

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

WHY WE SHOULD ALL CARE



DID YOU KNOW?

That **OCEAN ACIDIFICATION** directly impacts us all? It is the process where seawater becomes more acidified from the increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as a result of burning of fossil fuels and other human activities.

On top of the existential threat posed by Climate Change, **Ocean Acidification** will become increasingly problematic for our Pacific people given our reliance on the Ocean for **EVERYTHING**.

THE HARM IS LOCAL AND GLOBAL

In the Pacific, it has been proven that **Ocean Acidification** impacts negatively on coastal fisheries through degradation of coral reefs and the effects on the early life stages of reef fish and invertebrates. Many species of fish, including tuna, could experience reduced productivity and growth rates as a result of **Ocean Acidification**.

On the global scale, billions of people rely on food from the ocean as their primary source of protein. Jobs, economies and livelihoods depend on the fish, shellfish and ocean. **Ocean Acidification** threatens ALL this. It threatens all of us.



WE CARE

Addressing **Ocean Acidification** is OUR Collective responsibility.

At the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), we are working with our Pacific Islands to build resilience to **Ocean Acidification** in coastal communities and ecosystems. One of the ways is through the NZ Pacific Partnership on **Ocean Acidification**, supported by the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Principality of Monaco in partnership with the Pacific Community (SPC) and the University of the South Pacific. The project is focused on monitoring, design and implementation of adaptation activities, and capacity building.



YOU CARE

We encourage you to:

- **Reduce** local stressors such as sediment runoff, pollution, and destructive fishing practices.
- **Respect** and care for Marine Protected Areas. These can help build resilience in marine ecosystems and replenish neighbouring depleted fisheries.
- **Reduce** your greenhouse gas emissions in our daily activities to mitigate climate change such as carpooling to work.

