2022 Global Breadfruit Summit Highlights Report





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Foreword

When passionate and caring individuals from around the globe engage to collectively heal our Earth Mother it reflects what the Polynesian world believes in as "Aloha."

This is the true "means to an end" that will ensure economic prosperity and social recovery of our planet and its people. "Aloha" can mitigate the drone of the drums of extinction that now threaten us. Indigenous elders knew this, the ancestors practiced it, attuned to the understanding that the children of Earth are one, whether from different cultures, diverse ethnicities, changing nationalities, or two-genders. We share the beat of one heart, a heart defined by a dedicated commitment to healing - by acting accordingly.

The 2022 Global Breadfruit Summit brought together an amazing group of individuals who shared the healing and astounding powers of breadfruit, `ulu in Hawaiian. Be with those who are on the cusp of world change. You are needed. You are wanted. Join us in living "Aloha."

Respectively,

Papalii Dr. Tusi Avegalio, Director

Organizing Committee

Papalii Dr. Tusi Avegalio / Director Pacific Business Center Program

Ramsay RM Taum Sustain Hawaii

Leroy Harris / Founder HITMethods

Kyle Stice / Executive Director Pacific Farmer Organisations

Ian Kennedy Pacific Farmer Organisations

Cheyene Lurvey / Manager Phoenix Carbon

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Summary

The 2022 Global Breadfruit Summit showcased champions of breadfruit in the spaces of breadfruit research, production, processing and marketing, and much more. The Summit highlighted many advances in breadfruit value-added products, shared traditional knowledge from leaders across the Pacific, and delved into breadfruit systems from planting methods to marketing opportunities.

The one day event consisted of panel discussions, engaging presentations, and product displays that all focused on promoting breadfruit as the crop of the future.

Those working in the areas of tropical agriculture, local food systems, sustainability, and anything promoting breadfruit served as speakers and participants and represented governments, the private sector, development partners, farmer organizations, academia, and the general public.



Dr. Diane Ragone (Breadfruit Institute at National Tropical Botanical Garden, Director) facilitating a panel on breadfruit research

Keynote Presentations















Dr. Diane Ragone discussing the work of the Breadfruit Institute linking breadfruit throughout the Pacific through it's diverse collection of varieties

The Global Breadfruit Revolution: Diane Ragone

Dr. Diane Ragone opened up the summit by delving into her experience with breadfruit acquired through more than 30 years of conservation and study. The Breadfruit Institute has planted trees in tropical countries for food and reforestation from Chuuk to the Caribbean and Cameroon.

Dr. Ragone discussed how breadfruit not only provides a critical food source of countries identified as not having enough to eat, but also provides a means to improve local economies.

"Breadfruit as you know is an abundant and productive long lived tree, there are numerous varieties in the Pacific and it connects people across all the islands in the region," said Breadfruit Institute Director Emerita Dr. Diane Ragone.

Building a Pacific Breadfruit Network: Kyle Stice

Kyle Stice (Pacific Farmer Organisations, Director), spoke on behalf of the largest network of farmer organisations in the Pacific emphasizing the importance of farmers in the decisions of research, innovation, and development in farming.

With many members spread across the Pacific, the network has the ability to connect breadfruit research through its breadfruit information sharing network, Breadfruit People, as well as provide resources that are utilized at the farmer level to address local needs concerning breadfruit production.



KYLE STICE Pacific Farmer Organisations

This is a region where 70% percent of the population live in rural areas and farming and fishing is the primary source of livelihood, and climate change and food security are the biggest and most important challenges of our generation.

Breadfruit Development in Hawai'i: Craig Elevitch & Kalani Souza (Ho'oulu ka 'Ulu/ Olohana Foundation)

Craig Elevitch and Kalani Souza addressed the demise of large scale plantation agriculture over the last three decades in Hawai'i, and the opportunities to return to traditional and sustainable farming methods utilising breadfruit.

Kalani Souza stated that the heart of the breadfruit movement is the entrepreneurs marketing breadfruit at the local level, the culinary artists promoting the fruit, and the individuals and villages at the community level consuming breadfruit.

