

Dr Anand Chand
9 August 2003

APPLICATION FORM

ICT Research Grant

	Principal Applicant From USP	Principal Applicant From Partner Agency
Surname	Chand	Agassi
Forenames	Anand	Alan
Title (Mr., etc.)	Dr.	Mr.
Institution address	Acting Head of Sociology Sociology Department School of Social and Economic Development The University of the South Pacific	Rural Development Volunteers Association, P.O. Box 919, Honiara, Solomon Islands
Telephone No.	3212541 (direct line) Via Sociology Secretary-Dolores-3212136	+677 26358
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	Co-applicants from USP	Co-applicants From Partner Agency
Surname	Galo	Stork
Forenames	Glynn	Edo
Title	Dr.	Mr.
Institution address	USP Solomon Island Centre Honiara	United Nations Development Programme Fiji Multi Country Office, Tower Level 6, Reserve Bank Building, Pratt Street
Telephone No.	(677) 21307	3312500, Ext. 607
Fax No.	(677) 24024	3301718
E-mail address	galo_g@usp.ac.fj	Edo.stork@undp.org
Endorsement by the Head of School approving the Principal Researcher to undertake this research:		
Name of the Head of the School		Date

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Q1 Title of project (no more than 220 characters):

ICT's, Sustainable Rural Development and Poverty Reduction in the Solomon Islands: The case of the People First Network

Q2 Proposed start date (dd/mm/yy):

5/09/03

Q3 Period for which support is sought (in months):

Ten Months

Q4 Summary of total costs (in Fijian Dollars):

Equipment

\$350

Consumables

\$3,750

Lease Fee/Workshop (for hiring hall for training research assistants and workshop for dissemination of results, etc.)

\$800

Travel

\$24,551

Telecommunications

\$1,040

Support Staff

\$7,490

Educational material development

\$1,000

Others

\$1,000

TOTAL

\$39,981

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Q5 PROJECT BUDGET

Country for which estimated cost is presented: (if outside Fiji)	Solomon Islands
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EQUIPMENT

(Excluding VAT for large and expensive equipment)

Buying Site License for SPSS software from USP – to be used for data entry & analysis of quantitative survey data	\$150
Coping of existing RDVA short film on PFnet project to VCR format (few tapes)	\$200

CONSUMABLES

Batteries for digital cameras and audio recorder	\$100
2 HP6 LaserJet cartridges (RDVA)	\$500
Reams paper (1 carton per participating rural email station)	\$250
Ink cartridges (1 per participating rural station)	\$450
2 colour inkjet cartridges (USP)	\$300
Printing of 500 Questionnaires (sample 400 plus extra 100)	\$700
Freight cost of Questionnaires (Fiji-Solomon-return)	\$200
Printing and photocopying of reports (USP)	\$500
Tea/Lunch-Training of 5 Research Assistants for survey & focus groups- \$10 p.p.p.d. x 5 people x 3 days	\$150
Meals for dissemination of results in workshop in Solomon Islands: \$15 p.p.p.d. (40 people)	\$600

LEASE FEE WORKSHOP

Hire of any equipment, item, or venue in relation to research.

Honiara CYP building \$200 p.d. X 2 (For training of 5 Research Assistants & dissemination of results to stakeholders in ICT for development workshop)	\$400
Hire of multimedia projector: \$200 p.d. x 2 days	\$400

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TRAVEL	
<p>Travel within Suva (car mileage/cost of petrol) To collect documents for literature review & visits USP-UNDP (vice versa) for meetings to discuss the project</p>	\$60
<p>From Fiji to Solomon Islands 2 x return trips to Solomon Islands for USP and UNDP researcher @1564 per return trip plus departure taxes</p>	\$6,256
<p>Travel within Solomon Islands to 5 project villages One senior researcher plus one research assistant to travel to each station, the senior researcher to return after one week, the research assistant to remain 3 weeks to conduct survey, interviews and focus interviews. Cost below includes the cheapest reliable way (ship or air) for two people to visit with such a schedule.</p> <p>Sigana station. 2 x return ship. \$200 Silolo station. 2 x return ship Auki plus 3 one way truck transfers \$500 Hutuna station. 2 x return air plus 3 one way truck transfers plus 3 one way canoe transfers \$800 Pirupiru station. 2 x return air plus 3 one way truck transfers \$550 Sasamunga station. 2 x return air plus 3 x return canoe hires \$1,050 Travel within Honiara (taxi fare for USP researcher to visit government departments to interview relevant policy makers) \$50</p>	
<p>Per diems for USP and UNDP and RDVA Applicants plus RDVA Research Assistants</p> <p>\$155/night x 28 nights x 2 (USP and UNDP) \$8,680 \$155/night x 7 nights x 3 (RDVA) \$3,255</p>	
<p>Per diems for Research Assistants \$30/night x 21 nights x 5pp \$3,150</p>	
TELECOMMUNICATION	
<p>Fax, Connectivity, Phone Calls, between Fiji and Solomons and between PF Net communities and Honiara</p> <p>PFnet Internet costs @ 10% of cost over 4 months \$500 PFnet rural email stations, 100 emails plus 20 pages typing services provided by operators, 5 stations \$240 RDVA, USP, UNDP relevant telephone costs over 6 months \$300</p>	

