



The Pacific Islands Science, Technology and Resources Network Conference

STAR 2026 CONFERENCE WEEK SECOND CIRCULAR

CALL FOR PAPERS and REGISTRATIONS

The STAR Steering Committee confirms that the **STAR Conference Week 2026** will have the overall theme of:

The Role of the Pacific Island Nations in the Development of their Energy, Minerals, and Geo-resources Security Through Urban Sea Systems

A Circum-Pacific Council - STAR sponsored workshop on “*Urban Sea Systems and Deep-Sea Minerals*” is confirmed for 16-17 November 2026

A workshop on the “*Blue Concrete Initiative*” is being planned for 18 November 2026

STAR Conference Session and Field Trip has been confirmed for 19-21 November 2026

A special session of the Hydrospatial Working Group will be held in the afternoon of Thursday 19 November 2026



STAR 2026 will be held on 16-21 November 2026 in Suva, Fiji.

The venue for **STAR 2026** will be: The Grand Pacific Hotel Suva, Fiji.

Details of accommodation options: www.fiji.travel/places-to-stay/suva-and-surrounds





Conference Format

STAR 2026 will be a hybrid event, **oral presentation sessions** will be available during **STAR 2026**. Poster presentations may also be available.

Presentations:

Sessions will be scheduled during the hours 09:00 – 17:00. PowerPoint/Video presentations must be no longer than 15 minutes with 5 minutes for discussion.

Working Groups:

Working groups will also be scheduled during **STAR 2026** on topics relevant to supporting Pacific Island countries with their sustainable development. Any member, or group of members of STAR should provide details.

Field Trip:

A field trip is being planned for Saturday 21 November 2026. Details will be provided in due course.

Student and Early Career Prize

The STAR Steering Committee will award a prize for the best presentation during the **STAR 2026** given by a student or early career scientist.



Clay Sampling – Oaia Quarry

Abstract Submission

Delegates intending to participate in **STAR 2026** are hereby invited to submit titles of papers and abstracts under the focus areas. Abstracts should be submitted via email in the attached format.

Early submission is strongly encouraged; however, the submission deadline will be:

01 November 2026

Registration Submission

Registrations should be submitted using the attached form.

STAR 2026 Registration Fees

Before 01 November	FJD200
After 01 November	FJD250
Virtual	FJD100
1 Day	FJD50
Students (no paper)	FJD50
Students (presenting paper)	Free
Field Trip	FJD100

STAR 2026 Contact Details:

Email: starconference24@gmail.com

Web: www.star.org.fj

STAR

The Science, Technology and Resources (STAR) Network founded in 1984 as a joint initiative between SOPAC and the IOC/UNESCO. STAR has met annually for more than three decades in conjunction with the SOPAC Governing Council Meeting. SOPAC provided secretariat support to STAR until it became a new division of the Pacific Community (SPC).

In April 2015 at a Regional Geoscience Steering Group Meeting an agenda item considered the future of STAR. STAR was thus established as an independent organisation with the general aims:

- to strongly support the continuation of STAR because of its value in refreshing and animating scientific alliances and showcasing useful work, techniques and processes that may be adapted to address development issues of the Pacific;
- to further explore how STAR could remain independent to further develop the geoscientific needs of the Pacific Islands; and
- that for the future of STAR to be sustained, STAR needed to secure ownership by the Pacific islands. The current Chair of STAR is Mr Paula Cirikiyasawa, the Permanent Secretary of the Fiji Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources.



Nodules - American Samoa region (NOAA 2026)