Craig Elevitch highlighted the idea of creating a certificate of origin combined with traceability to ensure that small local islands are not overrun by cheap, imported, breadfruit products. Along with certification, strong legal protection is needed for breadfruit as a native crop against the interests of self-serving corporations patenting the genetics of breadfruit.



Keynote speakers (L-R); Kalani Souza and Craig Elevitch discussing breadfruit's past importance in Hawai'i as well as its exciting future

Session 1: Breadfruit's Cultural & Economic Context in the Pacific & Beyond

Session Summary and Key insights



Session Summary

The 'Breadfruit's Cultural & Economic Context in the Pacific & Beyond' Panel highlighted the past, present, and current need for breadfruit's cultural heritage to be at the forefront of developments in breadfruit.

Adelino Lorens (Island Food Community of Pohnpei) shared the priority of breadfruit in the Federated States of Micronesia through the acronym CHEEF (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy, and Food Security). The CHEEF acronym reflects the priorities in Pohnpei, FSM toward addressing the problem of food security with breadfruit.

Daniel Mataroa (Te Tango Enua) discussed the important point that for breadfruit production and subsequent food security to be successful, it has to come through the indigenous land and traditional leaders. Over the last couple decades, he has seen many other food crops promoted

for production in the Cook Islands by the Government that are not indigenous or as productive as breadfruit, including citrus and tomatoes.

Maria Linibi (PNGWiAF) shared valuable information on Papua New Guinea's traditional

ceremonies that utilize breadfruit leaves.
Additionally, PNG has one of the largest diversities of breadfruit globally and is utlising tissue culture methods and collaboration with North Pacific partners to expand breadfruit production and research.

Kalani Souza (Olohana Foundation) shared stories of how breadfruit production has drastically changed in the last couple of decades in



Panel speakers (L-R); Adelino Lorens, Daniel Mataroa, Maria Linibi, Kalani Souza

Hawai'i and urged a prioritisation of breadfruit being used by indigenous peoples before processing and exporting. Kalani also brought to attention the many value-added uses for breadfruit including latex production and fuel alternatives for ships utilising fermented breadfruit.

Key insight



MARIA LINIBI

Papua New Guinea Women in Agriculture

The breadfruit tree has 800 different names in Papua New Guinea and I think we have more than 100 species that are not known. It grows wild and no one is cultivating it because with the 8-9 million people we have we are not thinking exports as of yet because we have to take care of our own first.

Session 2: Breadfruit Farming Systems -Looking Back for the Future

Session Summary and Key insights













Session Summary

The second panel of the day 'Breadfruit Farming Systems - Looking Back for The Future' focused on what breadfruit expansion and the task of planting more breadfruit trees looks like. Kyle Stice, the moderator of the panel, framed the discussion around addressing breadfruit in a farming system. "We do not want another monocrop or plantation crop, and breadfruit production varies greatly in the region, farming methods on a big volcanic island differ greatly than those on an atoll. Parallelly, breadfruit production somewhere with large land resources differs from atoll areas or smaller islands where land availability is scarce." - Kyle Stice

The need for breadfruit production was brought to attention by Kyle Stice as he reminded attendees that the Pacific region consumes imported staples such as wheat, flour, and rice which are going to be significantly impacted by climate change.

The panelists discussing farming systems spanned both a large geographic range as well as they represented a variability in land resources, soil conditions, and market availability that lead to a variety in knowledge and practices among their breadfruit farming systems.

Karness Kusto (Marshall Islands Organic Farm Association) spoke about the expansion of breadfruit in the Marshall Islands. Speaking from the atoll perspective, he said that breadfruit production is challenging due to the composition of the soil in the Marshall Islands. The soil is mainly coral and sand and requires a lot of composting and debris accumulation to create soil for the breadfruit. When asked about propagation methods, he said that tree transplantations are much more common than propagation methods like marcotting and root suckering. In regards to the expansion of breadfruit, Mr. Kusto is excited for the launch of breadfruit festivals in the Marshall Islands to expand breadfruit awareness and planting due to land resources being very small and limited.