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SUPPORT STAFF

State number and type of staff and approximate cost for the duration of the grant, including the employer's contributions and other relevant costs.

Salaries for 5 research assistants to carry out survey and focus group interviews	\$3,290
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SUPPORT STAFF AT USP

Data entry/analysis-400 questionnaires	\$1,700
Transcribing audio tapes of focus groups interviews- from Pidgin to English 20 tapes x \$25 each tape	\$500
Salary for one Office Assistant based in Suva to assist with administration and logistics \$100 x 15 weeks	\$1500
Sociology Dept secretarial support (administration & typing support- This is for time outside her normal working hours)	\$500

EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Development of radio play and other educational materials	\$1,000
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OTHERS

Gifts for PFNet communities participating in study (this is a cultural obligation that must be met for research to be successful-\$200 x 5 stations)	\$1,000
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TOTAL**\$ 39,981**

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Q6. OUTLINE OF SCIENTIFIC PROPOSAL

Project Background and justification:

Information and Communications Technologies (ICT's) are becoming increasingly powerful tools for nations wishing to participate in global markets; promote political accountability; improve the delivery of basic services; and enhance local development opportunities. Without innovative interventions and ICT policies, many people in developing countries - especially the poor - will find themselves even more marginalized from development than they already are.

The Solomon Islands is a developing country nation in dire need of innovative ICT interventions and policies. The Solomon Islands is currently one of the poorest nations in the Pacific Islands outranked only by Kiribati in United Nations indexes of sustainable human development (UNDP, 2002). The Solomon Islands has also seen extensive civil conflict over the past five years culminating in the 'crises' of 2000. As a result of the crisis the Solomon Islands is faced with a multitude of problems that threaten to unravel the fragile peace brokered in October 2000. Lawlessness and violence are currently endemic, and social and economic conditions remain poor for the majority of the population. Politicians and policy makers continue to be viewed as corrupt and many citizens have little faith that the government elected to power in 2001 will deliver on its promises.

Attempts by the Solomon Islands' government to foster sustainable development, particularly in rural areas, have often been derailed by endemic corruption, clientalism and budgetary constraints to the extent that many experts on Solomon Islands politics and development are now calling for a nation wide approach to development that is based on innovative approaches fostered at the grassroots. Such approaches have often been very successful in not only eliminating poverty but also, promoting sustainable human development

The People First Network, or PFNet, is an example of innovative grass-roots approach to development. PFNet is an Information and Communications Technology ICT project run by the Solomon Islands Rural Development Volunteers Association, which consists of a network of solar power email stations in remote and rural Solomon Islands connected to an Internet café in Honiara. Email messages reach the Internet café from the email stations by high frequency radio waves effectively allowing remote and isolated communities access to affordable means of communication. The PFNet thus aims to promote and facilitate equitable and sustainable rural development in some of the most remote locations in the Solomon Islands through the improvement of information sharing and knowledge building among and across communities.

In October 2001, the PFNet's first rural email station was established and there are now nine email stations in use in remote and rural communities throughout the Solomon Islands. In the coming year, at least another eight email stations (5 funded by the Japanese Grassroots Assistance Programme through the Embassy of Japan in Solomon Islands) will be established and the Internet café size will be doubled, all with support from the Japanese Embassy in Honiara. Additionally, the UNDP, through its local partner organisations, plans to replicate the PFnet network system to Vanuatu and another Pacific Island Country (yet to be determined). These replica projects will also be funded by the Government of Japan through the UNDP's global ICT Thematic Trust Fund.

