1. Potential Synergies and Partnerships

### Collaboration with:

- SPREP, UNCRD, UNEP, FAO, ADB, JICA Local governments, private sector, communities

### Contribution to regional platforms like the Clean Pacific Roundtable

## 2. Looking Ahead: Scaling Impact

- Ensuring decent work opportunities and expand green jobs programmes in circular sectors
- Strengthen NEPs and other policy areas with circular economy integration
- Mobilize financing for just transitions in PICs
- Enhance data and reporting on employment in circular economy

## WAY FORWARD



Collaboration, inclusive policies,  
and investment in  
education and training