Routan Tongaiaba (Ministry of Environmental Lands and Agriculture), spoke from the unique perspective of a government official with the Kiribati Ministry of Agriculture. Again, with limited available farmland, the Kiribati Government has prioritized planting breadfruit in primary schools which have big compounds available for establishing new trees. In Kiribati the Government is also active in transplanting



Panel speakers (L-R); Craig Elevitch, Karness Kusto, Routan Tongaiaba, Kaitu Erasito

breadfruit from the Northern to Southern islands.

Kaitu Erasito (Pacific Farmer Organisations), discussed his work characterizing seven varieties of breadfruit in Fiji, which was published into the Breadfruit Manual. Kaitu also discussed his help in developing breadfruit propagation methods and breadfruit processing into flour in Rotuma, the 12th largest island in the Fiji Islands.

Craig Elevitch (Permanent Agriculture Resources) spoke to the islander perspective of breadfruit not being a singular tree but it is connected to many other crops that are planted in diverse agroforestry systems. Dr. Elevitch said we have to be more innovative than ever before because we need to promote regenerative cropping, but also meet production goals to maintain financial stability in breadfruit. Most importantly, Dr. Elevitch brought to attention that agroforestry practices over the years have shown their value in improving soil ecosystems while simultaneously diversifying revenue sources for farmers.

Session 3: Niche Breadfruit Products & Market Opportunities

Session Summary and Key insights



Session Summary

The 'Niche Breadfruit Products & Market Opportunities' Panel discussed unique new products that have been created from each of the respective producers and innovators on the panel.

Minoru Nishi Jr (Nishi Trading) discussed the breadfruit flour created at Nishi Trading and the facilities that allowed them to be the Kingdom of Tonga's very first HACCP-certified food processing facility and packhouse. Nishi Trading has partnered with the Tokyo University of Agriculture, MORDI Tonga Trust, and other Tongan farmer organizations to research product development, and most recently has worked with the hospital in Tonga to address health issues through the use of breadfruit.

John Cadman (Maui Breadfruit Company) and Dana Shapiro (Hawai'i 'Ulu Coop), presented on Hawaiian breadfruit products. John Cadman's Pono Pies uses breadfruit from Kahanu Gardens in Hana, Maui and has created such a demand for the product in Hawai'i that it consistently sells out. Dana Shapiro discussed the many products the 'Ulu Coop makes including frozen, fresh, and flour breadfruit mix, as well as the demand and price points that breadfruit sells at in Hawai'i.

Fr. Petero Matairatu (Tutu Rural Training Center)discussed the solar drying facilities they use in Fiji to create breadfruit flour as well as the training programs that have been created for young adults to farm and sell breadfruit. The Tutu Rural Training Center has created its own market and increased the demand for its breadfruit products through a unique production model utilising young farmer education, financial training, and marketing of value-added products.



Panel speakers (L-R); John Cadman, Dana Shapiro, Fr. Petero Matairatu, Minoru Nishi

Key insight



MINORU NISHI JR Nishi Trading

A difficulty for Tonga right now is energy, most of our Pacific Island countries face the same debacle where energy costs are so high. Production is also difficult because we can't do it alone and it's another demonstration of the importance of collaboration.

Session 4: Breadfruit Advocacy & Education (Spreading the Word and Sharing Information)

Session Summary and Key insights



Session Summary

The 'Breadfruit Advocacy & Education' Panel discussed work being done at the local, national, and global level to introduce the next generation to breadfruit, connect those working in the space of breadfruit, and to highlight advances and achievements being made.

lan Kennedy (Breadfruit People) explained how the Breadfruit People, an information-sharing network for breadfruit, is bringing together growers, consumers, traders, processors, researchers, and lovers of breadfruit through its online network.

Koh Ming Wei (Center for Getting Things Started) discussed the Hawai'i farm-to-school group and the work being done in the state schools to introduce young children to farming, breadfruit, and the importance of growing your own food.