Now that the PFnet project has facilitated the development of an ICT network in the Solomon Islands, there is a need to examine in detail how the PFNet email stations impact on sustainable rural development for poor Solomon Islanders. The justification for this research is therefore very clear: with the results of this research both the existing PFnet system and proposed expansion in the Solomon Islands, and the UNDP PFnet replica project, will be better placed to operate an ICT system that fosters genuine and sustainable rural development. Furthermore, Pacific Island governments have expressed that equal access and deployment of tele-centers is one of the regional ICT priorities. As such this research will be a valuable tool for all governments and stakeholders seeking to develop policy to improve the livelihoods of people in rural and remote areas in Pacific Island countries.

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Research Questions:

Questions Relating to Access and Utilisation of the PFNet project

- Why do certain email stations generate more revenue than others?
 - o Including, what are the significant descriptors (and primary interactions) of a rural email station and a user community
- What are the main issues affecting community uptake and appropriation of services?
- Why are only 20-25% of the users of the email stations women? What are the reasons for this? What are the recommendations to increase women's participation?
- What are the principal factors underlying differences in utilization amongst the nine existing email stations
- What are the information needs of differing groups (women, the elderly, farmers, students, entrepreneurs and business people, etc) in the nine existing email stations
- What is the optimum spread of the network and where can additional sites be located to best effect?

Questions relating to the Impact of the PFNet on sustainable rural development

- Has the PFNet project improved the livelihoods of people in PFNet project communities? If so how?
- What groups in these communities have benefited most? Which groups have benefited the least?
- Has the PFNet project in PFNet project communities contributed to:
 - o Environmental awareness and sustainable resource management and/or
 - o Improved gender equality in PFNet project communities, if so how? And/or
 - o Improved well-being (including health and security) for people in PFNet project communities?
 - o Peace building and reconciliation?
- In what ways have any improvements to livelihoods, environmental awareness, gender equality and well-being been sustained?
- Has the PFNet project been able to increase awareness of the use of ICT's as an enabler for Development at the policy and decision maker level in the Solomon Islands? IF so how? Has the PFNet project stimulated the activity at the policy level in the Solomon Islands?
- What linkages to other projects (also focusing on Japanese funded projects in light of the Japanese funding for PFNet/PFNet replica) and new initiatives can be considered for the future?

Project Objectives:

This Project has two main objectives and several related outcomes

Objective One:

To understand why there are issues related to differential access and utilization of email stations in the 9 PFNet project communities.

Outcomes of Objective One:

Improvement of existing services to better meet the needs of those groups who are marginalised from the project

Increased quality of targeting and appropriation of email stations in the future

Documentation of lessons learnt from an existing project that can be incorporated into replica project planning and implementation to allow for future genuine and sustainable rural development in other communities in the Pacific Islands

Objective Two:

To investigate the impact of PFNet on sustainable rural development (incorporating, livelihoods, wellbeing, environmental awareness and management and gender equality) in the remote and rural Solomon Islands

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Outcomes of Objective Two:

High quality primary data that can be accessed and used by stakeholders throughout the Pacific to enable effective policy development and implementation on the use of ICT's for development

Future sustainable rural development for those communities who will be beneficiaries of the aforementioned policy development and implementation

An understanding of policy makers' awareness of the enabling role of ICT' s for sustainable rural development.

Project Beneficiaries:

Each group whose information needs are assessed will benefit from better targeting and facilitation of services in the future, i.e. farmers, rural business people, women, etc. Rural communities in Solomon Islands (85% of population) and other replica project countries will generally benefit from better targeting and capacity building. Policy makers will also benefit from having access to high quality data on which future ICT policies can be based. By participating in the project as experienced research assistants, members of RDVA and members of the USP Sociology Department will benefit from being part of a research project, which will build their capacity as researchers. UNDP and others initiating replication projects will benefit from having access to quality baseline and impacts data.

Project Sustainability:

While the project is not planning to develop a new system that will exist after the project funding has ceased, the results of this research into an existing system will contribute to the sustainability of replica systems already planned and underway in the Solomons and other locations. Understanding how the PFNet contributes to sustainable rural development and the identification of solutions related to access of the PFNet for vulnerable groups would ensure that future projects utilising the PFNet system are genuinely sustainable.

Project Methodology:

In social based research, both qualitative and quantitative methodologies and methods have been utilised to achieve project objectives. Quantitative methods are useful in revealing the extent of differences between groups and can provide a sense of space for qualitative methods. The data collected through quantitative methods is often seen as being more authoritative, and therefore more likely to be taken seriously by relevant high level policy makers.

