



STAR 2021

The Pacific Islands Science, Technology and Resources Network Conference

FIRST CIRCULAR and CALL FOR PAPERS

STAR 2021 is being planned for **25-26 November 2021**. The conference will be sponsored by Vanuatu. **STAR 2021** will be in conjunction with the Pacific GIS and Remote Sensing Council **Pacific Islands GIS&RS User Conference 2021, 22-23 November 2021**.

COVID-19 Implications: In line with the decision by Vanuatu, the Pacific Islands GIS and Remote Sensing Council and the STAR Steering Committee **STAR 2021** will be conducted mainly virtually via ZOOM.

Conference Theme

The overall theme of **STAR 2021** will be:

“The Application of Science and Technology to Building Resilient Communities in the Pacific”

Although the conference theme is broad, sessions will focus on the following five areas of prime importance to the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) and highlight the progress made towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) target of 2030, and 2021 being the first year of the UN Decade of Ocean science:

Geoscience Education

Science of Natural Hazards and Risks to Pacific Communities

Resources for Pacific Communities

Ocean Geoscience

Land Use, Energy and Infrastructure Development on Pacific Islands

Like previous years issues on **any** topic related to the overall conference theme or the Pacific region in general will also be welcome and will be included in the **STAR 2021** programme where possible.

Abstract Submission

Delegates intending to participate in **STAR 2021** are hereby invited to submit titles of papers and abstracts under the focus areas. Instructions to presenters will be provided on the new STAR website:

[STAR Web Site](#)

Abstracts should be submitted via email to starconference2021@gmail.com. Early submission is strongly encouraged with a deadline of **15 October 2021**.



Conference Format

As **STAR 2021** will be conducted virtually, **oral presentation sessions** will be available during **STAR 2021**.

Presentations. Daily sessions will be scheduled during the hours 09:00 – 17:00 depending on the number of presentations received.

Informal **Working Groups** on any geoscience, geotechnical or non-living resource related topics considered as relevant to supporting Pacific Island countries with their sustainable development may be established by STAR and convened as part of the **STAR 2021**. Any member, or group of members of STAR, is welcome to form a working group. The member(s) should table the request for a working group to the STAR Steering Committee no later than 15th October 2021. The request must be accompanied by an Abstract describing the working group and the project idea that it will be convening to articulate of no more than 1 page.

Student and Early Career Prize

The STAR Steering Committee will award a prize for the best presentation during the conference given by a student or early career scientist.

Conference Registration

Full details for registration for the conference will be included in the Second Circular, however, the STAR Steering Committee has agreed that there will not be a registration fee for **STAR 2021**.

Conference Publications

A **STAR 2021** Abstracts Volume will be provided to all delegates as part of the registration pack.

Second Circular

The **STAR 2021** Second Circular that will provide full details for the conference will include: ZOOM registration arrangements and a provisional programme will be forwarded in **early-November 2021**.

The **STAR 2021** Steering Committee look forward to your participation in the conference.

Dr Rajjeli Taga

20 September 2021

Chair
STAR Steering Committee