Dr. Elisabet Sahtouris (Futurist) spoke to the global implications of increasing breadfruit production and utilisation. Prominent in her discussion was the need to encourage small farming, local food self-sufficiency, and making it a basic requirement that breadfruit trees wherever they can be grown in the world become part of the food forestry system. Additionally, she brought to attention the importance of culinary exposure, saying "People love food, they

love eating and they love cooking! Cooking shows could be cooking with ulu recipes, if we informed them of 'ulu and gave them the option, the problem is going to be the availability of the 'ulu."

The labeling of breadfruit products is very important for both raising awareness and the marketing of the fruit, Stephen Hazelman (Pacific Organic &



Panel speakers (L-R); lan Kennedy, Stephen Hazelman, Elisabet Sahtouris, Koh Ming Wei

Ethical Trade Community) discussed the future organic labeling that could be used in the Pacific. Stephen highlighted the two certification systems in the Pacific, the Participatory Guarantee System and the Third Party Certification for international markets, and explained that the focus should be on ensuring that sustainable breadfruit production systems are developed and maintained while also protecting consumers and producers.

Key insight



STEPHEN HAZELMAN POETCom

In 2019 we lobbied for the regional farmers organisations to have a seat when the ministers and heads of agriculture meet and we were successful in getting that seat. The next meeting will be in March 2023, there's a suggestion that we put forward 'World Breadfruit Day' or 'Pacific Breadfruit Day' to raise awareness and give it that importance and prestige it deserves.

Session 5: Addressing Research Gaps & Building Partnerships

Session Summary and Key insights



The final panel session of the day was moderated by Dr. Diane Ragone who opened with remarks highlighting the large research and knowledge gaps that still exist for breadfruit and the need for better collaboration between researchers.

Toleafoa Tuisuga, Annie, (Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa) provided an overview on the work of her organisation to develop new breadfruit products and also encourage private sector investment. Annie highlighted that breadfruit flour was a key product for Samoa as it allows for the sourcing of raw materials from around the country before processing into a shelf-stable product that can be used locally or exported.

Noel Dickinson (Breadfruit Institute) shared about the work of her organisation in maintaining the largest collection of breadfruit genetics in the world across multiple sites. Noel described that the goal was not only about conserving genetic diversity but also researching the characteristics of each variety that may be important for the promotion of the crop for food

security and product development. Noel stressed the importance of acknowledging the resource owners from which the breadfruit varieties came and insists that they hope to continue to collaborate to ensure better collaborations with all Pacific Island Countries that have contributed to the collection.

Mohinesh Reddy (Pacific Farmer Organisations) spoke about a new program focused on 'Farmer Led Research' and 'Breadfruit based Agroforestry' which is being rolled out in 5 Pacific Islands including Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tonga. Mohinesh stressed that this project aims to shift the way agriculture research is commonly done in the Pacific by putting farmers at the center.

Dr. Fillipo Guzzon (Pacific Community) provided an overview of the role and function of the Center for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePACT), specifically around breadfruit conservation and promotion. Fillipo stressed the importance of collaboration between research partners across the Pacific in order to address the large information gaps around breadfruit.

Karin Bolczyk (Tissue Grown Co.) spoke about the role of their company in propagating and distributing high-quality breadfruit planting material around the world using tissue culture. Karin explained the background of their company's involvement in breadfruit propagation, and some of the challenges and successes they have encountered.

The final panelist was Dr. Noa Lincoln from the University of Hawaii. Noa shared about the work of his Indigenous Cropping Systems laboratory which focuses on traditional and low-input farming methods, emphasising the links between knowledge-intensive practices and agricultural production. Noa emphasised the importance of working closely with farming and indigenous communities, extension faculty and staff, industry players, and high-quality researchers to improve the awareness, understanding, and adoption of traditional breadfruit practices.