Qualitative research methods on the other hand, have the ability to reveal the complexities of human arrangements and can be applied in ways that ultimately lesson the power gradients that exist between the researcher and the researched. Qualitative methods also provide the opportunity for deriving a great deal of detail in the analysis of complex phenomena and in this way, help to place the situation under study in a broader context.

Because of the nature of both the objectives and outcomes of the proposed research, both qualitative and quantitative methods will be used. The qualitative method will be focus group interviews and for each of the five stations 4 focus (2 for women and 2 for men) group meetings will be held. The qualitative method will be underpinned by a quantitative survey and a sample of around 350-400 respondents will be interviewed via a structured questionnaire. For each PFnet station 60-80 respondents will be interviewed and the sample will be stratified so that there is gender, age, etc balance so that comparisons could be made between stations. The sample of 60-80 respondents in each PFnet station was recommended by RDVA staff in Solomon Islands who thought this was a reasonable number.¹

¹ At this stage a sample size of 350-400 is suggested but the actual number will be determined once a detailed sampling is done with liaison with RDVA staff as soon as possible.

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In addition, the RDVA and UNDP have some hard data on the five stations and these will be used. The sensitivities of the interview method is discussed in the 'Risk' section later.

To Achieve Objective One:

A social survey instrument will be designed by Dr Anand Chand and members of the Sociology department who have expertise in social survey methods, closely in consultation with RDVA and UNDP co-researchers. The survey instrument will be piloted with the co-researchers in the Solomon Islands and with Solomon Island post-graduate students at USP, Suva, to assess the cultural appropriateness of the survey questions.

A sample size of 5 stations will be studied. They comprise of 2 very remote and 3 relatively remote stations. A sample size of at least 350-400 respondents will be chosen from 5 stations (60-80 respondents in each of the 5 stations). In each station, respondents will be chosen from 3 areas- nearby villages, remote villages and very remote villages, and the extent to which email services are accessed and utilised. The sample will include members from all relevant groups in the community including, women, young people, the elderly, and key respondents such as community leaders.

The survey will be undertaken by research assistants under the supervision of the Principal applicants and experienced RDVA research assistants.

A methodology for defining significant descriptors for stations and communities will be designed by the Principal and co-researchers in collaboration. All nine email stations and their communities will be assessed/characterised, prior to and during the survey visits.

To Achieve Objective Two:

A semi-structured interview schedule will be developed by the Principal Researcher in collaboration with those members of the Sociology department and RDVA who have expertise in qualitative research. The draft interview schedule will be forwarded to the co-researchers in the Solomon Islands for assessment. Research Assistants will be trained in the Solomon Islands by the Principal Researcher on the art of performing qualitative interviews and focus groups.

Research Assistants will undertake at least 20 interviews under the supervision of the Principal Researcher with members of all groups, including, young people, women and the elderly, in each of the 5 project communities.

Research Assistants will undertake at least 4 focus group interviews in each of the 5 project villages with members of the aforementioned groups.

Principal applicants will interview relevant policy makers to assess awareness of the enabling role of ICT's for sustainable rural development.

Project Time line: (10-12 months)²

The USP, the UNDP and the RDVA will have joint responsibility in managing and delivering the grant. (All activities jointly coordinated by USP, UNDP and RDVA are marked (*)).

September-early October 2003

Research Design

Review all relevant literature (*)

Design and pilot survey instrument (Questionnaire) (*)

² This time frame is subject to political stability in Solomon Islands

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Design and pilot test of interview schedule for focus groups in relation to issues raised by survey instrument (*)

Work with co researchers to identify research assistants and fieldwork logistics. (*)

October 2003

USP and UNDP researchers fly to the Solomon Islands and with collaboration with RDVA to train Solomon Island research assistants on issues associated with both quantitative and qualitative data collection and commence collection of data (*)

November/December 2003

Collection of data takes place in 5 project communities. To each of the 5 participating email stations, one senior researcher (of 5 in total: UNDP, USP and 3 RDVA expert research assistants) plus one research assistant will travel to each station. This will take place as simultaneously as possible so that research teams can support each other over email and radio. The senior researcher will stay one week and the research assistant three weeks. The research activities to take place will include collection of the survey data, interviews and focus groups. The activities will be undertaken by the research assistants under the supervision of the 5 senior researchers and expert research assistants with close monitoring and coordination from USP, RDVA and UNDP (*)

Interviews of policy makers in the Solomon Islands by USP/UNDP/RDVA senior researchers (*)

Interviews of policy makers in Fiji

January-February 2004

Data entry/cleaning of data at USP

Transcribing of focus group interviews

March 2004

Analysis of survey data by USP, UNDP, and RDVA researchers-led by USP researcher (*)

Interview data analysed by Principal Researcher in collaboration with UNDP and RDVA.