Panel Speakers (L-R); Karin Bolczyk, Noa Lincoln, Noel Dickinson, Mohinesh Reddy, Toleafoa Tuisuga, Fellipo Guzzon

Session 6: Closing Remarks



Summit Closing Ceremony and Remarks presented by Kalani Souza and Ramsay RM Taum

The 2022 Global Breadfruit Summit was concluded with remarks from Dr. Craig Elevitch and Kalani Souza who highlighted some of the main points that came out of the meeting including:

- The need to respect and protect traditional knowledge of breadfruit as we strive to harness its potential.
- The importance of not repeating the mistakes of the past with regards to developing breadfruit into a commercial, monoculture crop which would certainly follow a similar path of other plantation crops like pineapple and sugarcane.
- A celebration of the organic rate of growth the breadfruit movement has had and collective resistance to becoming a forced monoculture crop.
- The opportunity to scale up breadfruit production using regenerative agriculture practices that will ensure the long-term viability of our farms and communities.
- The need to work together as a family and not as institutions and individuals.
- The evidence of goodwill, reciprocity, and Aloha that was demonstrated during the 2022 Global Breadfruit Summitt and the importance of continuing this type of collaboration at all levels.

The Summit was officially closed by Ramsay Taum who reminded those gathered of the privilege and responsibility we are given as stewards of this earth and leaders in our various communities. Ramsay ended with a traditional Hawaiian chant.

Photo Highlights



Koh Ming Wei (Director, Center for Getting Things Started) discussing the Hawai'i farm-to-school group and school garden curriculum that encourages students to plant breadfruit.



A morning breakout session discussing breadfruit farming systems and what are the most important problems for farming systems in the Pacific.



An afternoon breakout session (L-R); Kenneth Ostebo (CEO, Sustainable Ocean Systems - SOS Coastal Water Factory), and Maria Linibi (President, Papua New Guinea Women in AgricultureDevelopment Fund).



Kaitu Erasito (Breadfruit Specialist, Pacific Farmer Organisations), being interviewed by the Hawai'i News Now station.



Breadfruit Summit attendees (L-R); Dr. Craig Elevitch, King Tuaine Vaeruarangi Ariki, Tadia Rice, Daniel Mataroa.



Dr. Tusi Avegalio (Director, University of Hawai'i PBCP), leading the panel on Breadfruit's cultural significance in the Pacific.

Panelist Profiles







2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Dana Shapiro is the General Manager and Founder of the Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative.

• The Co-op now plays a vital role in the revival in the popularity of breadfruit and strengthening food security in Hawai'i. In 2019, the Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative successfully processed 92,000 pounds of 'ulu and was connected to 85 member farms representing 4,000 trees.



Dana Shapiro Hawai'i 'Ulu Coop





2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Elisabet Sahtouris is an evolution biologist, futurist, speaker, author, consultant on Living Systems

- Design, and a sustainability
- consultant to businesses, government agencies and other organizations.

Dr. Sahtouris shows the relevance of biological systems to organizational design in businesses, government and global trade.



Dr. Elisabet Sahtouris

Evolution Biology



2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Filippo Guzzon is the Curator for The Centre For Pacific Crops And Trees (CePaCT).

 The aim of CePaCT is to assist Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) to conserve the region's genetic resources and to strengthen the resilience of food and nutrition security to the impacts of disasters and climate change through technology development and

technical advisory support services.



Dr. Filippo Guzzon
CePaCT



2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

- Fr. Petero Matairatu is the
- Principal Director of the Tutu Rural Training Centre (TRTC), Fiji.

The institution specialises in nonformal education for selfemployment in agriculture, with graduate farmers having earned a total annual income of FJD\$1.24m.



Fr. Petero Matairatu Tutu Rural Training Center



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PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Minoru Nishi is the Managing Director of Nishi Trading and Vice-Chairman of Pacific Farmer Organisations.

Nishi Trading is a family owned Tongan enterprise which has operated for over two decades. Nishi Trading has a proud history of exporting quality products from Tonga to international markets and creates many value-added breadfruit products.



Minoru Nishi Nishi Trading

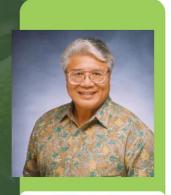


2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Papali'i Dr. Tusi Avegalio is the Director of the Pacific Business Center Program and Executive Director of the Honolulu Minority Business Enterprise Center, at the University of Hawaii-Manoa campus.

He is a recognized business and economic development expert among indigenous populations of Oceania, an academic, and a ranking Polynesian traditional leader, or Alii of Oceania.



Papali'i Dr. Tusi Avegalio University of Hawai'i



2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Noa Lincoln is a professor of Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences at the University in Hawai'i.

• In his career Dr. Lincoln has focused on the installation of cultural values into management systems and builds on the work surrounding indigenous cropping systems and their interaction with human societies in both the past and the present.



Dr. Noa LincolnUniversity of Hawai'i



2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

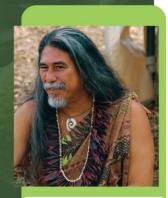
PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Rev. M. Kalani Souza is a gifted storyteller, singer, songwriter, musician, performer, poet,

- philosopher, priest, political satirist,
- and peacemaker.

A Hawaiian practitioner and crosscultural facilitator, he has experience in promoting social justice through conflict resolution. Kalani is the Founding and current Director of the Olohana Foundation,

a 501(c)(3) non-profit based on Hawaii's Big Island since 2008.



Rev. M. Kalani Souza
Olohana Foundation





2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Maria Linibi is the founder and president of the Papua New Guinea Women in Agriculture Development

- • Foundation.
 - WiADF works to link women farmers to organizations and others who could help address their needs. The organization is active throughout the country and Linibi is a recognised spokesperson for PNG's women farmers.







2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

John Cadman is the founder of Maui Breadfruit Company & Pono Pies. John has been producing value-added

- products using breadfruit for the past
- 10 years. Pies, Hummus, tamales, and patties are the main products.

Creating value-added breadfruit products and engaging more people in the many ways to eat breadfruit has been a key achievement of Maui Breadfruit Company since their start.







2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Noel Dickinson is a lead Research Technician at the National Tropical Botanical Garden - Breadfruit Institute.

 Noel manages a dynamic breadfruit agroforestry demonstration at the McBryde Garden Breadfruit Research Orchard and assists with various research projects related to NTBG's breadfruit conservation collection and information resources.



Noel DickinsonBreadfruit Institute





2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT

PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Kyle Stice is the Executive Director of Pacific Farmer Organisations.

Pacific Farmer Organisations serves as an umbrella organisation for national farmer organisations in the Pacific region, to coordinate capacity building, share success stories and the lessons learnt and support regional exchanges of expertise between farmer organisations and their associated private sector partners.



Kyle SticePacific Farmer Organisations



2022 GLOBAL :: BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

Mohinesh Reddy is a Project Manager for Pacific Farmer Organisations and for the Pacific Breadfruit Project.

Launced in 2022, the Pacific Breadfruit Project is a multi-year breadfruit and agroforestry centered initiative that is focused on research

and innovation in breadfruit in Papa New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, the Solomon Islands, and the Cook Islands.







2022 GLOBAL BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS

lan Kennedy is a project coordinator for Pacific Farmer Organisations and runs the 'Breadfruit People', an online information-sharing network.

The Breadfruit People was established as an online community for everything breadfruit. The community aims to bring together growers, consumers, traders, processors, researchers, and lovers of breadfruit!



lan Kennedy
Breadfruit People





2022 GLOBAL BREADFRUIT SUMMIT PANELIST - HIGHLIGHTS Karness Kusto is the EPP Manager at the Republic of the Marshall Islands National Training Council (NTC). The mission of the NTC is to equip residents of the Marshall Islands with the skills and attributes needed for gainful employment and to contribute to a more vibrant economy that is less dependent on foreign workers. Mr. Kusto works with many farmers around breadfruit research and production. Karness Kusto

NTC



Systems Extension Officer for the Pacific Organic & Ethical Trade Community (POETCom) housed at the Pacific Community in Suva, Fiji.

POETCom is a not for profit membership organisation with active members (farmers associations, farmer support organisations, NGOs, private sector, and research institutions) in 15

countries of the Pacific Island region







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