Report writing begins

April-May 2004

Continuation data analysis of survey data (in-depth analysis, graphs, etc)

Continuation of report writing/ draft ready

June 2004

Draft of final report given to JICA and UNDP for comments and peer review (*)

July 2004

Revision/Final report given to JICA

Hiring of Solomon Island Research Assistants in Suva to act as 'actors' in radio play

Radio play recorded in Fiji

Summary Email sent to all participating email stations

July-August 2004

Principal Researcher and co-applicant (UNDP) fly to Solomon Islands (and with collaboration of RDVA) to disseminate results to Solomon Islands' Government, Solomon Islands ICT Working Group and other relevant stakeholders in a dissemination workshop.

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Radio play airs in all participating project communities

August 2004

Articles for academic journals written and submitted by Principal Researchers and Co applicant (USP, UNDP and RDVA)

August 2004

Project completed

Risk Management:

Risk – Statistical analysis often lacks rigor.

Management - Statistician as co-researcher to work with the Sociology department to ensure the validity and reliability of survey instrument and analysis

Risk – Cultural and social issues impinge on the participation of vulnerable groups, such as women, in the research process

Management – Principal researcher has previous experience conducting research with women and other vulnerable groups – Research Assistants will be trained by Principal Researcher and women will be surveyed and interviewed separately to ensure their active participation in the research process

Risk – Due to social and cultural issues, research participants sometimes tell the story they think that you want to hear rather than the ‘real’ story

Management – Primary data collection will be undertaken by Solomon Island research assistants under the supervision of the principal applicants in ways that lessen the power gradients that often exist between researchers and participants

Risk – Research projects are slow to ‘take off’ due to difficulties in establishing contacts in the ‘host’ country

Management – One co-researcher is based in the Solomon Islands and has established contacts in all PFNet project communities

Risk – The results of research often do not reach all relevant stakeholders

Management – Strategies to disseminate research results to all relevant stakeholders have been identified at the outset of the research process

Project Outputs:

Through its comprehensive methodology, extensive fieldwork, and multidisciplinary team members, the project will produce timely and high quality academic data that will be of benefit to many stakeholders. After rigorous analysis, this data will be delivered and disseminated in the following ways:

1. A report will be delivered to JICA in the required form mentioning USP, RDVA and UNDP as collaborative researchers. The report will be presented as a joint USP/RDVA/UNDP research project.
2. The results would be useful for UNDP and Japanese Governments' proposed plan to replicate the PFnet network systems to other areas in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and another Pacific Island Country (yet to be determined). Problems associated with PFnet network system will be highlighted and promulgate solutions so that lessons can be learnt and corrected for the replica cases.

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3. A professional document reporting the main conclusions of the project will be delivered to the Solomon Island government and other relevant stakeholders during a formal workshop/conference on the role of ICTs for development. The document will be summarized in a presentation that will include, amongst other components, a short documentary film on the PFNet project.
4. A short radio play/drama will be prepared using Solomon Islanders as actors (in Pidgin) about PFnet, to disseminate the key issues arising from the project. The drama will be broadcast to all relevant project villages using existing radio networks. It will also mention USP, RDVA and UNDP as collaborative researchers and JICA as the grant agency.
5. A summary of the project's main findings, written in an accessible form, will also be sent via email to all PFNet stations operating in the Solomon Islands.
6. A copy of the projects main findings will be forwarded to the relevant ministries of the Fijian government to foster greater acceptability of the role of ICTs for development in Fiji.
7. Several scholarly articles will be prepared for publication in academic journals such as: *The Electronic Journal for Information Systems in Developing Countries* (<http://www.ejisdc.org>) and *Development in Practice*.
8. Intellectual Property Rights will be shared between the three applicant agencies USP, UNDP and RDVA. Use of project outputs will be by mutual agreement only.
9. This research is expected to contribute to *capacity building* of staff involved.

Project Monitoring:

Monitoring of progress on the research project will be jointly done by USP, RDVA and UNDP.

In addition to communication and linkages with co researchers in the Solomon Islands during the life of the project and the supervision of data collection by the Principal Researchers, continuous quantitative monitoring of rural email station usage from daily reports will also be accumulated in the PFnet's central database. The email system can be used for close monitoring and project coordination

Project Originality:

While there has been numerous research projects investigating the role of ICT's for development, the majority of these have been global in scope and have not contributed well to knowledge on the specific outcomes or practical applications of ICT projects in the developing world and particularly in small island countries. The Proposed Project will be the first known baseline empirical assessment undertaken in the Pacific that concretely investigates with stakeholders at the grassroots level how ICT's can make a difference to their livelihoods and other aspects of sustainable rural development. As an in-depth investigation of an innovative ICT system, it will serve as a very relevant benchmark document for the Pacific, and for other regions in the world where projects such as these might be relevant. Policy makers in the Pacific and throughout the rest of the developing world remain skeptical about the role ICT's can play in development. This research will, therefore, be of great importance in proving to policy makers that ICT's can make a difference to the lives of those in most need.

Another creative element of this proposal is that it not only intends to inform policy makers and the academic world, but also, to feed back the findings in some appropriate form to the rural communities so that they can take benefit of the knowledge gained.

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REFERENCES

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<http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2001/en/>

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Q7 (i)

CURRICULUM VITAE FOR DR ANAND CHAND

(a)	SURNAME:	Chand	FORENAMES	Anand
(b)	DATE OF BIRTH:	19/12/58	NATIONALITY:	Fiji
(c)	DEGREES, DIPLOMAS etc. (subject, class, university and dates):			
	BA in Sociology (University of Tasmania), Australia (1979-1981) Post-Graduate Diploma in Sociology (USP), Fiji (1986-1987) Masters of Arts in Sociology/Industrial Relations (USP), Fiji (1987-1989) Post-Graduate Diploma in Business Studies (University of Canterbury), New Zealand (1990-1991) Masters of Arts in Social Science Research Methods (University of Manchester) UK (2000) PhD (University of Wales), UK, (2001-2003).			
(d)	CURRENT POST (with dates):			
	Title:	Lecturer (currently Acting Head of Department)		
	Department:	Sociology		
	Institution:	University of the South Pacific		
	Date of appointment and if appropriate, expected termination:	June 1983		
(e)	PREVIOUS POSTS HELD			
	(maximum 3 most recent posts with dates, source of funding for salary and country):			
	2002-2003-Graduate Seminar Assistant in the School for Social Sciences, the University of Cardiff (Wales) in UK whilst doing PhD.			

RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN

(no more than ten which you consider to be the most important. Please give details of funding agency, completion time, name of team members if applicable, and any publications, etc.)

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1. May-July 2003- with Ms Ashla Singh and Dr Satendra Prasad- Recently completed a research on ‘Determining the Impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on Decent Work in Fiji’. This research is jointly funded by ILO/ Japanese Institute of Labour (JIL), Bangkok. A sample of 15 managers and 30 workers were interviewed. The data has been collected, analysed and preliminary report completed. Since this research was on ICT, the experience from this would be useful for the proposed JICA research.
2. June 2003- conducted a research on ‘The Employment, Labour Market and Industrial Relations in Samoa’. This research was done via the *Institute of Advanced Studies in Development and Governance* at USP (this can be confirmed by Professor Ron Duncan). This research is funded by EU-USP Project under the 4 EDF of Lome Convention.
3. 2001-2002- Conducted a research on ‘Garment Industry in Fiji’ as empirical study for my PhD. A total of 35 garment firms were studied of which 10 firms were studied in-depth. A total sample of 35 garment manufacturers and 60 workers were interviewed. This research was funded by USP Research Grant.
4. 1998-2000 - with Ms Dharma Chandra -Conducted a major base line survey on ‘Teenage Pregnancy and Reproductive Health in the South Pacific Region’- 6 South Pacific Island countries: namely *Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Cook Islands*. This was a major quantitative research, which had a sample of around 8,500 respondents. In addition around 36 focus group discussions were conducted. Both quantitative and qualitative research methods were utilised. This research was funded by the *International Planned Parenthood Fund (IPPF)*- based in London). A total of 12 major reports were written by Ms Dharma Chandra and myself (6 reports each). The results from these surveys were used by Health Ministries in 6 South Pacific Region countries to formulate policies to reduce teenage pregnancy, HIV and AIDs.
5. 1997-1998- Conducted a major base line survey on ‘Employment and Training Assessment in Fiji’, with the technical support by Dr Bill Batch, ILO consultant on Employment, Dr Bill House and Mr Laurie Lewis consultants from the UNFPA (based in Suva), Mr Amendra Prasad from The National Planning Office (Fiji government), and with the assistance of 30 USP students. This was also a major quantitative survey with a sample of 183 firms and 8,153 employees were interviewed. This research was funded by ILO and UNFPA and data from this research was used by the Fiji Government to prepare the ‘Human Resource Report: 1998-2001’.
6. 1997- Conducted a research on ‘Primary School Children Dropout in Fiji’, with the assistance of USP students. A sample of 20 primary school head teachers and 154 respondents was interviewed. This research was funded by UNDP and the Save the Children Fund from New Zealand. A 50-page report was written.
7. 1997- Conducted a research on ‘Absenteeism and Labour Turnover in Garment Industry in Fiji’ with the assistance of USP students. A total of 350 respondents were interviewed and a 60 page report was written. This research was funded by USP. A paper was presented at a conference in Malta and an article published in a UK journal.
8. 1996- Conducted a survey on ‘Public Attitude towards Fiji Police Force’, with Professor Nii-K Plange and with the help of USP students. Samples of 522 respondents were interviewed and a 50-page report was written. This research was funded by the Australian Federal Police Force, Canberra, Australia.
9. 1994-1995- with Dr Adrinkrah, Associate Professor at Minnesota University (USA) and the help of USP students- Conducted a major nation wide base line survey on ‘Suicide in Fiji’. This was a major quantitative base line research with a sample of 1247 respondents was interviewed and a 150 page report was written. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (Fiji) and the University of the South Pacific Research Grant jointly funded this research. This report was used to assist Fiji Government’s policies on Social Welfare and Counseling.

Dr Anand Chand
9 August 2003

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Please note that I have just returned (April 2003) after completing my PhD from UK and hence still in the process of writing few journal articles. The following are some work-in progress and published articles.

1. 2003- with Ms Ashla Singh and Dr Satendra Prasad- ‘The Impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on Decent Work in Fiji’, forthcoming in ILO/ Japanese Institute of Labour (JIL) Journal, Bangkok.
2. 2003- ‘Knitting Samoa into the Global Economy: Global Commodity Chain in Samoa: A Case Study of *Pacific Cashmere Company (Samoa) Ltd*, forthcoming as Cardiff School for Social Sciences Working Paper, UK.
3. 2003- ‘Wages and Working Conditions in Garment Factories in Fiji’, forthcoming as Cardiff School for Social Sciences Working Paper, UK.
4. 2003- ‘The Labour Market and Employment in Samoa: A Preliminary Status Report’, for *Institute of Advanced Studies in Development and Governance*, USP.
5. 2000- ‘Human resources strategies in small island states: the case study of Garment Factories in Fiji’, in International Journal of Educational Development, 20 (2000), Pergamon, UK.
6. 1996 – ‘The Needy children of Fiji: A Development Flaw?’, in Journal of Pacific Health Dialog, Vol 2. No.1, South Pacific Commission, New Caledonia.

Dr Anand Chand
9 August 2003

Q7 (ii)
CURRICULUM VITAE FOR MR ALAN AGASSI

(a)	SURNAME:	Agassi	FORENAMES	Alan
(b)	DATE OF BIRTH:	28 Nov 1963	NATIONALITY:	Solomon Islands
(c)	DEGREES, DIPLOMAS etc. (subject, class, university and dates):			
	Education- 2000 (UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH PACIFIC) Suva, Fiji			
	· Post Graduate Diploma in Development Studies (PGDDS)			
	1989 – 1991 (QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY) Brisbane, Australia			
	· Post Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning (PGDURP)			
(d)	CURRENT POST (with dates):			
	Title:	Chairman (also Chief Rural Development Officer)		
	Department:	(Rural Development Division RDD)		
	Institution:	Rural Development Volunteers Association (Ministry of Provincial Government and Rural Development)		
	Date of appointment and if appropriate, expected termination:	RDVA: Aug 22 2001 RDD: 2000		
(e)	PREVIOUS POSTS HELD			
	(maximum 3 most recent posts with dates, source of funding for salary and country):			
	- Planning and Monitoring Officer, Ministry of Provincial Government and Rural Development 1998-2000			
	- Senior Physical Planner, Ministry of Provincial Government and Rural Development 1996-7			
	- Senior Planning Officer Ministry of Provincial Government and Rural Development 1993-5			

RESEARCHER'S UNDERTAKEN

(No more than ten which you consider to be the most important. Please give details of funding agency, completion time, name of team members if applicable, and any publications, etc.)

Final Technical Report, Sasamunga Distance Learning and Research Project, Rural Development Volunteers Association, Report to, Project S006, Sept 2002, downloadable at www.peoplefirst.net.sb/General/Distance_Learning.htm#latest
Authors Aggassi A., Leeming D., Biliki R., Taniveke P. and Patson P.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

(No more than ten which should be those you consider to be the most important and relevant to this application. Please give citation in full, including title of paper and all authors.)

Dr Anand Chand
9 August 2003

Q7 (iii)
CURRICULUM VITAE FOR DR GLYNN GALO

(a)	SURNAME:	Galo	FORENAMES	Glynn
(b)	DATE OF BIRTH:	21 December 1954	NATIONALITY:	Solomon Islands
(c)	DEGREES, DIPLOMAS etc. (subject, class, university and dates):			
	BSc+GCEd 1978, The University of the South Pacific; MBA The University of Queensland , Brisbane, 1993, EdD 2001, The University of Bristol, UK			
(d)	CURRENT POST (with dates):			
	Title:	Centre Director		
	Department:	Distance and Flexible Learning		
	Institution:	The University of the South Pacific		
	Date of appointment and if appropriate, expected termination:	Feb 2001 – Feb 2004		
(e)	PREVIOUS POSTS HELD			
	(maximum 3 most recent posts with dates, source of funding for salary and country):			
	Centre Lecturer, Solomon Islands Farm Manager, SORICE Company Ltd, Honiara, Solomon Islands Science Teacher, King George High School, Solomon Islands			

RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN
(No more than ten which you consider to be the most important. Please give details of funding agency, completion time, name of team members if applicable, and any publications, etc.)

“The Management and Leadership Roles of Solomon Islands Headteachers: Perceptions, Priorities and Practices.”(unpublished doctoral thesis)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Recent publications with a high degree of statistical analysis (the co-applicant’s area of expertise in this project)

None

Dr Anand Chand
9 August 2003

Q7 (iv)

CURRICULUM VITAE FOR EDO FERDINAND STORK

(a)	SURNAME:	Stork	FORENAMES: Edo Ferdinand
(b)	DATE OF BIRTH:	10 th April 1971	NATIONALITY: Dutch
(c)	DEGREES, DIPLOMAS etc. (subject, class, university and dates): Masters in Computer Science from the Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. (Sept. 89- Oct. 95). Specializations: Human Computer Interaction, Artificial Intelligence.		
(d)	CURRENT POST (with dates):		
	Title:	Thematic Analyst ICT for Development	
	Department:	Thematic Group	
	Institution:	UNDP Fiji Multi Country Office	
	Date of appointment and if appropriate, expected termination:	8 September 2001	
(e)	PREVIOUS POSTS HELD (maximum 3 most recent posts with dates, source of funding for salary and country):		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Associate Expert Information Communication Technology from Jan '99-July '01 for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation outposted in Lima, Peru, South America. - Software application control manager from July 98-Jan 99 for the Dutch National Institute for Theatre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. - Software Test Consultant from Dec. '97- July '98 for the IT headquarters of the ABN AMRO Bank in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. - Project Officer from Oct. '95- Jun. '97 for the Centre for Development Cooperation Services of the Free University Amsterdam outposted at the University of Swaziland in Kwaluseni, Swaziland, Southern Africa. 		

RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN

(No more than ten which you consider to be the most important. Please give details of funding agency, completion time, name of team members if applicable, and any publications, etc.)

- Stork, E; Leeming, D.; Biliki, R. Solomon Islands ICT Strategy Workshop Report, the Electronic Journal on Information Systems in Developing Countries. <http://www.is.cityu.edu.hk/research/ejisd/vol12/v12p5.pdf>. On UNDP Fiji web site: http://www.undp.org.fj/documents/ICT4DEV/ICT_Workshop_report_Feb_03-no-photos_vs2.1.zip.
- Stork, E. (2002). Enhancing People's Participation in the Pacific through the Usage of ICT's, UNDP. (Presentation) <http://www.undp.org.fj/documents/ICT4DEV/EnhancingPeopleParticip.zip>.